

KOL MEVASSER

President's Message

What is a night in Italy?

By Ronald Einy

A night in Italy is Frank Sinatra crooning "Three Coins in the Fountain." It is the spaghetti Westerns of Sergio Leone.

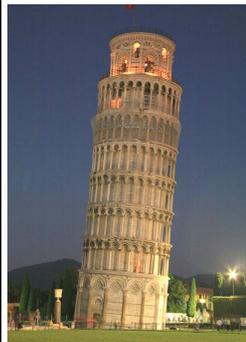


A night in Italy is Botticelli's "Birth of Venus" in the Uffizi Gallery. It is savoring a zabajone gelato then touring the Palazzo Medici Riccardi. It is a slow cruise down the Arno River.

A night in Italy is the leaning tower of Pisa amid the Field of Miracles. It is Pisano's oil paintings in the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo. It is Keith Haring's mural, Tuttomondo, radiating life.

A night in Italy is Michelangelo's "Last Judgment" in the Sistine Chapel. It is reading

Dante's Inferno beside the Vatican. It is descending the Spanish steps to the soothing sounds of the Fontana della Barcaccia while savoring cannolis.



But most of all "A Night in Italy" is Sunday, November 4th at 7 pm in Kahal Joseph's Errol Levi Ballroom.

Dignity & Redemption

Rabbi Marc D. Angel

This week's Torah reading focuses on our forefather Abraham, the ultimate "loner." God commanded Abraham to leave his land, his birthplace, his father's home—and to set off in a new direction, to a new land, to a new society. Abraham was to spread his revolutionary notion of One God and a system of ethical monotheism.

The Torah makes clear that Abraham was a man of dignity. He had wealth and a coterie of followers. He could muster troops to wage and win military battles. He had an impressive resume of achievements and material successes.

But the Torah also makes clear that Abraham was a man who sought redemption. He humbly followed God's commands, even at great personal sacrifice. He prayed to God and served God, recognizing that God's will—not his own—must prevail.

Abraham was a personality marked by profound courage. He was not afraid to stand alone, to teach a new and grand idea, to foster a religious vision that made tremendous demands on the faithful. Abraham was known as *Ivri* (the Hebrew), and our Rabbis noted that the root of the word *Ivri* relates to being on the other side i.e. the whole of society was on one side, and Abraham stood alone on the other

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KJ Schedule

Friday, October 26, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	5:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:47 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:47 pm

Shabbat Lekh Lekha

Saturday, October 27, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit	5:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah	6:32 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, October 28, 2012

Shaharit	7:30 am
Talmud Torah	9:30 am
KJ Youth Choir	11:00 am

Monday to Friday, Oct. 29 to Nov. 3, 2012

Shaharit	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat

Friday, November 3, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	5:25 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:40 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:40 pm

TORAH & HAFTARA READINGS

Shabbat Torah Portion 45 to 60
Haftara 60 to 62

Kahal Joseph Congregation

Rabbi Hagay Batzri
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025
310.474.0559

Shabbat Kiddush

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Seudah Shlisheet

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KJ KIDS BIRTHDAY CLUB



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Nationally Accredited, our Blended Learning environment boasts intensive General and Judaic Studies in a warm & supportive environment. For information or to RSVP, please contact Miri Dayan at 310-556-0663 mdayan@yeshivahightech.org or visit www.YeshivaHighTech.org. See you there!

Condolences to the Family of Dr. Eliezer Chammour, z"l

We send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of our dear member, Dr. Eliezer Chammou. In the words of Dr. Khazzoom, his friend and colleague, "May his memory be for a blessing, may his contributions to learning and knowledge live on and be everlasting, and may God Almighty grant his family all the strength and comfort they need during these difficult times. *Tehi Nishmato Sroura be Srur haHayeem, Amen.*" May his soul be woven into the thread of life.

Refuah Shlemah

Gerry Shapiro, Yocheved bat Rachel, Mazal bat Malka, Dan Herdoon, Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana, Moshe ben Ezra, Mordecai ben Avraham / Mordecai Cohen, Sasson ben Rahel / Sassoon Moses, Penina bat Henia, Avraham ben Ruth, Dov Ber ben Sonia



KJ YOUTH CHOIR

Will Meet Sunday Oct. 28th
KJ Main Sanctuary

KAHAL JOSEPH'S
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TALMUD TORAH

HEBREW SCHOOL

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Hear Magical Melodies

Taste Enchanting Foods

Free Month Tuition for KJ Members

Sundays 9:30 to 11 am, Thursdays 4 to 5:30 pm
Members \$100/month Non-members \$150/month



In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries of passings, for October 27 to November 3, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedakah, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

11 Heshvan / Shabbat, October 27th

Jacob Silas Mussry *Yaacov ben Saleh*
Naji Perry

12 Heshvan / Sunday, October 28th

David Dallal *David ben Shlomo*
Flora Rahamim Pinbas
Joseph Jacob *Yoseph ben Yaacov Azgory*
Lulu Ezra Baroukh
Yair ben Menashe

13 Heshvan / Monday, October 29th

Isaac Ezer *Itzhak ben Shaul*
Akhtar Sarraf *Khanom Agha bat Kokab*
Yehuda Rafael ben Pinbas

14 Heshvan / Tuesday, October 30th

Haskel Kelly
Albert Simon *Albert Yeheskel Moshe*

15 Heshvan / Wednesday, October 31st

Eliyahu Benzaquen *Eliyahu ben Yaacov*

16 Heshvan / Thursday, November 1st

Reuben Jacob *Reuven Hayeem ben Yaacov*

17 Heshvan / Friday, November 2nd

Aghalar Benzion Molok *Malka bat Menashe*
Eric Kelly *Eliyahu ben Saleh Moshe Kadoorie*
Touba Rangcar *Toba*

Haim Saleh *Haim ben Aziza*

Mida Simon *Masooda bat Ghala*

18 Heshvan / Shabbat, November 3rd

Diana Aaron *Dina bat Masooda*
Yeshaiah ben Yaacov Shalom
Hazan Gabriel Solomon *Gavriel ben Shlomo*

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side. Society could measure Abraham's material success and dignity; but his challenge was to make them understand the need for redemption, for inner spiritual transformation.

In this respect, Abraham set the agenda for the Jewish people. We have had, and continue to have, a special mission to the world. We are surely to work for the scientific, technological and material benefit of humanity—to foster human dignity. But we have the far more difficult task of working for the spiritual advancement of humanity—to foster redemption. In Rabbi Soloveitchik's words: "Heroism is the central category in practical Judaism." We need the heroism of Abraham to stand on one side, even if much of the world stands on the other side. We need to learn for ourselves so that we can teach others: material dignity is not enough for human salvation; we require spiritual depth, humility, a sense of living in the presence of God.

There is a Midrash that teaches that when the Messiah is about to arrive, the Almighty will spread two bridges across the ocean. One will be made of steel and the other will be made of paper. Most will choose the steel bridge but it will collapse. The righteous will choose the paper bridge and will arrive at redemption.

Steel symbolizes putting reliance on physical strength, wealth, power—the material signs of success and dignity. Paper symbolizes putting reliance on ideas, on our holy books. Strangely enough, it is the paper bridge that is actually stronger and that leads to redemption.

Rabbi Soloveitchik pointed out that the "lonely man of faith" is not lacking friends and social



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Women's Tehillim with Torah insights from Rabbanit Orly Batzri

Wednesday October 31st at 11:00 am

For location please contact orlysbatzri@gmail.com

context. Rather, the loneliness is ontological, an essential ingredient in the human psyche. In spite of being surrounded by people, a person of faith has a yearning for the transcendent God. No one else outside of him/her can fully understand what is transpiring within his/ her mind, heart and soul. This loneliness is not a negative quality, but is the root of spiritual growth.

We live in a society where material success is prized enormously and where people think their human worth is measured in dollars. Dignity is a popular word. While not discounting the importance of material wellbeing and human dignity, we also need to remind ourselves and others that dignity is not enough: we crave redemption, a sense of ultimate meaning in life, a yearning to be in the presence of God.

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compliments her and treats her with respect, this bolsters her self-esteem and self-worth; she feels valuable and important. And thus the husband is rewarded with "value," with wealth. If he makes a point of ensuring that his wife feels valuable, then he will be blessed with "value" in the form of financial success.

When we think of Abraham Abinu, we instinctively associate him with his extraordinary acts of piety – jumping into the furnace to avoid worshipping idols, leaving his homeland to settle in a foreign country, and being prepared to sacrifice his only son.

Yet, the Torah makes a point of spelling "Aholo" and "Aholah" to tell us about the respect Abraham showed to his wife, because this, too, is an important part of Abraham's greatness. Besides the "great" things, such as defying Nimrod and Akedat Yishak, what made Abraham a Sadik was also the "little" things, his everyday conduct, such as treating his wife with respect and consideration.

This, too, is something we must learn from Abraham Abinu. We are to gain inspiration not just from the "major" events of his life, but also from his standard, day-to-day conduct. And the example he sets for us begins in the home, with the way we speak to and treat our spouses – with respect, with sensitivity and with consideration. Shabbat Shalom

The Sisterhood of the Kahal Joseph Congregation
Presents

A NIGHT IN ITALY

Dinner & Dancing

Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 6:30 PM

Presenting:

Authentic Italian Singer

Filippo Voltaggio

And The Hot Beat

Yosi Levi - M.C. and Host

Kahal Joseph Congregation

The Errol Levi Ballroom

10505 Santa Monica Blvd. L.A., CA 90025

\$75 per Person – No-Host Bar

Valet Parking Available

RSVP by October 18, 2012

For Reservations please call:

RSVP by October 28th

Lisa Singman 323.737.3737

Louise Elias 818.884.0120

Rita Hanin 310.839.4206

Hannie Kelly 310.247.0220

Please make checks payable to:

Sisterhood of Kahal Joseph Congregation

c/o Diana Solomon

257 S. Reeves Drive, #303

Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Learning About Marriage From Abraham

Rabbi Eli Mansour

The Torah in Parashat Lech-Lecha writes about Abraham Abinu's experiences after settling in Eretz Yisrael, and we read that when he reached the land, "Va'yet Aholo" – "he pitched his tent" (12:8). The word "Aholo" ("his tent") in this verse is spelled unusually, with a letter "Heh" at the end, instead of "Vav," as though it says, "Aholah" – "her tent." The Rabbis conclude on the basis of this spelling that Abraham made a point of pitching his wife's tent before pitching his own tent.

The Sifteh Hachamim commentary explains the reason for Abraham's conduct based upon the Gemara's exhortation, famously codified by the Rambam, that a man must treat his wife with greater honor than he gives himself. Abraham, a man of great piety and distinction, recognized and fulfilled his obligation honor his wife more than himself, and this dedication to his wife's honor is expressed in his decision to pitch her tent before his.

The Gemara tells that the sage Rabba once said to his students, "Give honor to your wife so that you will become wealthy." The reward for honoring one's wife, it seems, is wealth. Rabba proves his point by citing a Pasuk later in Parshat Lech-Lecha, where the Torah says that Abraham became wealthy in Egypt "Ba'aburah" – "because of Sara" (12:16) – indicating that he received wealth on her account, because of the respectful way he treated her.

Why would this be the case? What connection is there between honoring one's wife and money? A wife works hard for her husband and children, and naturally feels a strong desire to be appreciated. When her husband

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