

KOL MEVASSER

Overcoming the Disease of Hatred

By Rabbi Marc D. Angel

Joseph's brothers were deeply jealous of him: "they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him" (Bereishith 37:4). They resented that their father showed favoritism to Joseph. They were infuriated by Joseph's dreams of lordship over them. They were so filled with enmity, that they were ready to murder Joseph. They showed no remorse once Joseph had been sold into slavery and was out of their way.

Yet, as the story unfolds, the brothers' worst fears about Joseph actually came true. Joseph did rise to lordship over them, and indeed had extraordinary power over all of Egypt. When the family was reunited in Egypt, Jacob continued to show favoritism to Joseph. While Joseph's brothers each represented one tribe of Israel, Jacob designated two tribes for Joseph—Menashe and Ephraim.

Given the profound jealousy and hatred the brothers' harbored toward Joseph during his youth, one would expect them to have even more jealousy and hatred once Joseph's pre-eminence over them was confirmed by the passage of time. Yet, the To-

rah gives no indication of their ongoing malice toward Joseph. We no longer hear that they hate him or that they cannot speak peaceably to him. We see no jealousy when Jacob demonstrates favoritism to Joseph. We hear no expression of anger when Joseph receives a double inheritance.

What happened to their jealousy and hatred?

When they were younger, the brothers viewed life as a zero sum game where there can only be one winner. If Joseph wins, we lose. If Joseph is destined to have power over us, then we must destroy him or we ourselves will end up losing the game. Hatred and jealousy eat away at the brothers. They think that any gain by Joseph will necessarily entail a loss for them.

With the passage of time, they saw that Joseph indeed had great power, wealth, and wisdom, and that he was still favored by his father. But the brothers now had a new insight: it doesn't matter! We can live our own lives happily and successfully even if Joseph has all these advantages over us. We are not in competition with him after all.

Life is not a zero sum game where only one side wins. Life can be lived fully and happily in a cooperative framework rather than in a competitive rat race for power. Joseph's

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KJ Schedule

Friday, December 7, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am
Shir Hashirim 4:10 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 4:25 pm
Minhah/Arbith 4:25 pm

Shabbat Vayeshev/ First Night Hanukkah
Saturday, December 8, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer 8:30 am
Ladies Tehillim Group after kiddush
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit 4:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah 5:11 pm
Light 1 Candle + Shamash ... after havdallah

Second Night of Hanukkah
Sunday, December 9, 2012

Shaharit 7:30 am
Talmud Torah Hanukkah Crafts 9:30 am
KJ Youth Choir 11:00 am
Light 2 Candles + Shamash after dark

Third to Sixth Nights of Hanukkah
Monday to Thursday, Dec. 10-13, 2012

Shaharit 6:30 am
Light Hanukkah Candles after dark

Monday, December 10, 2012

Women's Tehillim at KJ Library 10:30 am

Erev Shabbat / Seventh Night Hanukkah
Rosh Hodesh Tevet

Friday, December 14, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am
Shir Hashirim 4:10 pm
Light Hanukkah Candles *1/2 hr before Shabbat*
Shabbat Candle Lighting 4:27 pm
Minhah/Arbith 4:27 pm

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored in honor of
the wedding of
Jacalyn and Asher Shalom

Mazal Tov!
Congratulations
to both of their families

Congratulations

Shirin and Devin Sawdayi
On the birth of a daughter
Mazal Tov to the grandparents
Gitty and Sabah Sawdayi
Shahlah and Massoud Kasher

SHABBAT READINGS

Torah Portion 122-134, Haftara 137-140

Member of the Week Albert Nissan

This week's member of the week is our Gabay, Albert Nissan, who does such a great job every Shabbat honoring our members with aliyot and making everyone feel comfortable at Kahal. Congratulations

Seudah Shlisheet

is sponsored in memory of
Mansour ben Benayah, z"l
by Nahid Sedaghat & Family

Refuah Shlemah

Gery Shapiro, Yocheved bat Rachel, Mazal bat Malka, Dan Herdoon, Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana, Moshe ben Ezra, Sasson ben Rahel / Sassoon Moses, Penina bat Henia, Dov Ber ben Sonia, Hanna bat Esther

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries of passings, for December 8 to 15, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedakah, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

24 Kislev / Shabbat, December 8th

Regina David *Regina bat Salha Matana*
Lily Jacob *Leah bat Masooda*
Joseph Hayim Yaakov *Yosef Hayim*

25 Kislev / Sunday, December 9th

Ezra Abraham *Ezra Avraham ben Rahma*
Rachel Moses *Rachel bat Hannah*

26 Kislev / Monday, December 10th

Dan Darwish *Daniel ben Rabamim Darwish*
Sassoon Jacob Jonah *Sassoon ben Yaakov*
Yitzhak Sinder *Yitzhak ben Shimon*

27 Kislev / Tuesday, December 11th

Yosef Rabamim ben Yaakov Shalom

28 Kislev / Wednesday, December 12th

Joseph Jacob *Yosef ben Avraham Hayim Yaakov*
Habeeba bat Aziza

29 Kislev / Thursday, December 13th

Ralph Isaac *Rafal ben Yehezkel ben Mulla Rabamim*
Simcha Ezra Isaac *Simcha bat Masooda*

1 Tevet / Friday, December 14th

Saul Mizrahie *Shaul ben Elyahu Mordechai*
Jack Sassoon *Yaakov Yosef ben Sassoon*
Victoria Saul

2 Tevet / Shabbat, December 15th

David ben Ezra



VISITING SCHOLAR SERIES

kahal joseph congregation

Shabbat Vayiggash

December 22, 2012 during morning services

Rabbi Moshe Tessone, Director of the Sephardic Studies Department of Yeshiva University, New York will be our guest and speak on: "Leadership Lessons from Joseph and Judah: How to Lead Judaism and Humanity in Today's World?"

Kahal Joseph Congregation

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great success does not in any way diminish from the self-worth of the brothers. When the brothers came to understand that jealousy and hatred were self-destructive, they could rise to a happier philosophy of life dominated by love, family loyalty, and cooperation.

Much of the hatred in our world stems from an undeveloped sense of selfhood. People feel jealousy and hatred toward others who they fear are smarter, stronger, or more successful. They think that only one side can win; if the others are succeeding, then we must be losing.

Demagogues thrive on the rhetoric of hatred, stirring up the basest fears of a frightened humanity. They sow feelings of malevolence and mistrust into society. They stereotype the “enemy” and rob them of their human dignity. The rhetoric of violence and hatred leads to violent and hateful acts. Those who inflict the suffering thereby show themselves to be humanly inferior to their intended victims.

Erich Fromm has written of the “syndrome of decay,” that “prompts men to destroy for the sake of destruction, and to hate for the sake of hate.” Because of frustrations, feelings of inferiority and malignant narcissism, many people direct their lives onto the road of

hatred and death. People who suffer the syndrome of hatred are at root unhappy people, who begrudge happiness and success to others. Until people can rise above the “syndrome of decay,” they fritter away their lives in destructive patterns. They focus on hatred...and the hatred eats away their souls and poisons their lives.

Sad to say, some of the most vicious demagogues spew forth their hatred in the name of God and religion. They invoke God’s name in fanning hatred and violence against those whom they perceive as their enemies. This gross betrayal of the religious message of love and peace does vast dishonor to humanity and to God. This demagoguery saps life of happiness and creativity, turning it into a maelstrom of hatred, violence and destruction.

The greatest victims of hatred are those who hate. They lock themselves into an ugly and endless strife, depriving themselves of happiness and spiritual serenity. Joseph’s brothers learned to overcome jealousy and hatred. They learned to escape the “syndrome of decay” that eats away at the fiber of life. They learned that life is not a zero sum game; that their winning did not depend on someone else losing; that all humans could live so much more happily and meaningfully if they adopted a syndrome of love and cooperation.

Kindling the Hanukkah Lights

Before kindling the Chanukah lights on the **first night** of Chanukah, Saturday night, December 8 2012, (or if you’re kindling the Chanukah lights for the first time this year) recite all three blessings at home after Shabbat ends and havdallah. On **every subsequent night** only the first two are recited.

For all eight nights:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר חֲנֻכָּה.
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים
לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ, בְּיָמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

For the first night only:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחֵינּוּ וְקִיָּמְנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה:

1. Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech ha-olam a-she-ki-de-sha-nu be-mitz-vo-tav ve-tzi-va-nu le-had-lik ner Cha-nu-kah.

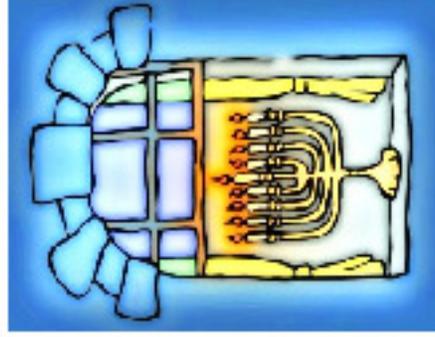
2. Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-a-sa ni-sim la-avo-te-nu ba-ya-mim ha-hem bi-zman ha-zeh.

3. Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-heche-ya-nu ve-ki-yi-ma-nu ve-higi-a-nu liz-man ha-zeh.

1. Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.

2. Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who performed miracles for our forefathers in those days, at this time.

3. Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.



The Sisterhood of Kahal Joseph
invites the children of our community to a

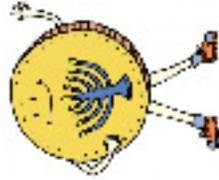
Hanukkah Celebration

Sunday, December 16th 2012 at 11:00 am

featuring a performance by

Kahal Joseph's Youth Choir

directed by Rabbi Batzri



& Wonderful Entertainment

Sweets & Treats for the Children

Fun for the Whole Family



RSVP Requested

Elsa at 323.934.3439

Louise 818.884.0120

Rita 310.839.4206

Hannie 310.247.0220

Hag Sameah! ♥ Happy Hanukkah!

