

KOL MEVASSER

Three Powers of Man

By Rabbi Yaakov Asher Sinclair
From Ohr Somayach Torah Weekly

Overview of the Torah Portion: Ki Tisa

Moshe conducts a census by counting each silver half-shekel donated by all men age twenty and over.

Moshe is commanded to make a copper laver for the Mishkan. The women donate the necessary metal.

The formula of the anointing oil is specified. G-d instructs Moshe to use this oil only for dedicating the Mishkan, its vessels, Aharon and his sons.

G-d selects Bezalel and Oholiav as master craftsmen for the Mishkan and its vessels.

The Jewish People are commanded to keep the Sabbath as an eternal sign that G-d made the world.

Moshe receives the two Tablets of Testimony on which are written the Ten Commandments.

The mixed multitude who left Egypt with the Jewish People panic when Moshe's descent seems delayed, and force Aharon to make a

golden calf for them to worship. Aharon stalls, trying to delay them. G-d tells Moshe to return to the people immediately, threatening to destroy everyone and build a new nation from Moshe. When Moshe sees the camp of idol-worship he smashes the tablets and destroys the golden calf. The sons of Levi volunteer to punish the transgressors, executing 3,000 men.

Moshe ascends the mountain to pray for forgiveness for the people, and G-d accepts his prayer. Moshe sets up the Mishkan and G-d's cloud of glory returns.

Moshe asks G-d to show him the rules by which he conducts the world, but is granted only a small portion of this request. G-d tells Moshe to hew new tablets and reveals to him the text of the prayer that will invoke Divine mercy.

Idol worship, intermarriage and the combination of milk and meat are prohibited.

The laws of Pesach, the first-born, first-fruits, Shabbat, Shavuot and Succot are taught.

When Moshe descends with the second set of tablets, his face is luminous as a result of contact with the Divine.

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KJ Schedule Parashat Ki Tisa

Erev Shabbat / Purim Katan Friday, February 14th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	5:00 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting	5:17 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:17 pm

Yom Shabbat / Shabbat Day Saturday, February 15th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit	4:45 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	6:22 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, February 16th

Shaharit	7:30 am
KJ Kids Sunday School	10:00 am
David Kelly Youth Choir.....	11:30 am

Monday to Thursday, February 17th to 21st

Shaharit	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat / Friday, February 21st

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	5:15 pm
Shabbat Candlelighting	5:24 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:24 pm

PURIM! Save the Dates

Purim Baking for KJ Baskets

Sunday, March 9th at 2:30 pm

Megillat Esther Reading & Costume Fun

Saturday, March 15th at 8:00 pm

PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday, March 16th at 11:00 am

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored by
by Sandra & Eddy Sarraf

in honor of
the Bat & Bar Mitzvot
of their children
Gabrielle & Ryan

Mazal Tov

Gabrielle & Ryan Sarraf
on your Bat and Bar Mitzvot

Congratulations Parents & Family
Sandra, Eddy & Danielle Sarraf
Great Grandmother Rachel Bakhsh
and Grandmothers
Arlette Darwish & Odette Sarraf

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries for February 15 to 22, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

15 Adar I / Shabbat, February 15th

Nuriel Daizadeh *Nuriel ben Yochanan*
Jack Jacob *Meir ben Yaacov*

Hanna Klein *Hanna bat Avraham Hayyim*
Vera Rosenfeld *Vera bat Hannah Hatoun*

17 Adar I / Monday, February 17th

Ester Solomon *Ester bat Amnah*

18 Adar I / Tuesday, February 18th

Naim Moshi *Naim ben Yehoshua*

19 Adar I / Wednesday, February 19th

Eliyahu Sasson Samuel *Eliyahu ben Sasson*

20 Adar I / Thursday, February 20th

Victoria Simanian *Miriam bat Ester*
Edward Wyner *Itzhak ben Simha*

21 Adar I / Friday, February 21st

Gershoon Doustar
Itzhak Rahamim *Itzhak Rahamim Pinhas*

Seudah Shlisheet

is sponsored
in Honor of the Kahal
by Hana Calmus

Lunch & Learn

with Rabbi
Daniel Bouskila
SEC Director



February 22th & March 22nd New Date!
following Shabbat Services

Come learn, discuss & expand your horizons with Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, Director of the Sephardic Educational Center, as he explores timely issues affecting the Jewish world. In light of the recent peace negotiations, come study and become informed as to how the 1929 riots in Hebron were the true launching point for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, how the ancient Sephardic community of Hebron was affected by the riots, and how the riots helped create the unified Jewish Yishuv that ultimately built the State of Israel.

\$10 members / \$26 non-members
Pre-paid reservations required. Please call
the synagogue office at 310.474.0559.

Iraqi Jewish Archives

JIMENA is collecting a database of the rightful owners of personal documents in the Archives. Owners of documents or heirs to these owners can demand that their original documents, and therefore the Archives, be kept where they are accessible to the Iraqi Jewish community in the diaspora. If you find a document of yours or of your family's or if you recognize a document belonging to someone you know, please contact JEMINA at sarahlevin@jimena.org or call 847-514-7015. Search the National Archives:

www.ija.archives.gov

Shabbat Shalom

Wishing you a joyful & peaceful Shabbat

Refuah Shlemah

Mordechai Cohen / Mordecai ben Avraham
Moselle Amron/Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana
Tilda Levy / Tilda bat Miriam
Joseph Sharaf / Yossef ben Jamila
Maurice Ovadia / Moshe ben Noosha
Pnina Herzbrun / Pnina bat Esther
Michael Herzbrun / Michael Baruch ben Sarah

Please renew these names each week, as we will be regularly updating the list. If you would like to remove or add a member's name please call 310-474-0559

Readings for Parashat Ki Tisa

*Torah Exodus/Shemot pages 352 to 368
Haftara/Prophets Kings I / Melachim Alef 369 to 372*

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Insights into the Parasha's Meaning

Man's powers may be divided into three: thought, speech and action. The power of thought is the highest, the most ephemeral and the most removed from physicality. A thought exists only for as long as the thinker thinks it. It has no independent existence. It lives just as long as the thinker thinks the thought.

Speech has a less evanescent lifespan. While the speaker speaks, the words have life. Unlike a thought, speech is not grasped instantaneously at a flash and all in one, but rather incrementally like the unfurling of a scroll. You only understand the full meaning of the speaker when he reaches the end of his words. Thus, speech does have a certain expansion in time — unlike thought. However, it has no definitive concrete existence and no independence from the speaker. When the speaker ceases to speak, the words cease to exist. The power of action, which relates to the world of “things”, is the most concrete of the powers of Man. When you create a thing it proclaims an independent existence of its own. A “thing” seems to say, “I am real, I am solid, I am immutable, I have a life of my own.” For only things can exist without the constant input of their creator. When you create a thing — a photograph, for example — the photograph exists independently of its creator and may well outlast him.

The Three Worlds

In the mystical sources, these three powers of Man: thought, speech and action parallel three “worlds”. They are in descending order: the world of *briah* - “creation”, *yetzira* - “formation”, and this lowest of worlds in which we exist, *asiya* - “action”.

In the highest of these three worlds, the world of *briah*, it is impossible to think that anything has any independent existence. The angels ('spiritual messengers' would be a better term) in the world of *briah* are called *Seraphim*, from the Hebrew word meaning 'to burn' (*I'srof*). Anyone looking at a fire knows that the flame he is seeing now is not the flame that he saw a moment ago. That flame is already gone. What you are looking at now is a new reality, and then it is gone, and so on and so on. A thought is like a flame; its existence is for a second and then it is replaced with another, and another and another.

In the World of *bria*, the world of thought, every second is a separate unsustainable split-second of reality passing through the 'Mind' of the Creator.

But here in this world of *asiya*, the world of objects, it's all too easy to think that things have an independent existence. All objects, all things, are no more than the continuous creations of the Creator, and if the Creator withdrew His Will for that existence for the smallest fraction of a second, it would cease to exist.

In the Holy Tongue, the word for a thing, *davar*, has the same three letter root as *dibbur*, meaning 'a word.' “Things” are no more than the continual “speech” of The Creator constantly giving them existence.

When Yaakov came before his blind father Yitzchak to take the blessings of the first-born, Yitzchak said, "The voice is the voice of Yaakov, but the hands are the hands of Esau". Two worlds: the world of the voice (the world of Speech) and the world of the hands (the world of action). The Midrash (Midrash Rabba Shemot 21:1) explains how the power of speech - the *kol* - is given to Yaakov. The power to bridge the worlds of thought and action is the province of the Jewish People.

We live in Esav's world. A world of things. A world that proclaims the independence of physical objects. The root of all idol worship is the belief that anything can have an existence independent of the Creator.

When the Jewish People made a golden calf to worship they were divesting themselves of their chosen role in existence: to proclaim the evanescence of all physical creations. Shabbat Shalom

Errol Levi Social Hall & Ballroom

Engagement? Wedding? Brit Milah? Bar Mitzvah? Did you know that Kahal Joseph has one of the most beautiful ballrooms on the Westside for your private event? KJ is fabulous for parties up to 200 guests! Contact Sarah at 310.474.0559

Shadow in Baghdad Sneak Preview a Hit!

Close to 200 people turned out for the enormously successful sneak preview screening of Shadow in Baghdad. The crowd included representatives from the Israeli consulate, JIMENA, the SEC--Sephardic Education Center and Stand with Us.

The Director, Duki Dror, and the subject of the film, Linda Abdel Aziz were present and held a question and answer session following the film. They addressed numerous audience questions from the naive to the profound, from the personal to the political, with grace.

We wish to thank all those who volunteered their time and effort in support of the screening--Yvette



and Joseph Dabby, Ronald Einy, Jack Mussry, Victor Solomon, and Ariel Young. We also thank the always supportive staff of Kahal Joseph.



Rabbi Batzri's Secret Recipe for Hamen / Chulent

Many people have requested the recipe for the hamen that I prepare on Shabbat. In the past, I have explained that it is my creation, not a formal recipe. But the easiest thing is to share the recipe in honor of Shabbat.

Ingredients

Potatoes, cubed

Meat, cut in pieces

Mixture of kidney beans and chickpeas

Barley

Eggs

Spices—Salt, black pepper, chicken soup mix, crushed tomatoes or ketchup, sugar

(For those who like spicy food add extra hot pepper or a similar spice.)

Preparation

1. Soak the beans and chickpeas in water for 12 hours, and say it is in honor of the holy day of Shabbat, Shabbat kodesh.
2. Boil eggs for 18 minutes, and again say it is in honor of Shabbat

Directions

1. Listen to happy Jewish music in the background
2. Fill the pot with 1/3 water. Add all the spices and mix, and it is good to say once again that this is in honor of Shabbat kodesh, with great love.
3. Add the potatoes, meat, beans, chickpeas, barley and continue to murmur that it is in honor of Shabbat.
4. Cook on high heat for 45 minutes.
5. Add the eggs and reduce the heat to a low flame.
6. Leave the hamen to cook overnight.

The secret of the flavor is to say and keep in mind, as much as possible, that the hamen is in honor of Shabbat kodesh and to finish preparing it as early as possible on Friday before Shabbat.