

# KOL MEBASSER

## Rabbi's Message

The thirteenth chapter of Debarim opens with a strange spectacle: not only was it possible for a prophet to urge the Jews to worship a false god, but he could also do so using a sign or wonder that might actually come true in real life!



under the name of the false god using signs and wonders that might have been counterfeit, this prophet would prophesy in the name of the True God using actual super-human abilities that really worked. The only departure from divinely approved Prophecy would be the addressee of worship, for example if the prophet said "on the basis of this sign, God wants us to worship Ba'al Pe'or today."

Imagining this scenario has captured my fancy this week of Parashat Re'eh. Although prophecy is no longer part of our world, many of us may have met people who put their genuine talents to use in the name of something that sounds beguiling but is actually empty-minded or harmful. Like the prophets with *kahin*, their magnetic personalities are based in authentic abilities, but the message is off. Meanwhile, those who see through it have a hard time making themselves understood because their own gifts don't match up to their rival's.

According to the Ramban (13th century Spain), there is a type of prophecy called "*kahin*" in which a person possesses the spiritual power of predicting the future without knowing where that information comes from. Someone with *kahin* might have mastered one or both of two possible powers: they could make a "sign," in which they correctly interpret a natural occurrence to foretell the future, or they could make a "wonder," in which they perform a miraculous act that bends the laws of physics in the name of their message.

Incredibly, this means that the gift of *kahin* was an inherent ability that could show up naturally in the general population once in a great while during the Age of Prophecy. Not everyone with *kahin* was aware that this power came from God, and thus they may not have had the guidance or maturity to use their gifts constructively. Such a person could easily convince themselves that worshipping a false god made sense, and their genuine abilities would have a profound effect on turning the hearts of the faithful down this destructive path.

The seduction would be so perfect: unlike a textbook false prophet, who spread their message

God's advice in the Torah is actually quite comforting in facing such a person: you may find it difficult to hear an ill-conceived idea being circulated, but you still have the power to stay on message yourself. You have inherited a beautiful set of spiritual and interpersonal values to follow, and no matter how slick your opponent might be, you don't have to let them take away your principles or self-respect. Since we are talking about modern life rather than prophecy, the option of forcing the messenger to stop is not available, but we can all rise to the occasion of staying true to our own sense of what's right in a world that needs the power of our example.

## Parashat Re'eh

### Third Week of Consolation / R"H Elul

Torah: Deut. 11:26–16:17, Num. 28:9–15  
Hertz 799, 695; Stone 998, 890  
Ht: Is 54:11–55:5, 66:1 & 23, I Sam 20:18 & 42  
Hz 818, 944, 948; Stn 1199, 1207-8  
Tefillot: Morid Hatal, Ya'ale Veyabo,  
Half Hallel, Musaf R"H

## KJ Schedule

### Ereb Shabbat

Friday, September 2nd

Shaharit .....6:25 am  
**Shabbat Candle Lighting ..... 6:59 pm**  
Minha .....6:30 pm

### Yom Shabbat & Rosh Hodesh

Saturday, September 3rd

Shaharit / Morning Prayer .....8:30 am  
Keri'at HaTorah .....10:15 am  
Musaf .....11:30 am  
  
Women's Tehillim.....4:45 pm  
Minha .....6:15 pm  
Se'uda Shelisheet .....7:00 pm  
Arbit .....7:45 pm  
Habdala .....8:01 pm

(Continued on page 2)

## Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored  
in memory of

Arie ben Seon, z"l  
Arie Shashou, z"l

## Refua Shelema

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron • Sally  
Amron • Haskell Avrahami • Sylvia Cohen  
Mordechai Cohen • Esther Duke • Sassoon  
Ezra • Lev Hakak • Yoel Iny • Tilda Levy  
Florice Newberry • Albert Nissan • Maurice  
Ovadia • Gracie Tizabi Katie bat Farha  
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Victoria

## KJ Schedule (continued)

### Rosh Hodesh Elul

*Sunday, September 4th*

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am

### First Day of Selihot

*Labor Day / Monday September 5th*

Selihat ..... 6:30 am

Shaharit ..... 7:10 am

### Weekdays

*Tuesday to Friday, September 6th to 9th*

Selihat ..... 5:45 am

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Ereb Shabbat

*Friday, September 9th*

Selihat ..... 5:45 am

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

**Shabbat Candle Lighting** ..... 6:49 pm

Minha ..... 6:30 pm

## In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from September 3 to 10, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

### 30 Ab / Shabbat, September 3rd

Israel Messiah *Yisrael ben Mashiach*

### 1 Elul / Sunday, September 4th

Nissim Moses *Nissim ben Yoshua Efraim*

### 2 Elul / Monday, September 5th

Saltanat Kohan

### 4 Elul / Wednesday, September 7th

Edward Kelly

### 5 Elul / Thursday, September 8th

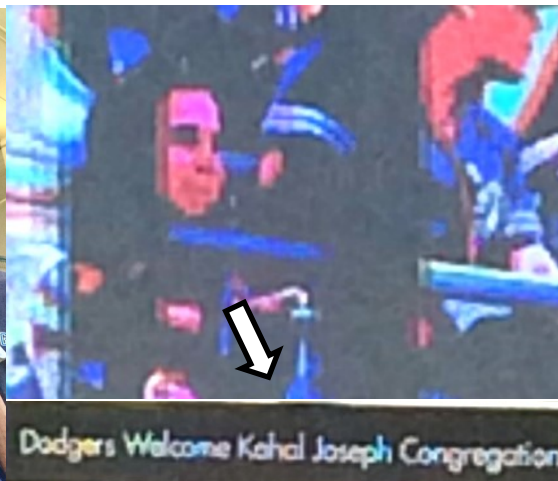
Lil Bir Leah bat Girji

Abraham Ezra Jacob Avraham ben Ezra Yaacov

### 7 Elul / Shabbat, September 10th

Yaacov Aboulafia Yaacov Aboulafia ben Sarah

## A Great Sunday for Kahal Joseph and the L.A. Dodgers







## New Round of Mommy & Me starts in September!

Heard great things about our Mommy & Me programs?

Missed out on the last ones?

We are now registering for a new set of courses starting in September!

### Mixed Ages Sensory Class, starting September 6th

Tuesdays, 10 - 11 AM, 12 to 18 months

In this class, the babies will interact with a wide variety of ages through sensory play, music and art activities. All activities are geared towards playful sensory and motor skill development.

### Music and Sensory Play Class, starting September 8th

Thursdays, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM, 12 to 18 months

Thursdays, 1:15 PM to 2:15 PM, 6 to 12 months

Explore & engage your baby's five senses through new and unique sensory and art activities each week. We will engage in music, instruments, crafts, and more in this creative class!

### Shabbat Mommy & Me, starting September 9th

Fridays, 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM, 18 months to 2.5 years

Fridays, 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM, 12 to 18 months

Join the Shabbat fun with favorite songs and a couple of new ones. We will do new art projects as well as favorite ones, plus a special one for Rosh Hashanah! Each class ends with candle lighting, challah, grape juice and a special blessing for the children!

All classes are \$215 per session per child, special arrangements for multiple classes per week or multiple children. Registration at [www.kahaljoseph.org/mommy-and-me.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/mommy-and-me.html). For additional information, contact [Jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:Jessica@kahaljoseph.org)



## Selihot at Kahal

The High Holy Day season really gets in gear with Selihot, which start this coming Monday (Labor Day) at 6:30 am!

Beginning on the 2nd of Elul, these special prayers of supplication are recited in the early morning hours before the weekday Shaharit. During the Days of Awe, we knock it up a notch with a new group of additional supplications, and at the climax of Kippur, we recite even more supplications at peak intensity during all five services of the day.

Our Sephardi tradition calls for rousing melodies that are sung with the full devotion of our hearts. Our souls yearn to hear these tunes each morning, pushing us to engage with the duty of true repentance. The text focuses on the theme of return to a God Whom we have pushed away through sin, and hopefully this will inspire us to do the difficult face-to-face work of mending our relationships with our fellow humans as well.

The words of the opening piyut say it all: *Ben adam ma lekha nirdam, kum kera betahanunim* – Son of Man, why do you slumber? Arise and make supplications! *Shefokh siha, derosh seliha, me'adon ha'adonim* – Let your prayers flow in quest of penitence from the Master of all masters!

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Month of Elul, from 9/5

Labor Day: 6:30 am

Weekdays: 5:45 am

Sundays: 6:45 am

### Days of Awe, from 10/5

Fast of Gedalia: 5:30 am

Weekdays: 5:30 am

Sundays: 6:30 am





## Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center  
Mrs. Ziva Zeharya, Talmud Torah Director

**ENROLL NOW!**

**Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah**

*Create Celebrate Explore Inspire Share*

Classes Just Starting for the Year

**EXTENDED HOURS** 9:45 am to 12:30 pm

Call 310.474.0559 for registration information

For more information, go to

<http://www.kahaljoseph.org/talmud-torah.html>

## Women's Tehillim Group

**This Week:** 90 mins before mincha—4:45 pm

**Next Week:** winter hours—right after kiddush

Kudos to our dear member Miriam Shadi for breathing new life into the Tehillim group! Although a simcha will take her to another synagogue this week (*besiman tob!*), you can help make this last Shabbat of the summer hours a fun opportunity for growth and fellowship.

Join your Kahal Joseph sisters at 4:45 pm for community, **coffee & snacks** and reciting the Book of Psalms. All women are welcome to participate, and whoever arrives first is invited to say the Yehi Ratson & begin reading. When more arrive, we will share the text until we have finished all 150 Psalms. What a great spiritual lift on Shabbat!



RABBI MELHADO'S NEW CLASS

## YOU'VE GOT THE "RITE" STUFF, BABY

### PRAYERS OF THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Our daily prayers are a beautiful ceremony on their own, but for 40 days a year we really bump them up to the next level for the High Holy Days.

This deepens the spiritual force of our tefilla, but it is a lot to handle for worshipers who only see these special texts once a year.

Want to know the meaning of the prayers?  
Have questions? Join Rabbi Melhado for a 5-session mini series on Wednesday evenings in September!

Sep 07: The Sephardic Selihot  
Sep 14: Rosh Hashana  
Sep 21: Yom Kippur  
Sep 28: Comparison to Ashkenazim

All Classes on Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Dinner Available for \$15 with RSVP by Tuesday, [Click Here](#)

KAHAL JOSEPH CONGREGATION

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD

310.474.0559

[kahaljoseph.org](http://kahaljoseph.org)