

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message

Why do we have to make such a big deal out of *hamets*? Must we really upend our houses and clothing looking for the smallest crumb of bread? Does God actually care about these things at such a “micro” level?

Every year, I get asked some version of this question. Often, it comes from people who are thirsty for our beautiful traditions but experience the hyper-attention to detail that fills rabbinic literature as a barrier to entry. Yet there are also plenty of voices from within the observant community who find themselves wondering the same thing.

Rabbi David Abudarham raises exactly this problem in his commentary on the prayers and rituals of Pesah (see the end of *Seder Bedikat Hamets*). “Why is this *mitsva* different from all other *mitsvot*?” he asks? There are plenty of commandments that involve abstaining from something, but only with *hamets* do we physically search for, remove, and destroy the forbidden object.

A good counter-example comes from the regular laws of kashrut, which prevent us from eating foods like the abdominal fats (*helev*) of animals. When it comes to forbidden foods in kashrut, we do not then seek out and destroy the offending items from our midst. We just have the maturity and self-control not to eat them, and everyone's life is a lot simpler.

One might suggest that the difference between the two lies in the continuous nature of the



kosher laws. Since *helev* is always prohibited, there is no need to remove it from our midst, while the fact that *hamets* is only forbidden for a little over a week each year makes us used to eating it and we need that extra level of distance.

This may seem like a satisfying explanation, but the Abudarham shows that it can't carry the day because of the case of the Nazerite. A person who takes an oath of Nazerism must only abstain from wine products during the period of his vow, after which he can go back to drinking. Yet here there is no fanatical search for wine products from his home; we simply trust that he will not be tempted.

Hence, what makes the *mitsva* of destroying leaven so special must be that its extreme severity draws our notice to it. If *hamets* is so offensive on Pesah that it can't even be hidden away on our property, we will naturally reflect on the holiday's message more seriously than with any other part of the Torah. This is reinforced by God's presentation of other *mitsvot* as “a remembrance of our Exodus from Egypt,” planting the Exodus narrative in the very center of our consciousness.

What, then, is this message? The rabbis often present *hamets* as a symbol of the parts of our national and spiritual lives that have become corrupted and sour. If the physical destruction of *hamets* brings us closer to God, then let us also spend the same degree of energy on erasing the flaws of our society and piety. Through long exposure to them we may have grown accustomed or resigned to them. May Pesah give us the motivation to remove them as carefully as we do our crumbs!

Parashat Tsav / Shabbat Hagadol Korban Ahira ben Enan

Torah: Lev. 6:1–8:36, 97 Pesukim

Hertz 429–438; Stone 568–587

Haftara: Malachi 3:4–24

Hertz 1005–1008; Stone 1220–1221

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Nesi'im (Num.

7:78–89); no Tsidkatekha, Birkat Halevana

Pesah Days 1 and 2

Torah P1: Ex. 12:21–51, Num. 28:16–25

Orot Seph Pesah: 303–306 (5 aliyot)

Haftara P1: Josh. 5:2–6:1, 6:27

Orot Seph Pesah: 308–309

Torah P2: Lev. 22:26–23:44, Num. 28:16–25

Orot Seph Pesah: 311–314 (5 aliyot)

Haftara P2: II Kings 23:1–9, 21–25

Orot Seph Pesah: 314–315

Tefillot: Ps. 107, Full Hallel, Tikun Hatal (P1 only; Morid Hatal begins at Musaf that day, and Barekheni begins from Arvit on the 1st night of Hol Hamo'ed).

Omer: remember to count it every night from the 2nd seder onward (in Haggada)



Rabbi Melhado's Pesah Guide 2017 / 5777

- ◆ What is hamets?
- ◆ Tips on preparing for Pesah
- ◆ Text for special blessings
- ◆ Guide for kashering and shopping
- ◆ How to celebrate the Seder
- ◆ How to count the Omer

Find it at www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah

Shabbat Kiddush & Se'uda Shelisheet

are sponsored
in loving memory of
Adam Moshe Chaim ben Olga, z"l
by Olga & Robert Krief
and Family

Condolences

We send our deepest condolences
to the family and friends of

Mozelle Sopher, z"l

who passed away in Las Vegas on April 2nd,
the 6th of Nisan. She is survived by her son
Adrian Sopher (Mary Beth), her brother
Mordecai Cohen, her sister Ramah Mingail,
& nieces and a nephew in our community.
May the family be comforted together with
all the mourners of Tsion.



Mazal Tov

to Jake Baruch
on his Yom HaTefillin

Besiman Tov to parents
Marlene and Oren Baruch,
sisters Alexa and Lindsey
grandparents
Hilda and Joe Baruch
Senior Hazzan, Sassoon Ezra
and the entire family

A Song for Shabbat Hagadol

שִׁשְׁתָּה שָׁבַת הַגָּדוֹל.	בּוֹ יְשׁוּעוֹת מִלְכּוֹ מְגָדוֹל.	הָאֵיר בּוֹ מְאוֹר הַגָּדוֹל.	לְכֵן בְּכוֹר רָם וְגָדוֹל:
שָׁלַח מֹשֶׁה הָאִישׁ גָּדוֹל.	וְאָף הֵן עוֹד הַיּוֹם גָּדוֹל.	פָּדָה עִם עֲצוֹם וְגָדוֹל.	לְמִקְטָן וְעַד גָּדוֹל:
וַיִּהְיוּ שֵׁם לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל.	בַּחֲשֶׁק רָאוּ אוֹר גָּדוֹל.	וַיּוֹצִיאֵם בְּרִכּוּשׁ גָּדוֹל.	בְּמוֹפְתִים וּבְמוֹרָא גָּדוֹל:
בָּחַם בֶּן אֵינְנוּ גָדוֹל.	וְלֹא תִהְדָּר פָּנֵי גָדוֹל.	יִתְקַע בְּשׁוֹפָר גָּדוֹל.	וַיִּמְן ה' דָּג גָּדוֹל:
אֲשִׁירָה נָא לְאֵל גָּדוֹל.	וְלוֹ אֶקְרָא בְּקוֹל גָּדוֹל.	כִּי חֲסִדָּה עָלֵי גָדוֹל.	כְּפָרַת הַנֶּהָר הַגָּדוֹל:
מִה חָרִי הָאֵף הַגָּדוֹל.	אַחֵר אֶת יוֹם הַגָּדוֹל.	אִם חֲטָאֵי מִנְשָׂא גָדוֹל.	עֲשֵׂה לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל:
גָּדְלוּ לָהּ אֲמִי.	גָּדוֹל יִהְיֶה כְבוֹד בֵּיתִי.	תְּסוּב תִּרְבַּ גְּדֻלָּתִי.	וּתְלַח הַלּוּף וְגָדוֹל:
עוֹשֶׂה אֵין חֶקֶר גְּדוּלוֹת.	לָהּ ה' הַגְּדֻלוֹת.	הִרְאָה מִסּוֹת הַגְּדוּלוֹת.	לְעַם קָטָן וְשֵׁם גָּדוֹל:

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from
April 8 to 15, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial
candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

12 Nisan / Shabbat, April 8th

Flora Cohen *Farha Mitana bat Rahma Regina*
Ralph Ferris *Rafal ben Itzhak Faraj Hacohen*
Luna Kadoorie *Luna bat Mazal*
David Levi Solomon *David ben Shlomo Halevi*

13 Nisan / Sunday, April 9th

Abraham Asher Ezra *Atraghji Avraham Asher ben Ezra*

15 Nisan / Tuesday, April 11th

Tillie Shansky *Tillie bat Evelyn*
Naima Shashoua *Naima bat Zvida*
Eyob Yehudah *Eyob ben Yehudah*

16 Nisan / Wednesday, April 12th

Errol Levi *Ezra ben Shaul Halevi*
Sanford Norman Levine *Shlomo Nachmun ben Yaacov*
John Nahai *Homayoun Yonatan Nahai*



Omer Counting Cards

This year, we received only 90 copies
of the Omer counting cards, so Rabbi
Melhado is handing them out in person.
For those who cannot get one from him,
we have it available as a PDF.

Refu'a Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Haskell Avrahamy
Sylvia Cohen • Simcha bat Rooha • Mordechai Cohen
Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra • Tilda Levy
Florice Newberry • Maurice Ovadia • Katie bat Farha
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria
Yvonne Moalim • Latifa bat Louisa Bracha
Simha bat Louisa • Miryam bat Malka • Malka bat Rahel
Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov • Chaya Chana bat Batya



Like us on facebook!

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Kids Room: Passover Edition

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

First Days: Tuesday, April 11 * Wednesday, April 12
Shabbat Passover: Saturday, April 15

Last Days: Monday, April 17 * Tuesday, April 18

Join us for special games, activities and
snacks for Passover!

Let us know you're coming - email jessica@kahaljoseph.org



Sell your Hamets

Deadline Sunday, April 9 at noon

Sell your excess hamets
through Rabbi Melhado!

Forms available in the lobby or online at
www.kahaljoseph.org/pesah.html

Return the form via email
(rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org), fax (310.410.4059),
mail them to Kahal Joseph, drop it off at the office, or
hand it to Rabbi Melhado

Kahal Joseph Schedule

Erev Shabbat Hagadol

Friday, April 7

Shaharit 6:25 am

Candle lighting 7:00 pm

Minha 6:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit 7:00 pm

Yom Shabbat Hagadol

Saturday, April 8

Shaharit 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:40 am

Women's Tehillim 5:30 pm

Minha 6:15 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet 7:00 pm

Arvit 7:50 pm

Havdala 8:04 pm

Fourteenth of Nissan

Sunday, April 9

Shaharit 7:30 am

Selling Hamets Form Due 12 noon

Search for Hamets after 8:05 pm

Fast of the Firstborn

Monday, April 10

Shaharit 6:25 am

Siyum with Rabbi Melhado 7:30 am

Se'udat Mitsva *firstborns are invited to celebrate an achievement in Torah learning. They will then be exempt from the fast.*

Stop Eating Hamets by 10:22 am

Burn Hamets before 11:38 am

First Days of Pesah

Monday, April 10

Erev Pesah / First Seder

Early Minha, Arvit & Hallel 5:45 pm

Candle lighting 7:02 pm

First Seder *begins after 8:05 pm*

First Days of Pesah (cont)

Tuesday, April 11

Pesah First Day / Second Seder

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Minha, Arvit, Hallel (no seuda) 6:45 pm

Candle lighting 8:06 pm

Prep for second seder after 8:06 pm

Second Seder *begins after 8:06 pm*

1st night counting the Omer *at seder*

Wednesday, April 12

Pesah Second Day

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Minha, Seuda, Arvit 6:45 pm

Havdala: Hol Hamo'ed starts 8:07 pm

2nd night of the Omer

Hol Hamo'ed

Thursday, April 13

Hol Hamo'ed I

Shaharit 6:15 am

3rd night of the Omer

Friday, April 14

Hol Hamo'ed II

Shaharit 6:15 am

4th night of the Omer

Next Shabbat—Hol Hamo'ed

Friday & Saturday, April 14 & 15

Candle lighting 7:05 pm

Friday Minha 6:30 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Kids Room 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Saturday Minha 6:30 pm

Havdala 8:10 pm

Save the Date!

Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 28 at 7:30 PM

Join Rabbi Melhado and his family at home for an interesting discussion and a really delicious Shabbat meal. Open to members and friends in their 20s and 30s.

Space is limited, so register now by emailing Rabbi at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org.

Memouna!



Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00pm

**Kahal Joseph Congregation
& The Sephardic Educational Center**
invite all our members & friends!

Savor traditional delicacies! * Enjoy festive music!
Relish the warmth of community!

\$18 per person

Register online at www.kahaljoseph.org/memouna.html or
call Sarah at 310.474.0559

Third Annual Yom HaZikaron Community Night of Remembrance

* * *

Sunday, April 30

Doors open 4:30 PM

Program begins at 5:15PM

Saban Theater

8440 Wilshire Blvd



CELEBRATE ISRAEL LOS ANGELES

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017
CHEVIOT HILLS
RECREATION CENTER

FOOD * RIDES * ARTS &
CRAFTS * VENDORS *
MUSIC & PERFORMANCES

10:00 AM - SALUTE TO
ISRAEL WALK

11:00 AM - FESTIVAL

PRESALE TICKETS \$10

WWW.ISRAELIAMERICAN.ORG/
CELEBRATE-ISRAEL-FESTIVAL-LA

וידבר ירדוד אל משה במדבר סיני באהל מועד באחד
לחדש השני בשנה השנייה ליצאתם מארץ מצרים

Save the Date

Yom HaShoah

Service of Remembrance

Sunday, April 23 at 5:00PM

including personal stories and a look at Kahal's
own Holocaust Torah, presented by the Rosen
Family & the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust