

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message

I recently had the opportunity to explain the Lulav and Etrog to someone who was new to this commandment. Since God presents it as an essential component of our rejoicing on Sukkot, I was excited to share it for someone else to begin loving. Yet when I opened up the passage of the Torah that talks about it, I was reminded that it is short on specifics:

"On the first day [of Sukkot], you will take the fruit of goodly trees, palm branches, thick tree boughs, and brook willows, and you will rejoice before the Lord Your God seven days." (Lev. 23:40).

If we compare the exact words of this commandment to the image of how we observe Lulav and Etrog today, we are forced to accept that there isn't an obvious, objective correspondence between the Torah and our custom. How do we know that "goodly trees" means the Etrog, or that "thick trees" means myrtle, instead of some other plants? Why do we only have one palm frond when the verse clearly says "branches" in the plural? How do we know that we are supposed to wave them around since the Torah doesn't mention this at all?

This provided an opportunity to explain the mentality of the early Rabbis who translated the Torah into actionable mitsvot. Known collectively as "Our Sages" or "Hazal," they were animated by Torah's status as a binding covenant, which means that when it uses language like "you must" or "you may not," we have a sacred duty to follow



those instructions with our full hearts. Hence, when Scripture uses vague language while telling us what to do, it poses a major spiritual challenge, and they were the religious authorities who resolved these issues on our behalf.

In an earlier draft of this message, I went on a satisfying romp through the actual Hazalic sources that clarify the vagueness of the Torah text on Lulav and Etrog. While it was a meaningful journey for me, someone whose opinion I respect suggested that I distill that material into a broader "take-home message" in language that would be more accessible to a modern audience. While taking that advice to heart, I encourage those who are interested to read Vayikra Rabba 30:8 and Sukkah 34b, and I would be happy to teach these texts to anyone who asks.

Cutting to the heart of the matter, I am drawn to the issue of divine ambiguity because it gave humans a window of opportunity to leave our own stamp on God's commandments. If God wanted to, He could easily have handed us a fully-cooked Judaism in which all the difficult questions were answered. Our religious experience would then be to simply submit to His will and accept what He told us.

Instead, the Lulav and Etrog are just one example among many where God left major openings for Hazal to guide and shape how we fulfill His commandments. Thus, when we lift the Lulav and Etrog and wave them before Him, we are holding objects that could only make sense through a moment of human participation with the divine. How very much does this add to our joy when celebrating at Sukkot!

Mo'adim Lsimha

Sukkot Days 1 and 2

Torah: Lev. 22:26–23:44; Num. 29:12–16

Orot Seph. Sukkot 353–356 (5 aliyot)

Haftara S1: Zach. 14:1–21

Orot Seph. Sukkot 357–358

Haftara S2: I Kings 8:2–21

Orot Seph. Sukkot 361–362

Tefillot: Ps. 42–43; Morid Hatal, Netilat Lulav

Full Hallel, Hoshanot; Musaf of Sukkot

Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot

Torah: Ex. 33:12–34:26; Num. 29:17–22

Orot Seph. Sukkot 731–734 (7 aliyot)

Haftara: Ezek. 38:18–39:16

Orot Seph. Sukkot 735–736

Tefillot: Ps. 42–43 omitted; Shabbat amida with Morid Hatal and Ya'ale Veyavo; Full Hallel without Netilat Lulav; Hoshanot without circuits around a Torah scroll; Musaf of Sukkot

Hurricane Maria Relief

The island of Puerto Rico has been ravaged by storm and flood. People lack water, food, shelter, and passable roads. Please give what you are able. Donate to the JCC of Puerto Rico

<http://www.jccpr.org/>

Blood Donors Needed

Please consider giving blood to help those struggling to heal in Las Vegas. Contact the American Red Cross at

www.redcross.org/give-blood

KJ Schedule

Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, October 4th

Shaharit.....	6:25 am
Candle lighting.....	6:14 pm
Minha	5:45 pm
Arvit	6:15 pm

Sukkot I

Thursday, October 5th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Hallel & Hakkafot.....	9:45 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:30 am
Musaf	11:40 am

Lel Sukkot II

Thursday, October 5th

Minha	5:45 pm
Arvit	6:15 pm
Candle lighting.....	after 7:17 pm

Sukkot II

Friday, October 6th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Hallel & Hakkafot.....	9:45 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:30 am
Musaf	11:40 am

Lel Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot

Friday, October 6th

Minha / Arvit.....	5:45 pm
Candle lighting for Shabbat	6:12 pm
Kiddush (earliest possible)	5:18 pm
Young Professionals Dinner in the Sukkah (moved to Rabbi Melhado's home)	7:30 pm

Yom Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot

Saturday, October 7th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am

Yom Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot

Saturday, October 7th (cont.)

Minha	5:30 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	6:15 pm
Arvit	7:00 pm
Havdala	7:14 pm

Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot

Weekdays

Sunday, October 8th

Shaharit.....	7:15 am
Hallel & Hakkafot.....	7:45 am
Talmud Torah	9:45 am
Family Dinner in the Sukkah	
..... (with RSVP)	5:30 pm

Monday-Tuesday, October 9th-10th

Shaharit.....	6:15 am
Hallel & Hakkafot.....	6:45 am

Lel Hoshana Rabba

Tuesday, October 10th

Night time Readings	10:00 pm
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Hoshana Rabba

Wednesday, October 11th

Shaharit.....	6:00 am
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Erev Shemini Atseret

Wednesday, October 11th

Minha	5:45 pm
Arvit.....	6:15 pm
Candle lighting.....	6:05 pm

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from October 5 to 14, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

15 Tishre / Thursday, October 5th

David Sulman Aslan

Raina Murad Aslan

17 Tishre / Shabbat, October 7th

Salim Yoseph Meir *Salim ben Yoseph Meir*

Ezekiel Moses *Yehezkel ben Sassoon*

Salim Youssefmir *Salim ben Amin*

18 Tishre / Sunday, October 8th

Jacob Ephraim *Yaccov ben Ephraim*

Rosy Hyam *Rosy bat Mazli*

Paul Hyman *Ya'akov Pesah ben Yitzhak*

19 Tishre / Monday, October 9th

Girjee Ezra *Gurjiyee bat Sarah*

Regina Mizrahie *Regina bat Habiba*

21 Tishre / Wednesday, October 11th

Menashe Ezra *Menashe ben Ezra*

Menashe Ezrapour

Allon Abraham Iny

Menashi Jacob *Yaacov ben Menashi Yaacov*

22 Tishre / Thursday, October 12th

Ezra Hayim Ezra *Ezra Hayim ben Norman*

Joyce Jacob *Ester bat Sarah*

Solomon Moses *Salman ben Haskel*

23 Tishre / Friday, October 13th

Naima Somekh *Naima bat Lulu*

24 Tishre / Shabbat, October 14th

Flora Cohen *Farha bat Salha*

Miriam Solomon *Miriam bat Rachel*

Refua Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Haskell Avrahamy • Sylvia Cohen • Mordechai Cohen • Esther Duke
Sassoon Ezra • Tilda Levy • Florice Newberry • Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria • Arlette bat Rashel
Chaya Chana bat Batya • Yvonne Moalim • Katie bat Farha • Malka bat Rahel
Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Miriam bat Yetta • Miryam bat Malka Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov
Moshe Hooman ben Sara • Simcha bat Rooha • Moshe Haim ben Sara • Oren ben Aliza

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in memory of

**Salim ben Amin
Youssef Mir**
z"l

by
His Family

Mazal Tov

Nadine and Peter
Beller

on the birth of
a baby girl

Besiman Tov

to older brother Joel
to grandparents
Julie and Robert Beller
Yvette and Joseph Dabby
and to both families

THE KIDS ROOM IS OPEN!

SUKKOT

THUR. OCT. 5 - 10 AM - 12:30PM

FRI. OCT. 6 - 10AM - 12:30PM



SHEMINI ATZERET

THUR. OCT. 12 - 10AM - 12:30PM

SIMCHAT TORAH

FRI. OCT. 13 - 10AM - 12:30 PM

Condolences

With sorrow we send our deep condolences to the family & friends of

Soleiman Mizrahi, z"l
Shlomo ben Yocheved & David

who passed away in Los Angeles on Erev Yom Kippur, Friday September 29th, 9th of Tishre. He is survived by his daughter, our dear member, Shoreh and son-in-law Siamak Elghanian; her siblings, Kurosh (Pam), Dariush, Neptune, Keivan (Mary), Maryam (David), Zohreh, Sharona (David), and Mandana; his grandchildren, Emanuelle, Ariella, Annette, Shai, Eliana, Aaron, Daniella, Sol, and Alexa; relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his wife, Deborah (Hazany) Mizrahi, z"l and their son, Hesh, z"l. *May his loved ones be comforted together with all the mourners of Tsion*

Happy Birthday

Ellie Melhado

Mazal Tov
to Ellie
who will turn one year old
this Sukkot.

Besiman Tov
to her parents
Rabbi Raif and Jessica
Melhado
her big sister Penny
her grandparents
Annette & Bill Cavanagh and
Lee & Evan Melhado
and both families.

*May they enjoy much happiness
from her as she grows!*

Kahal Joseph Shabbat Children's Program!

Starting Saturday, November 11
Shabbat Haye Sarah

*** Singing * Stories * Games ***
*** Snack * Discussion * & more!**



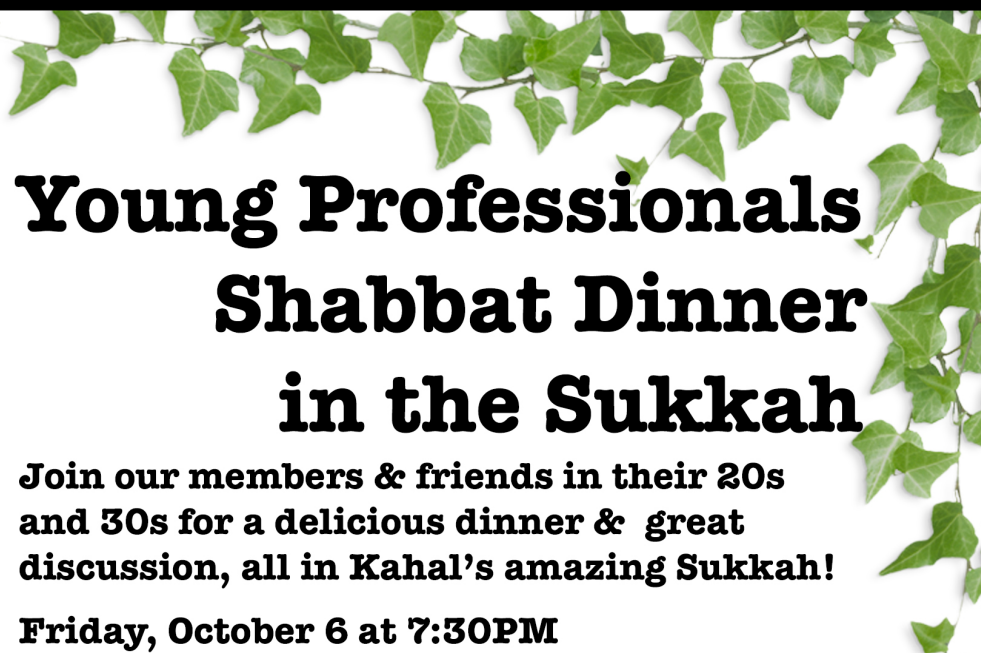
Tot Shabbat
0 to 5



Torah & Me
6 to 12



Watch the Kol Mevasser to find out more!
To sponsor or help out - email Jessica@kahalioseph.org



Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah

Join our members & friends in their 20s
and 30s for a delicious dinner & great
discussion, all in Kahal's amazing Sukkah!

Friday, October 6 at 7:30PM

RSVP to RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org

Sukkot Family Dinner

Bring the kids and enjoy a delicious dinner
in Kahal's Sukkah, inside the playroom!

Sunday, October 8, 5:30 PM

Adults \$15 - Kids 5 to 12 \$10 - Under 5 free

RSVP at www.kahaljoseph.org/sukkot



The Shabbat Project presents....



Thursday, October 26, 2017

Dessert Reception 7:00PM

Program 8:00PM

Admission: \$36

ADAS TORAH, 9040 W. Pico

Register at theshabbosproject.org/la

Join 100s of women for music, inspiration & challah baking!

Saturday, October 27 at Kahal Joseph

Special Seuda Shelisheet at 4:45PM

Featuring Rebbetzin Jessica Melhado

Men & women welcome

Celebrate Simhat Torah! Thursday, October 12

* Joy * Friendship * Family * Torah * Dancing * Singing *

Minha - 5:15pm

Arvit - 5:45 pm

Hakkafot followed by a light Israeli dinner

Sponsored by Louise Nathan, Sunny J. Sassoon & family



SHESHBESH AT KAHAL



JIMENA and Kahal Joseph Congregation
invite you to an

All-Ages Backgammon Tournament

Sunday, November 12th
10505 Santa Monica Blvd

10am-4pm

10am: Tournament check-in and warm-up
11am: Tournament begins

Enjoy Middle Eastern music and food
Pre-registration: \$10 adults, kids FREE, \$20 Tournament Entry
At the door: \$10 adults, \$5 kids, \$30 Tournament
Prizes for top players and raffle giveaway
(bring your own board for a free raffle ticket!)

Tickets: bit.ly/kjsheshbesh
Share on facebook: bit.ly/kjsheshbeshfb
Questions or purchase over the phone: (646) 894-0052



Hafla!

Members and friends of Kahal Joseph joined together on Sunday, Sept. 24 for a wonderful Hafla Musicale put on by Hazan Ben Atar and his band. Featuring Arabic and Israeli songs, from secular favorites to moving selihot, it was a memorable night! Special refreshments were served in our newly renovated and expanded lobby for the first time. May it be the first of many happy occasions!



Membership Benefits Everyone!

You get...

- *To be a part of the Kahal family
- *High Holy Days tickets
- *Rabbi for lifecycle events
- *Pastoral counseling
- *Preferential rates for space rentals, Talmud Torah tuition and children's programs

You support...

- *Adult Education programs
- *Social events
- *Children's education & programs
- *Prayer minyanim
- *Keeping Kahal here for you when you need it!

Contact the office at 310-474-0559 or speak to Rabbi Melhado to join!



Our sunlit Ekhal on the final morning of Selihot on Erev Yom Kippur

Never had a Bat Mitzvah? It's not too late!

Join a **NEW** class for women
starting after the holidays
with Rabbi Melhado

**All levels of Hebrew &
Jewish knowledge welcome!**

Contact Yvette Dabby at
yvettedabby@gmail.com to sign up!

Announcing Kahal Joseph's 5778 Speaker Series

Kahal Joseph is proud to welcome speakers from across the country, around the city and in our community.



Rabbi Asher Lopatin

Monday, November 13 at 7PM

Currently the President of YCT Rabbinical School in New York City, Rabbi Lopatin served as the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel in Chicago for 18 years.

He was ordained by Rabbi Aharon Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk. A Rhodes Scholar, he has an M.Phil in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford and has authored many articles.