

7 Tevet 5780

4 January 2020

KJ HAPPENINGS

Rabbi's Message

By Rabbi Natan Halevy

Bsd

Shalom,
The beginning of parashat Vayigash starts with these words,

"ויגש אליו יהודה ויאמר בי אדני, ידבר עבדך דבר באזני אדוני ואל
חר אפך בעבדך"

"Judah approached (Joseph) and said 'please my master, let your servant speak a word into my Masters ear, and don't let your anger be aroused against me.'"

We have reached the crescendo of the story of Joseph and his brothers. Joseph has yet to reveal his true identity and has falsely accused his brother Benjamin of theft and announced the subsequent punishment: Benjamin's lifelong enslavement to Joseph for this sin. Judah is approaching Joseph with the basic message of "No, I will not accept this."

There are many questions about this story. Why is Joseph doing this? Why keep up this facade that is so distressing for him and his brothers? We learn that Joseph's intention is to accomplish something good.

Joseph intends to help his brothers atone for their grave sin in selling him. First, he has made them relive the pain of their earlier act when he imprisons Simon in front of them. (Our sages tell us that Joseph released Simon as soon as the other brothers left.) Joseph now continues the show by threatening to make Benjamin his lifelong slave. This threat to Benjamin causes Judah to step up for his brother and offer his life in his stead. Judah says that he is stronger, older and wiser than Benjamin, thus, he would be a better slave to Joseph, the brothers' supposed Egyptian master.

This moment reveals the brothers' great remorse for their past behavior towards Joseph. It proves that they had learned their lesson. Not only did they feel bad, but when faced with a similar situation again, Judah was ready to sacrifice his own life for his brother's. From the



fact he asks Joseph not get angry, we can see that Judah was speaking defiantly. He was suggesting with his attitude, "If you don't accept my offer, we will fight you with all our might to free our brother." The brothers as a group would no longer accept losing another brother on their watch.

When Joseph sees the true remorse his brothers display and the fact that they have truly turned a new leaf, he can no longer keep on acting and breaks down crying. He commands everyone besides his brothers to leave the room, so as not to shame the brothers in front of the Egyptians.

Through his consideration for his brothers' feelings when discussing their past, Joseph shows us how much we must work on forgiving others, even for the most heinous of actions. He not only forgives his brothers but works on helping them achieve true atonement by making them experience great remorse by reliving the experience of losing a brother.

Judah demonstrates the power of learning from our mistakes. He is willing to give up his life for his brother this time. His behavior shows Joseph how much all the brothers have changed as a result of their remorse for selling him.

In the Haftarah, the prophet speaks about joining the tribes of Judah and Ephraim together in a spiritual sense in the time of the Mashiach. Symbolically, Judah and Joseph represent different spiritual levels. Judah represents the elevation of the physical to the spiritual, while Joseph represents the drawing down of spiritual light into the physical. In the times of the Mashiach these two levels will be joined together. The joining of Judah and Ephraim also represents the joining of the separated energies and factions in our nation, and ultimately, the world, into one.

G-d is telling us that the purpose of all these seemingly separate aspects of the world is to help us reach a goal. What is our goal? The service required for uniting all the parts together as one. This is our greatest work

Parashat Vayigash

Asara B'Tevet / 10th of Tevet Fast Day

Torah: Gen. 44:18–47:27, 106 Pesukim

Hertz 169–177; Stone 250–267

Haftara: Ezek. 37:15–28

Hertz 178–179; Stone 1144–1145

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Birkat Halevana

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, January 3rd

Candle lighting	4:37 pm
Minha	4:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit	5:00 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, January 4th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Keriat HaTorah.....	10:15 am
Sermon	11:20 am
Musaf	11:30 am

Minha	4:15 pm
Seuda Shelisheet.....	4:45 pm
Arvit.....	5:30 pm
Havdala	5:42 pm

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and the greatest accomplishment we can achieve in this world. When we unite amid our differences and learn to coexist, this gives G-d great pleasure. We see and experience this joy ourselves as parents. Nothing is more beautiful than seeing our children get along with each other. May we be blessed to see this unity in our nation and in the world, Amen.

Thank You

Kahal Joseph appreciates
this week's Shabbat hamin
sponsored
in memory of
Shalom Nagi ben
Hacham Mordecai Harkham, z"l

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...

- *Educational programs
- *Social events
- *Prayer minyanim
- *Keeping Kahal here for you when you need it!

Contact the office at 310-474-0559

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Weekdays

Sunday, January 5th

Shaharit 7:30 am
Talmud Torah 9:45 am

Monday, Wed-Friday, January 6, 8-10

Shaharit 6:25 am

Asara B'Tevet / Fast of 10th of Tevet

Tuesday, January 7th

Fast Begins 5:39 am
Shaharit 6:05 am
Fast Ends..... 5:40 pm

Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, January 10-11

Candle lighting 4:43 pm
Friday Minha 4:30 pm
Shaharit 8:30 am
Saturday Minha..... 4:15 pm
Havdala..... 5:48 pm

Sponsor a Kiddush or Seuda Shelisheet!

Celebrate a family milestone!

Honor the memory of a loved one!

Share a simha with the community!

**Celebrate and commemorate with
your Kahal Joseph community by
sponsoring a Kiddush or Seuda
Shelisheet for all to enjoy**

**Contact Sarah in the office at
310.474.0559 to reserve your date**

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from January 4 to 11, 2020. We light memorial candles, give tsedaka, & attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

7 Tevet / Shabbat, January 4th

Eliezer David Levy *Eliezer ben David Halevi*
Abid Nissim ben Abid

8 Tevet / Sunday, January 5th

Abraham Khazzoom
Rabbi Elias Levi *Eliyahu Hayim ben Shlomo Halevi*
Max Nathan *Rafael ben Mordechai Natan*
David Sassoon Solomon *David Sasson ben Shlomo Reuven*
Iraj Nemany *Yitzhak ben Yehezkel*

9 Tevet / Monday, January 6th

Eddie Jacob Ezra *Yehezkel ben Yaacov Azoori*

10 Tevet / Tuesday, January 7th

Shalom Kamara *Shalom ben Menashe Kamara*
Hayim Baruch Shalom Mingail *Haim Baruch ben Shalom*

13 Tevet / Friday, January 10th

Ester Avrahami *Ester bat Gazala*
Fortuna Sinder *Fortuna bat Suzan*

Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron
Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke • Mehry bat Miriam
Hakimipour • Tilda Levy • Yvonne Moalim • Florice
Newberry • Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria
Chaya Chana bat Batya Katie bat Farha • Miriam
bat Yetta • Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben
Mazal Tov • Habiba bat Farha • Dina bat Rahel
Chaya Rachel bat Simcha Ruhama • Rahel bat
Ramah Regina • Karen bat Chana Meir • Eti Esther
bat Fortuna • Ezra ben Rahel • Eliahu Shalom ben
Avigayil • Mark Jonah • Albert Nissan ben
Victoria • David ben Tova • Reuven Halevi ben
Batsheva • Shaoul ben Lulu • Joseph Sassoon
Yosef Haim ben Aharon Elisha



Kahal Joseph &
Norma & Sam Dabby
Talmud Torah

invite you to a

Community Hike

Sunday, February 9th
10:00 am Hike
11:30 am Picnic

*Bring your picnic lunch and
have fun with your family
and friends!*

SAVE THE DATE! PURIM BAKING

Bake for Community Gift Baskets
Sunday, February 23rd
10:00 am

Bake traditional Iraqi treats for Purim!

Share your skills or learn something new!

The delicious pastries will be shared in gift baskets
KJ donates to share the joy of Purim with members
of our community. Join us, it's a mitzvah too!

Shopping on Amazon? You can benefit Kahal Joseph!



amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.



Simply go to smile.amazon.com, and choose
Kahal Joseph Congregation as your charity.

Every time you shop from smile.amazon.com,
Amazon will donate to Kahal Joseph!

A simple, easy way to support Kahal this new year!



Follow Kahal on Facebook

kahaljoseph.congregation

See pictures of the Hanukkah party!

Learn about exciting new events!

Stay connected with our community!

KJ Family Shabbat

**Celebrate Shabbat with your kids!
Saturday, January 11th at 10:45 am
Upstairs Synagogue with Rabbi Halevy**

**Sing together, learn together, pray together!
Spiritual, accessible service for families and kids.**

Join KJ Kids Club! Earn bracelets and tokens & collect them for prizes!

Save the dates—Sat 1/11, 2/8, 3/21, 4/25

Kiddush Luncheon to follow services

The prayers of children are so precious to Hashem. This is a very special opportunity for anyone who wants to dedicate an event for success or as an honor for a loved one who has passed.

To donate and support our children's spiritual growth, call our office.

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310.474.0559 kahaljoseph.org



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