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 יחר אפך בעבדך"

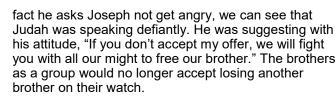
"Judah approached (Joseph) and said 'please my master, let your servant speak a word into my Masters ear, and don't let your anger be aroused against me."

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



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 Efraim 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 Efraim 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	
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...

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

Asara B'Tevet / Fast of 10th of Tevet Tuesday, January 7th

Shaharit 6:25 am

 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 yahrzeit 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

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

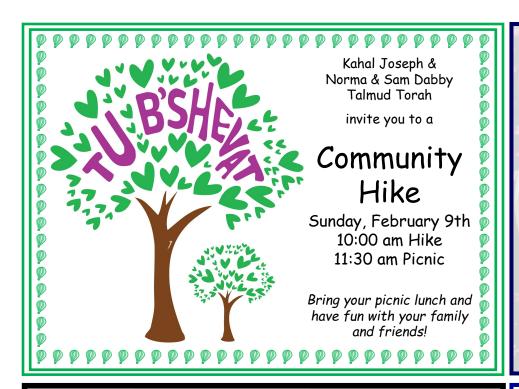
9 Tevet / Monday, January 6th Eddie Jacob Ezra Yehezkel ben Yaacov Azoori

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



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!







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!

KI 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.

10505 Santa Monica Bl, LA 90025 310.474.0559 kahaljoseph.org Follow us at kahaljoseph.congregation