

14 Tevet 5780

11 January 2020

KJ HAPPENINGS

Rabbi's Message

By Rabbi Natan Halevy

Bsd



Shalom,

This week's parasha continues describing the events that lead to Jacob's arrival with his entire family in Egypt. Jacob goes on to live the last 17 years of his life in Egypt. We learn that these were the best 17 years of Jacob's life. He was surrounded by his entire family, and he didn't experience any more traumatic experiences, which his life had been so full of up until this point. However, we can still ask a question. How could the best years of Jacob's life have been in Egypt and not in the Holy Land? Jacob is called "the chosen one" among our forefathers. Why is this? It had to do with Jacob's unique role.

Abraham represents the spiritual attribute of kindness. This was his way of bringing down G-dliness to this realm. He would teach everyone, even those who were on a very low level. This is the mode of kindness, drawing energy from above to below. The movement of spiritual energy is one of descent, since we bring the energy from high down to influence a lower level.

The drawback of this service was that, at times, Abraham drew energy down to undeserving people and places. He prayed for blessings for Yishmael and indeed reinforced a lot of unhealthy energy in this world through this. Kindness gone wrong leads to thievery and the expectation that one deserves something for nothing. This is still a prevalent feeling in our world.

Isaac represents the opposite energy: justice. This energy judges everything to make sure it is perfect. This energy seeks to raise the current level of whatever is around us; it moves in the direction of elevation. Isaac used to locate and dig wells, revealing springs of water deep within the earth. He was able to find and improve the land through his ability to dig deep and to see below the surface. As a result of his abundant judgement, one of his sons, Eisav, became very connected with this judgmental energy. Eisav's life revealed what could

happen when justice went wrong. Eisav would only judge others without offering any solutions. In the end, Eisav became a murderer. He couldn't cope when people defied his judgements and went against his will.

We see this energy in the world today as well. There are people who react poorly when someone dares to have opposing opinions from them. They feel that everyone must conform to their views, and they may even resort to violence to convince the opposition of their 'mistaken thinking.'

So, Abraham erred on the side of kindness and Isaac, on the side of judgement. Both had a bit of extremism in them. Jacob represents the balance between them.

Jacob was able to achieve balance by learning from both Abraham and Isaac. He channeled the energies of kindness and judgement in the proper manner, summing each when needed. At times in life our kindness is needed. At other times, we need to be tough and bring our attention to a situation that needs to be rectified. Jacob modeled the ability to know exactly what was needed in each moment. This was the reason Jacob brought forth the tribes of Israel. The tribes represent all of the spiritual directions and energies that exist in this world.

Joseph inherited Jacob's immense spiritual abilities. He also represents this power of descending to the lowest levels of this physical realm while retaining a strong connection to the spiritual world, even while being involved in all of these physical activities. This was necessary, because Joseph was involved in the physical concerns of the entire country of Egypt. He straddled the spiritual and physical worlds simultaneously and was able to meld them together.

Before moving, Jacob prepared a place in Egypt, the most physically powerful country, for his family. Before he arrived in Egypt, Jacob sent Judah to establish 'Houses of Learning' in order to continue the spiritual path of the nation. This path would ultimately lead to receiving the word of Hashem on Mt. Sinai, with the giving of the Torah through Moses. Even in Egypt,

Parashat Vayekhi

Torah: Gen. 47:28–50:26, 85 Pesukim
Hertz 180–191; Stone 268–289
Haftara: I Kings 2:1–12
Hertz 191–192; Stone 1145–1146
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, January 10th

Candle lighting..... 4:43 pm
Minha 4:35 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit..... 5:00 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, January 11th

Shaharit..... 8:30 am
Keriat HaTorah 10:15 am
Sermon..... 11:20 am
Musaf 11:30 am
Minha 4:25 pm
Seuda Shelisheet 4:45 pm
Arvit..... 5:30 pm
Havdala 5:48 pm

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Jacob's family members were able to retain their strong spiritual connection to G-d due to his foresight and help.

This is one of the reasons that Jacob lived the best years of his life in Egypt. He saw that the progression of his life had all been perfect. His life's path had indeed been divinely planned by Hashem, as it led him to be with all of his children, while still shining a light for the entire world, a spiritual light which has lasted to this day.

Shabbat Shalom and many blessings!

Purim is Coming Save the Date!



A Spectacular Casino Night at KJ Sunday, March 15th 2020

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 12th

Shaharit 7:30 am

Talmud Torah 9:45 am

Monday-Friday, January 13th to 17th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, January 17-18

Candle lighting 4:50 pm

Friday Minha 4:45 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Saturday Minha 4:30 pm

Havdala 5:54 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 January 11 to 18, 2020. We light memorial candles, give tsedaka, & attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of our loved ones.

15 Tevet / Sunday, January 12th

Hershel BirYehezkel

16 Tevet / Monday, January 13th

Khasnah bat Rahel

17 Tevet / Tuesday, January 14th

David Jacob Haskel Hai ben Yaacov

Victoria Reuben Victoria bat Chahla

Farha Shamash Farha bat Masooda

18 Tevet / Wednesday, January 15th

David Davoudian

Esperance Mathalon Shaaya Esperance bat Simcha

19 Tevet / Thursday, January 16th

Yehekel Goury Yehekel ben Shaul

Solomon Raymond Shlomo ben Rahamim

Salhab Harouni Salhab bat Tavoos

20 Tevet / Friday, January 17th

Ronnie Kelly Raphael ben Saleh Moshe Kadoorie

Joseph Hayeem Messiah

Ruby Mussry Reuven ben Yaacob Saleh

21 Tevet / Shabbat, January 18th

Solomon Reuben Shlomo ben Reuven D'loomy

Behejohn Yehudah Behejohn bat Yehudah

Correction: 8 Tevet / January 5th

Max Nathan Mordechai ben Rafael Natan

Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron
Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke • Mehry bat Miriam
Hakimpour • 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
Will Rogers Park

*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!
This 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!

Upcoming Family Shabbat dates—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



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