



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

SHABBOS DELIGHTS

TORAH MINUTE

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT"ל

The commandment had gone out - "They shall make Me a Sanctuary so that I will dwell among them" (25:8). This charge set off a vast undertaking of contributions for the necessary building materials, including gold, silver, precious stones, rare skins and cloths. Additionally, a monumental labor effort was required to transform the materials into the Mishkan, its vessels, and the priestly garments. To fulfill the requirements of the fine detail and intricacy of the construction, great skill and craftsmanship was needed. After much effort, care and devotion, the Mishkan and its components were finally complete as the Torah records "All the work of the Tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting, was completed" (39:32).

The Ohr Hachaim comments that the verse testifies to the completion of work. The desire and longing of the people to draw close to G-d, however, remained unquenched. Notwithstanding the great efforts already spent, their commitment to do what they could to nurture their relationship with G-d was as bright as the day they had begun.

This pure flame of inexhaustible pining for G-d's intimacy has been the hallmark of the Jewish people throughout the millennia. Even during the darkest times of the long and bitter exile, this "Pintele Yid" shines bright with love and knowledge of a Father above, caring and concerned for His children below.

May we all merit to soon feel G-d's full embrace, in Jerusalem!

Have a great Shabbos,

Rabbi Menachem Winter

TABLE TALK

POINT TO PONDER

All the work for the Mishkan, the Tent of Meeting, was completed, and Bnai Yisrael did everything that Hashem commanded Moshe, so did they do (39: 32).

The posuk does not say "v'yošu" / and they had done, rather the posuk says "v'yasu" / and they did, which implies that they were still working on the Mishkan. If everything was completed, what were they still working on?

TIMELESS WISDOM

These are the reckonings of the Mishkan, the Mishkan... (38:21)

The word "Mishkan" is repeated, hinting at the two times the Bais Hamikdash was taken as collateral for the sins of Bnai Yisrael (Rashi).

As long as the cause of the destruction is not rectified, as long as we do not repent, the Bais Hamikdash will lay in ruins (Yoma 9b).

Rav Chaim Sinwani, one of the leaders of the Jews in Taiman, moved to Eretz Yisrael. He was well known as a great person and was often found crying over the fate of Bnai Yisrael as they suffered in exile, and the suffering that Hashem has when He sees His children suffering. On one occasion, a close student hired a taxi to drive the great leader to the Kosel. Rav Chaim had never been there, to the best of the student's knowledge, and he wanted to take him to be able to daven at the "Gate of Heaven." The student went into Rav Chaim and said, "Rebbi, the cab is all paid for, and it is waiting outside, let us go together to the Kosel." Rav Chaim responded, "I went one time, and I cannot go again. Can you imagine the pain of the Shechina that the Bais HaMikdash is destroyed? When I went to the Kosel, and saw the area where the Kohanim would do the avoda, and where Hashem's Presence resided, the destruction was too much for me to bear. It is fatal for me to go there again."

The student went outside and paid the fee for a cancelled job.

PARSHA RIDDLE

Why did the month of Kislev merit to have the miracle and holiday of Chanuka?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

Last issue's riddle:

What is the connection between cholent and our parsha?

Answer: We eat hot food, cholent, to refute those who take literally, "lo s'va-aru aish". They claim it is forbidden to have a fire in your home, so they eat only cold food and sit in the dark.

KIDS KORNER

WHO AM I?

#1 WHO AM I?

All children 13 and under who answer a "Who Am I?" correctly will be entered into a raffle to

Win

\$50 gift
certificate to

MAX'S CAFE

Please visit
www.gwckollel.org
to submit your answers.

The next raffle will be March 25th.

Answer as many as you can because each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chance of winning!

#2 WHO AM I ?

1. I was used for counting.
2. I prevented plague.
3. I did not have a plug, yet I was for the socket.
4. I am for Ta'anis Esther.

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS

#1 Avnei Shoham and the Avnei Milu'im (We were not snow or rain; we were not online – yet were in the cloud; the name of my donor references my delivery; we were the missing parts.)

#2 Nesi'im (We lost a letter; our laziness caused our vigilance; our power distorted our reasoning; you read about us on Chanukah.)

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Pinchos Yosef Savir

To see the complete list of those who answered correctly, visit the Kollel website.

Please see next week's issue for the answers to this week's questions.

KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

The Kollel, in conjunction with Woodside Synagogue Ahavas Torah, invites men and women of the community to the second lecture in the Jewish Family Initiative "Peace in the Home" lecture series. Dr. Meir Wikler will be presenting on the topic of "How to Get Your Spouse to Really Listen: Mastering the Art of Effective Communication in Just 10 Minutes a Day."

The lecture will be followed by a Q&A session. The lecture begins at 8:00 PM, Monday March 10th, at 9001 Georgia Avenue. Admission is free.