



Greater Washington Community Kollel
**SHABBOS
 DELIGHTS**

TORAH MINUTE

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT"L

Spring Cleaning

Presented by Yisrael Glassberg

Director of Kollel Alumni

Spring time is in the air and as the weather turns warmer and the trees begin to bloom, Jews worldwide prepare to greet the holiday of Passover. Families are cleaning cars and homes from *chametz*, wine and *Matzoh* orders are being filled, and children are planning the best places to hide the treasured *Afikoman*. The Torah tells us "Guard the month of spring, and make [then] the Passover offering" (Deuteronomy 16:1). The Sages derive from this verse that the *Sanhedrin* (Rabbinical Supreme Court) must constantly adjust the calendar to ensure that Nissan, the month of the Jewish calendar in which the holiday of Passover falls, always arrives during the spring season. Why is it so critical that Passover fall out during the spring?

Rabbi Chaim Yaakov Goldvicht Z"L explained this based on the Rabbinical reference to Passover as *Chag Ha'aviv*, the Holiday of the Spring. The *Chachamim* tell us that Hashem purposely took us out of Egypt when the weather was warm and comfortable. Surely, after years of harsh slavery and living under oppressive conditions in Egypt, the Jewish people would have been grateful for their freedom no matter when during the year it occurred. The experience of freedom and the joy of being released from captivity would have trumped small details such as the weather.

R' Goldvicht explains that Hashem was communicating to us an extra special level of love and attention to detail. Hashem was demonstrating to the Jewish people that He is attentive to every aspect of their lives and is constantly watching over them. This message of Divine Providence applied to the grandiose, such as the Ten Plagues and the Splitting of the Sea, as well as the mundane, such as the prevailing temperature outside while the Jews were physically leaving Egypt.

As we enjoy the Passover holiday, and especially the weather, let us take the opportunity to reflect on the kindness of Hashem as it relates to every aspect of our lives.

Wishing you a Good Shabbos and a Happy Passover!

TABLE TALK

POINT TO PONDER

You should burn on it the fats of the Shelomim (6:5)

How do we know that one may not sacrifice a korban after the korban Tamid? The posuk says, "You should burn on it the fats of the Shelomim" - 'on it' means after all the korbanos. However, the Pesach is sacrificed after the korban Tomid, as the posuk says... (Pesachim 58b)

An obligation that is more common takes precedence over an obligation that occurs less frequently (Zevachim 89a).

Since a korban Tamid is a daily obligation and a korban Pesach is a once a year obligation, a posuk should not be necessary to teach that the Pesach must be sacrificed after the Tomid!

PARSHA RIDDLE

Why is Shabbos HaGadol called Shabbos HaGadol?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

Last week's riddle:

Why is the Mishkan called the 'Mishkan HaEidus' / the Mishkan of Testimony? What does it bear testimony to?

Answer: It bore testimony to the fact that Hashem forgave Bnei Yisrael for the sin of the Golden Calf.

HATORAH V'HAMITZVAH

HALACHA INSIGHTS FROM THE PARSHA

Parashas Tzav discusses the thanksgiving-offering (*korban todah*). Although the sacrificial rites are unfortunately today in a state of desuetude, various other *halachically* sanctioned ceremonies of thanksgiving to Hashem for salvation and deliverance from catastrophe remain. One of these is the establishment by individuals or communities of local "Purims" (i.e., "Thanksgiving Days") - days of celebration and expression of gratitude to Hashem in commemoration of particular incidents of His miraculous salvation from some grave danger.

R. Moshe Alashkar (*Shut. Maharam Alashkar* #49) endorsed the solemn enactment of the residents of a certain city and their *beis din* establishing "for them and for their descendants and for all who followed them, in perpetuity" the date of 11 Teves to be "like the day of Purim in all respects," to publicize a "great miracle" that they had experienced on that day. Although R. Hezekiah da Silva (*Pri Chadash OC* #496 *Dinei Minhagei Isur* #14) dissents and rules that subsequent to the destruction of the [Second] Temple, the institution of a new holiday is not binding, the *halachic* consensus apparently follows the view of R. Moshe Alashkar (see *Magen Avraham siman* 686 s.k. 5). The *Chasam Sofer* (*Shut. OC* #191) mentions a permanent "day of rejoicing" on 20 Adar established by the community of Frankfurt am Main in response to a miracle that had occurred there. He reports that he saw that his great teacher R. Nathan Adler, who had been born there, observed the day, and relates that he, too, observed it, even though he was [at the time of writing] living far from Frankfurt.

R. Avraham Danzig (at the very end of *Chayei Adam*) relates that he personally had established the date of 16 Kislev for his family as a day of commemoration and celebration of their having all survived a terrible (gun)powder conflagration that had claimed thirty-one lives in their neighborhood.

R. Ovadia Hedaya (*Shut. Yaskil Avdi* 7:OC:44-12) ruled that immigrants to Israel from Tripoli, who had previously observed no fewer than three local Purims, must continue to observe them in Israel.

PRESENTED BY
RABBI YITZHAK GROSSMAN, ROSH CHABURAH

KIDS KORNER

WHO AM I?

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

Win a super prize

THE NEXT RAFFLE WILL BE JUNE 6TH!

#1 WHO AM I?

1. Mouth speak.
2. Jump over.
3. I am the first.
4. I create Order.

#2 WHO AM I?

1. I am big, not really.
2. I precede the spring holiday.
3. Say "Telling"
4. Sheepish celebration.

Last Week's Answers:

#1 The Tur (My father was "the Head"; I have gematria fame; this week contains my name; I am surrounded by houses.)

#2 Pomegranate (I am a 613 reminder; I alternate with bells; I was worn; I was eaten.)

Answer as many as you can.

Each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chances of winning!

Visit gwckollel.org to submit your answers.

KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

Greater Washington Community Kollel wishes all of its friends, supporters, participants, and the entire community a joyous Pesach.

Join us for the Spring Semester, beginning Sunday, April 23rd.

Check out the programs page of our website, www.gwckollel.org/programs, to find a learning opportunity that fits your interests!