

Children's Birthdays: Alexander Goodman—17th June



Rabbi
Dov Birnbaum

Dear Friends,

Yankel, one of Warsaw's poorer folk, received a first-class train ticket from a wealthy cousin to visit him in Lodz. Yankel arrived at the station clutching his ticket tightly. He had never taken a train before and had no idea where to go. He spotted some well dressed individuals and just knew he was not sitting with them. Then in the far corner of the waiting room he noticed a group of vagrants with packs on

their shoulders, their eyes shifting back and forth.

Yankel meandered toward them, figuring that their place was his. The first-class passengers began to board, but the vagrants still waited. All of a sudden, the whistle blew and the train began to move. The vagabonds quickly jumped aboard the baggage car, Yankel following in pursuit. He slithered into the dark car and lay with them underneath a pile of suitcases, still clutching his ticket in fear.

He endured the bumps and heat of the baggage car and figured that such was his fate until the door of the baggage compartment flew open and a burly conductor flanked by two policemen entered. They began moving baggage and bags until they spotted poor Yankel and his friends cowering in a corner. The large conductor loomed over them and asked with a sneer in his voice, "Can I see your tickets?"

Yankel, hiding in a corner, looked up from under his coat to see the officers staring at him. He emerged from the group, shaking, and presented the sweat infused ticket that he had been clutching ever-so tightly during the entire ordeal.

The conductor looked at it carefully and then began to laugh hysterically. "Young man," he barked, "you have a first-class ticket! What are you doing here lying with these dregs in the baggage compartment? When you have a first-class ticket, you ought to act like a first-class passenger!"



In this week's Parsha the spies come back from the land of Israel and relate to the people "we were like grasshoppers in our eyes and so we were in their eyes"

The giant fruit, fortified cities, and powerful giants all tiny acorns compared to the power of the Almighty

suddenly loomed large. And the sky began to fall on a self-pitying nation that was led by self-pitying leaders. And with the falling sky fell the dreams, hopes, and aspirations of a generation that once yearned to dwell in the land of their forefathers. The Jewish nation was left to ponder that message for 40 years in the desert and perhaps thousands of years in the Diaspora.

That is what happens when mighty princes with first-class tickets to paradise think that they are tiny grasshoppers holding tickets to nowhere.

**Wishing you and your families
a Good Shabbos.**

Mincha: 7:15pm

Earliest Lighting: 7:35pm

Latest Lighting: 8:30pm

Davening Times

Shacharis: 9:00am

Gemora Shiur: 7:45pm

Shabbat Mincha: 8:55pm

Motzei Shabbat: 10:27pm

Sunday: 8:15am

This week's parsha is

Shelach Lecha

(in the book of Bamidbar)

Highlights of the Parsha include:

- ** Moshe sends 12 spies to the land of Canaan. They return after 40 days and report on a lush and bountiful land.
- * Ten of the spies claim that the inhabitants are giants and warriors - 'more powerful than we'. Only Caleb and Joshua claim the land can be conquered.
- * The nation loses faith in Hashem and Moshe. Hashem issues the decree that the entry to Eretz Yisroel will be delayed by 40 years.
- * The laws of pouring wine with sacrifices and 'separating challah' are stated.
- * We learn the rules regarding an individual who is guilty of an idolatrous practice - whether inadvertently or intentionally.
- The commandment of putting on Tzitzit is discussed.

Shabbat Shalom

Rebbetzin's Note...

In this week's Parsha, Lashon hora (tainted speech) was spoken about the land of Israel. Physical soil. Whats the big deal?

It teaches us what impact our spoken words can have.

Within moments the Jews went from excitement to terror of going into the land of Israel.

Lashon hora is like taking a goose down pillow and shaking it off a balcony. The effect spreads to unknown places and retracting what was said is virtually impossible.

Let us guard our mouths and use the power of speech only for the good.

Good Shabos

Love Rebbetzin Tehilla x

KIDDUSH

This weeks Kiddush is sponsored by Richard and Debbie Denton to celebrate Daniel's Barmitzvah .

To sponsor a Kiddush please contact Gideon Gabriel :
Gideon@thegabrielfamily.com

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our community!
 If you are interested in becoming a member please contact :
Rabbi Dov Birnbaum :
dbirnbaum@seed.uk.net



Wishing all our 3 Peaks participants good luck for Sunday!