

AT THE ARTSCROLL SHABBOS TABLE

A PROJECT OF THE Mesorah Heritage Foundation

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כ"ד שבט תשפ"ד
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WEEKLY INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT ADAPTED FROM CLASSIC ARTSCROLL TITLES

PROJECT DEDICATED BY MENACHEM AND BINAH BRAUNSTEIN AND FAMILY
L'ILLUI NISHMAS RAV MOSHE BEN RAV YISSOCHOR BERISH AND MARAS YENTA BAS YISROEL CHAIM

PARASHAH

AN INSPIRING HONOR

Messages from Rav Pam by Rabbi Sholom Smith

כְּבֹד אֶת אָבִיךָ וְאֶת אִמְךָ לְמַעַן יִאָּרְכוּן יָמֶיךָ.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days will be lengthened (20:12).

It is well known that the *Aseres HaDibros* were inscribed on two tablets, the *Luchos*. The first five are *mitzvos* between man and Hashem, while the second five are *mitzvos* between man and man. It is noteworthy that the fifth commandment, *kibbud av va'eim*, honoring one's parents, is listed on the side of *mitzvos* between man and Hashem. This emphasizes what the *Gemara (Kiddushin 30b)* teaches that when a person properly respects and honors his parents, Hashem considers it as if he honored Him.

In discussing the topic of *kibbud av va'eim*, Rav Pam would note the comment of the *Midrash (Bereishis Rabbah 68:6)* about Yaakov Avinu. Yaakov had left home in search of a wife and also because Eisav harbored hatred toward Yaakov because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him (*Bereishis 27:41*). On the way, Yaakov was attacked by Eisav's son Eliphaz, who robbed him of everything he had (see Rashi 29:11). Yaakov knew that he would soon have to deal with the deceitful Lavan as he built a family and established the foundation of *Klal*

Yisrael.

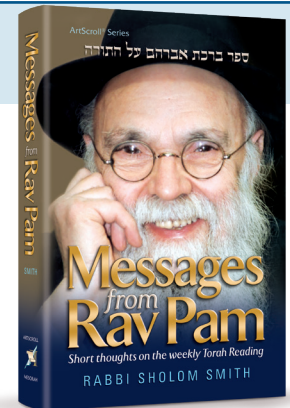
What gave him strength during all the trying situations that he faced? Why didn't he throw up his hands in despair?

The *Midrash* says that what kept him going was the knowledge that "if I give up now, I will forfeit all the energies that my mother invested in me to help me obtain the *berachos*." Rivkah Imeinu risked her marriage, and possibly her life, to help Yaakov deceive his father into granting him the eternal benefits of Yitzchak Avinu's blessings. How could Yaakov fail her and allow her heroic efforts to go to waste? This inspired him at that time, and doubtless also throughout the turmoil- and tragedy-filled decades ahead.

Similarly, when each person contemplates his boundless obligation of gratitude to his parents for all they did for him, this will give him an extra impetus to overcome the inevitable challenges of life. 📖



Rav Avraham Pam



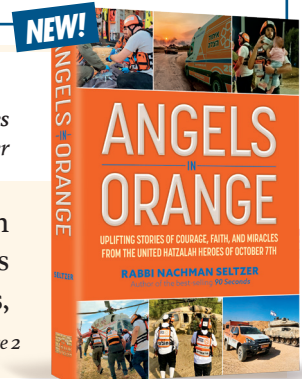
HASHGACHAH

PROVIDENTIAL ENCOUNTER

Angels in Orange – Uplifting Stories of Courage, Faith and Miracles from the United Hatzalah Heroes of October 7th by Rabbi Nachman Seltzer

Back in the days before the world had gone completely off the rails, a *chareidi* Jew from Bnei Brak named Yehuda was driving on the Tel Aviv–Yerushalayim highway

when he suddenly noticed a car sitting on the side of the road with its hazard lights blinking. Inside the car were two parents, a child, and a dog. He pulled *continued on page 2*



THIS WEEK'S ISSUE IS SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF
ל"חיים בן הרב אברהם מרדכי ז"ל AND הרב אברהם מרדכי בן הרב שמואל אלחנן ז"ל – DIMONT

MESORAH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

PROVIDENTIAL ENCOUNTER

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up behind the car and got out to ask what the problem was.

“We ran out of gas,” the father explained. “We’ve been waiting here for a half an hour. You’re the first car that stopped.”

“Don’t worry about a thing,” Yehuda reassured them. “I’ll drive over to the nearest gas station at Motza and bring you back enough gasoline so you can get back on the road.”

Yehuda gave them his phone number, they gave him theirs, and he promised to return as quickly as possible. He was back shortly afterward with a jerry can full of gasoline.

They offered to pay him for his help, but he refused.

“It’s on the house.”

“What do you mean? You drove to the gas station, you went out of your way and you spent money on me. What do you mean, ‘It’s on the house?’”

“Thank you for wanting to pay, but I did a *mitzvah* and I don’t want payment for it.”

“I don’t believe this.”

“What’s so hard to believe?”

“Come here a second. I want to show you something.”

The father led Yehuda around to the back of the car. On the trunk there was a bumper sticker.

“Do you see that sticker?” the man asked him.

Yehuda looked. The sticker said, “*Dros kol dos.*” Roughly translated, this means, “Run over every religious person.”

“This is the first time in my life that I’m meeting a religious person,” the man confessed, “and

suddenly I find myself incredibly ashamed at the sticker on my car. I’m going to remove it.”

“Tell me,” Yehuda said. “Where are you from?”

“We live in Kibbutz Be’eri. It’s situated down south, near Gaza.”

“Interesting, I’ve never heard of it. At any rate, I hope you have a great trip and nothing else should go wrong.”

They bid each other good night, went back to their respective cars,



and drove off.

The next morning, the man who had run out of gas on Highway 1 heard his phone ringing. He answered it.

“Hello? It’s Yehuda.”

“Yehuda who?”

“Yehuda. I met you last night on the highway when you ran out of gas.”

“Yes, yes, of course. Hello and thank you so much for what you did. You really saved us!”

“You’re welcome. I was just calling to make sure you got home safe and sound.”

“Yes, after you left, we drove to the gas station, filled up, and were able to get home just fine. Thank you very much!”

“My pleasure. Now I’m calm. *Kol tuv.*”

A few days later, on Friday after-

noon, Yehuda called again. He had a story to share with the couple’s young son, if they didn’t mind.

“A story? Sure. Why not? What’s the story?”

And so it began. Every *Erev Shabbos*, Yehuda would call the family from Kibbutz Be’eri and tell them a story. It usually wasn’t longer than two minutes, and within a short time, this became their weekly tradition.

Half a year passed. One Friday, the man from Kibbutz Be’eri asked Yehuda a question.

“Tell me, Yehuda, aren’t you bored on *Shabbos*?”

“Why would I be bored?”

“I don’t know. You pray and you eat, and that’s pretty much the whole situation, no? You can’t speak on the phone or watch TV or work on the computer or go for a drive. That’s why I’m asking. Aren’t you bored?”

“It’s funny you should think that I would be bored on *Shabbos* when it happens to be a day when I find that I am very busy.”

“How’s that?”

“Look, it will be difficult for you to understand without experiencing it for yourself. So here’s what I suggest. Why don’t you come and join me and my family for *Shabbos*? Then you can come and see how it is for yourself.”

The man from Be’eri was taken aback.

“You’re not serious! Me keep *Shabbos*? In Bnei Brak?! Are you forgetting that I’m *chiloni*?”

“I didn’t forget for a second,” Yehuda reassured him. “You will be my guest, and everything will be fine. We’ll find you an apartment

THIS WEEK'S DAF YOMI SCHEDULE:

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 ב	4 כה	5 כו	6 כז	7 כח	8 כט	9 ל
Bava Kamma 93	Bava Kamma 94	Bava Kamma 95	Bava Kamma 96	Bava Kamma 97	Bava Kamma 98	Bava Kamma 99

THIS WEEK'S MISHNAH YOMI SCHEDULE:

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 ב	4 כה	5 כו	6 כז	7 כח	8 כט	9 ל
Kesubos 9:2-3	Kesubos 9:4-5	Kesubos 9:6-7	Kesubos 9:8-9	Kesubos 10:1-2	Kesubos 10:3-4	Kesubos 10:5-6

Chinuch with Simchah by Rabbi Yaakov Bender

Q: My son will be bar mitzvah in December, and he is having anxiety about being responsible for mitzvos. He's mostly worried about having to daven with a minyan three times a day and making zeman Krias Shema. He doesn't daven Maariv during the week now, and on days off he usually just davens a short davening at home. Friday night and Shabbos Shacharis he usually goes because it's more of a social thing, and he has time to play with his friends during the Kiddush. Waking up early is not his issue; it's just that he finds davening very boring and too long. Can you advise me on how to calm him down so he can have a positive attitude toward his bar mitzvah? Is there ever a heter to tell a thirteen-year-old to skip parts of davening so he can start with five to ten minutes and have a more positive attitude toward davening as an adult?

A: This is not an easy question to answer. If the problem persists once he is bar mitzvah, can you find a *chashuve rav* in your community or *shul* who will be liberal with him? Perhaps he can tell him, "If it's too hard for you, you don't have to daven the whole davening..." Offer this *rav* a stipend to meet your son occasionally to discuss this and encourage your son to daven properly. You should know, though, that very often, a pre-bar mitzvah boy is nervous about taking on all the responsibilities that come along with becoming a bar mitzvah. This is a good thing! It means that he understands the significance of the transition. Usually, once the time actually comes, they do fine. 📖



PROVIDENTIAL ENCOUNTER

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for you to stay in, and you will make us very happy if you accept our invitation."

"It seems kind of crazy to me, but I'll ask my wife and I'll get back to you with an answer."

In the meantime, Yehuda called his *rav*. He explained the situation and asked the *rav* for his advice on when might be a good time to invite the family from Be'eri to his house for *Shabbos*. The thing was that it was almost *Tishrei*. First there was *Rosh HaShanah* — two full days of intense davening. *Yom Kippur*, of course, was a fast day. Then there was *Sukkos*, when they'd be eating and sleeping in the *sukkah*.

"I can't really see them going for that," Yehuda said.

"What about *Simchas Torah*?" his *rav* suggested. "People will throw candies at them, and they'll have a chance to dance with the *Sefer Torah*."

"I can't have them on *Simchas*

Torah."

"Why not?"

"My father lives in Sderot, and all my siblings take turns going to spend *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov* with him. *Simchas Torah* is my turn to go."

"Why don't you invite your father

"YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS! ME KEEP SHABBOS? IN BNEI BRAK?! ARE YOU FORGETTING THAT I'M CHILONI?"

to come and spend *Simchas Torah* with you in Bnei Brak? Then, in addition to experiencing a real *Simchas Torah*, the family from down south will also be able to see how beautifully your family treats your father, too..."

It was a good idea. There was just one glitch:

"We can only come to you if we

can bring our dog," the man from Be'eri told Yehuda when he called to invite them for *Simchas Torah*. "Is that a problem?"

"Not at all. Bring your dog."

So it was that Yehuda's father, who lived across the street from the police station in Sderot, wasn't home when the terrorists took control of that part of the city, killing many people. Not only was he saved, but so were his son Yehuda and Yehuda's family, who were supposed to spend *Simchas Torah* with him in Sderot.

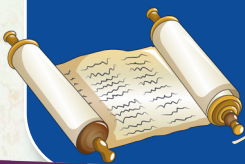
Then there was the family from Be'eri. They, too, were saved. They remained alive and well while the terrorists set their house on fire and their home went up in flames. And since they had to remain in Bnei Brak for a while — there was a war going on, after all — it made sense to send their son to a local Shuvu school.

And to think that it all began one evening on the highway when a *frum* guy stopped to help someone who ran out of gas... 📖

This week's
Yerushalmi Yomi
schedule:

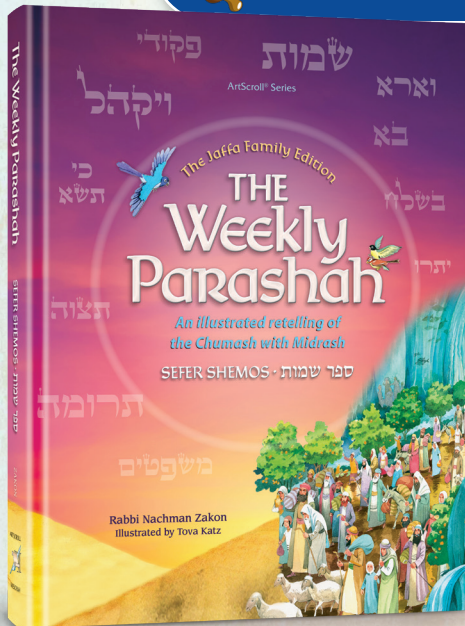
FEBRUARY /
שבט

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 כב Terumos 32	4 כה Terumos 33	5 ב Terumos 34	6 זב Terumos 35	7 כז Terumos 36	8 כט Terumos 37	9 ל Terumos 38



Parashah for Children

פרשת יתרו



A Hard Job



Yisro passed a large number of people waiting on line. He asked someone what they were waiting for.

"We are all waiting for our turn to speak to Moshe Rabbeinu," the man answered. "Some of us have questions about how to be a better Jew. Others are arguing about something and they want Moshe to decide who is right."

Yisro could see it would take a very long time till the last Jew in line would have his turn to see Moshe! And how tired Moshe would be by the end of the day!

That night Yisro had a talk with Moshe.

A Good Suggestion



our system of judging the Jews isn't working well," Yisro told him. "You can't be the only one to judge the Jews. It's too hard a job for just one man, and why should the Jews have to stand in line for so long? This is my idea. Instead of you doing all the work yourself, share the job with others. Please check with Hashem to see if I'm right."

Moshe + 78,600



his is how Yisro's plan would work.

Yisro told Moshe to appoint many judges, one for every 10 Jews, one for every 50 Jews,

one for every 100, and one for every 1,000.

If there is a question of law, the Jew goes to the judge in charge of him and the other nine people. If that judge doesn't know the answer, the question goes to the judge in charge of fifty. If that judge doesn't know the answer, it keeps going up level by level. If no one knows the answer ... it goes to Moshe for judgment.

If Moshe doesn't know, what then? Moshe asks Hashem for the answer!

Altogether Moshe was looking for 78,600 people to become judges!

Moshe took Yisro's advice and things got a lot better. Moshe had less of a workload, and the Jews didn't have to wait so long anymore.

THE WEEKLY QUESTION

Question for Yisro:

What were the qualifications of a good judge that Yisro gave to Moshe?

Kids, please ask your parents to email the answer to shabbosquestion@artscroll.com by this Wednesday to be entered into a weekly raffle to win a \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD! Be sure to include your full name, city, and contact info. Names of winners will appear in a future edition. HINT: The answer can be found in *The Jaffa Family Edition Weekly Parashah*.

The winner of the Parashas Va'eira question is: SHMUEL MOSKOWITZ, Kew Gardens Hills, NY

The question was: If all the water in Egypt changed to blood, where did Pharaoh's wizards get water to turn into blood?
The answer is: Only drinkable water turned to blood. The wizards used undrinkable, salty sea water to turn into blood, or they bought water from the Jews.

