

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 5:28 pm
Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 5:30 pm
Shacharis: 8:45 am
Mincha/Shalosh Seudos: 5:20 pm
Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 6:33 pm
Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 7:00 pm

Parshas Ki Sisa

Adapted from Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky

In what is probably the most anti-climactic event in Jewish history, the nation that was about to receive the Torah from Moshe turns away from the will of Hashem. After 40 days they begin to worry that Moshe will never return and they panic. They create a new leader for themselves – The Golden Calf.

The Torah describes the scene in Shmos 32:6: "The people offered (the calf) peace offerings and they sat down to eat and drink and they got up to revel."

Hashem immediately commands Moshe to descend Har Sinai in order to admonish his corrupt nation. As Moshe comes down the mountain he hears tumultuous shouts emanating from the people who were celebrating their new found deity. His student, Yehoshua, also hears the sounds and declares (Shmos 32:17) "the sound of battle is in the camp." Moshe listens and amends the theory. He tells Yehoshua, "It is not the sound of victory, nor the sound of defeat: I hear the sound of distress." When Moshe sees the Golden Calf he breaks the Luchos and restores order, sanity, and the belief in Hashem. What is strange about the episode is the contrast of the sounds made and the sounds heard. If the Yiddin reveled and celebrated then why did Yehoshua hear sounds of war

and how did Moshe hear sounds of distress? They should both have heard the sound of celebration and festivity.

Rav Chaim of Sanz had a custom: he would test the local children on a monthly basis. The children would recite orally from the Mishnah or Gemara and Rav Chaim would reward them generously with sweets and money. Once a group of secular Jews decided to dupe Rav Chaim. They taught a Talmudic selection to a gentile child and reviewed it with him until he knew it perfectly. They dressed him like a Chasidic child and had him stand in line with all the other children to be tested.

The rabbi listened to the young boy intently. The other children were puzzled: they did not remember this boy from their cheder, yet they were amazed at the remarkable fluency he displayed in reciting his piece. Rav Chaim was not impressed at all. He turned to the young man and said, "please tell your father that there are better ways to earn a few coins!" With that he dismissed the child.

The secularists were shocked. "How did the Rabbi know?" Their curiosity forced them to approach Rav Chaim. Rav Chaim smiled as he answered them. "There are two ways to say the Gemorah. One is filled with spirituality. The child's body is swaying and filled with the

emotion of Torah. The other is just repetitive rote. This young man lacked the fire and the true joy that the Jewish children have when learning Torah. I knew he was not one of ours."

The Yiddin got up to revel around the golden calf. Moshe and Yehoshua however knew the difference between true joy – simcha – and confusion. The Jews revel were in essence distressed but it was masked with drinks and noise makers. True joy is coupled with a certainty

and a sense of direction; something lacking for those Jews celebrating the idol. The Jews may have gotten up to celebrate, but it was no celebration. It may have looked like a party to the untrained eye, but Moshe knew the true sound of joy. It did not exist with the Golden Calf. True joy is the harmony of spirituality and contentment. Superficial sounds of euphoria and celebration are heard by those with true insight as sounds of battle and distress.

Good Shabbos

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by Moishie & Leah Korolnek to be mehane the oilom.

This week's Friday night learning (FNL) program is sponsored by Heshi and Bayla Kuhnreich in honor of the 60th anniversary of their parent's David & Goldie Richler.

We would like to extend a bracha of mazal tov to David & Goldie Richler on the occasion of their 60th anniversary.

Sunday Morning Discussion

Please join us weekly for our new Sunday Morning Discussion!

Rabbi Kaufman will be discussing compelling and topical Hashkafic issues each week.

Shacharis 8:00 am

Shiur and Discussion in Hashkafah: 8:40 am

Light refreshments will be served

Cholim List

We are currently updating our cholim list for Chodesh Adar.

Anyone who wishes to submit a name to the cholim list please email gabbai@agudahsouth.com or contact one of the gabbaim.

Weekday Schedule

Shacharis(Sunday): 8:00 am

Shacharis (Monday & Thursday): 7:00 am & 7:55 am

Shacharis (Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday): 7:00 am & 8:00 am

Weekday Mincha/Maariv: 5:40 pm / 6:00 pm

To sponsor a Kiddush or Shalosh Seudos please email kiddush@agudahsouth.com or contact Leon Jakubovic.

All those wish to submit names to the cholim list can email gabbai@agudahsouth.com or contact one the gabbaim.

Have a Simcha to announce? Email announcements to mailings@agudahsouth.com.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this list please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Contributions to or suggestions for this bulletin are welcome.

For more information please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

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www.agudahsouth.com



Friday Night Learning (FNL)

Please join us weekly for the relaunched

Friday Night Learning Program

Now in its 5th year!

Learning Seder: 8:00 pm

Rabbi Kaufman's Parsha Shiur: 8:30 pm

*The Esoteric Commentaries:
The Or Hachaim Hakodosh, Sfas Emes,
and various Chassidic Masters*

Q / A Following

Cholent & Kugel will be served

For more information please email mailings@agudahsouth.com

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All those wish to submit names to the cholim list can email gabbai@agudahsouth.com or
contact one the gabbaim.

Have a Simcha to announce? Email announcements to mailings@agudahsouth.com.

To subscribe to the shul mailing list please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.