

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 8:38 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 7:05 pm & 8:40 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Pirkei Avos Shiur: 7:35 pm

Mincha/Seudas Shlishis: 8:25 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 9:45 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 10:07 pm

Mattos/Maasei

Adapted from Rabbi Yochanan Zweig [www.torah.org]

Murder Desensitizes Us

"You must designate for yourselves cities of refuge" (35:11)

Hashem commanded Moshe to designate six cities of refuge. Three of the cities were located on the east bank of the Jordan River, and three were on the west bank. The Talmud questions this designation, for only two- and-a-half tribes were located on the east bank, while the remaining nine- and-a-half tribes were located on the west bank. Our Sages explain that the disproportionate allocation was due to the high incidence of murder which took place on the east bank of the Jordan.¹ The Baalei HaTosfos question this explanation. These cities offered refuge only to someone who had killed inadvertently. Therefore, the high incidence of murder, which is a premeditated act, should not be a determining factor in the location of the cities of refuge. The Baalei HaTosfos answer the question by citing the following passage from the Talmud: When a person murders without be-

ing detected, Hashem sees to it that he is punished. Hashem orchestrates a scenario whereby the murderer is killed accidentally. Therefore, a higher incidence of murder will result in a higher incidence of inadvertent killing.

The Talmud relates that the individual responsible for killing the murderer, is himself a person who had previously killed inadvertently. However, since the first killing went undetected, he did not feel the necessity to run to a city of refuge. Therefore, Hashem created a similar situation which was detected, thus forcing him to flee to a city of refuge. If so, it would seem that the high incidence of murder has no impact on the high incidence of inadvertent killing, for the murderer who was killed accidentally, needs to be killed by someone who has unintentionally killed in the past. The number of inadvertent murderer would appear to be independent of the number of murderers. Thus, the question still remains.

The Rambam makes a distinction between an "oness" and a "shogaig". An "oness" is a per-

son who kills someone without the slightest degree of negligence. Such a person is absolved of all responsibility, and is not required to flee to a city of refuge. In the case of a "shogaig", there is a certain degree of negligence, and it is under these circumstances that the perpetrator must flee to a city of refuge.

The Talmud is teaching us that in an area where there is a high incidence of murder, the populace becomes desensitized to the sanctity

of life. Therefore, in these areas there is a higher propensity for carelessness involving potentially life-threatening acts. The reason why there was a greater need for the cities of refuge on the east bank of the Jordan was that the higher incidence of murder reflected a lack of sensitivity to the sanctity of life and therefore resulted in a higher incidence of killings due to negligence.

Good Shabbos

**** To ensure accurate publication of all announcements and sponsorships, **
 **information must be submitted to mailings@agudahsouth.com **
 prior the publication deadline of 10:00 am on Friday morning.**

**This week's kiddush is sponsored by:
 Mr. & Mrs. Avraham & Chaya Engel in honour of a Yortzeit.
 A number of members of the Shul in honour of Mordechai Klein's 30th birthday, and in appreciation for all his efforts on behalf of the Shul.**

The kids' program will take place this week beginning at 9:30 am.

**The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis is Dr. Daniel Frances.
 Dr. Frances will be speaking about his research work on his recent trip to Amsterdam.
 Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by the shul.**

The Sunday Morning Shiur in Derech Hashem will take place after Shacharis.

**We are updating the cholim list for Chodesh Av.
 If you would like to submit a name to the cholim list please email
 gabbai@agudahsouth.com.**

Weekday Schedule

Shacharis	Mincha
Sunday: 8:00 am	8:40 pm
Mon. & Thurs.: 7:00 am & 7:55 am	Maariv
Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:00 am & 8:00 am	9:00 pm
Daf Yomi with Rabbi Kaufman: 8:00 am (Shabbos), 7:15 am (Sun), 7:40 am (Mon-Fri)	
Amud Yomi with Rabbi Rafi Greenspan: 7:20 am (Mon-Fri)	

To sponsor Kiddush/Seudas Shlishis contact Baruch Klein (kiddush@agudahsouth.com.)
 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.

Join our Kehillah today!

To find out more about memberships, associate memberships, & other sponsorship opportunities please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

**Agudah South
 General Meeting**

There will General Meeting on Thursday 23rd July at 9pm.
 For more information please email mailings@agudahsouth.com