

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 4:33 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 4:35 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Hilchos Shabbos Shiur: 4:00 pm

Mincha/**SEUDAS SHLISHIS**: 4:20 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 5:37 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 6:04 pm

Parshas Shemos

Adapted from Rabbi Yissochar Frand [www.torah.org]

Flower Power

"Reuvein, Shimon, Levi, and Yehudah" (1:2), "Yissachar, Zevulun, and Binyamin" (1:3), "Dan and Naftali; Gad and Asher" (1:4)

In Parshas Vayishlach the Torah lists the twelve sons of Yaakov. Reuvein, Shimon, Levi, Yehudah, Yissachar and Zevulun are listed together in one verse, Yosef and Binyamin are grouped together, and Gad and Asher are listed together, as are Dan and Naftali. The divisions of the groups are based upon the mother; the first verse includes the children of Leah, the second the children of Rachel, and the third and fourth the children of the maid-servants Bilhah and Zilpah respectively.

The beginning of Sefer Shemos also lists the names of Yaakov's sons who came down to Mitzrayim. The divisions of the names in these verses differ from those in Parshas Vayishlach. Reuvein, Shimon, Levi and Yehudah are grouped together in the first verse, Yissachar, Zevulun and Binyamin in the second, and Dan, Naftali, Gad and Asher in the third. Leah's first four children are recorded together, as are the children of the concubines Bilhah and Zilpah. Why are Yissachar and Zevulun, Leah's last two children grouped with Binyamin, Rachel's child?

In Parshas Vayeitzei the Torah records the births of Leah's first four children, then stating "vata'amod miledes" - "she stopped giving birth". Why is it necessary for the Torah to emphasize that she stopped giving birth?

The children of Nachor, Avraham's brother are enumerated at the end of Parshas Vayeira. Nachor has a total of twelve children, eight from his wife, Milcah and four from his concubine, Re'umah. Rashi comments that Nachor's children are analogous to the twelve tribes descending from Avraham, eight from Yaakov's wives and four from Yaakov's concubines. If the comparison is to be understood literally, it appears that each wife was destined to bear twice as many children as each concubine, as was true in the case of Nachor; his wife bore eight children, while his concubine bore four. This would account for the word used in the Torah for concubine, "pilegsh", which is translated literally as "pelag" - "half" and "isha" - "wife"; a concubine is "half a wife", giving birth to half the number of children as the wife. If so, the configuration of the tribes should have been four to Leah, two to Zilpah, four to Rachel and two to Bilhah. Why did Leah bear six children and Rachel two?

When Reuvein came from the field with "duda'im" - "mandrakes" for his mother Leah, Rachel asked Leah to give them to her, for mandrakes were believed to contain properties which improve fertility. Rashi comments that Yissachar was born to Leah subsequent to this episode as a reward to her for giving the duda'im to Rachel; "Yissachar" means "yeish sachar" - "there is reward". The Seforno explains that Zevulun, Leah's sixth son was also born as a reward for her actions concerning the duda'im; "Zevulun" stems from the words "zevadani

Elokim" - "Hashem has endowed me".

What emerges is that Yissachar and Zevulun should have been Rachel's children, giving each wife twice as many children as each pilegsh. Thirty-two of the seventy souls descending to Mitzrayim were comprised of Leah's sons and their families, twice the number of the sixteen souls which emerged from Zilpah, her maidservant. A total of fourteen souls descended from Rachel, twice the number which emerged from Bilhah, her maidservant. The discrepancy between Leah's thirty-two descendants and Rachel's fourteen can be accounted for in the following manner: Yissachar, Zevulun and their families numbered nine souls. If this number had been added to Rachel's descendants, both Rachel and Leah would have had twenty-three descendants each, in the config-

uration of the seventy.

After Leah's fourth son was born the Torah stresses that she stopped giving birth, for this was to be her last child. Only after she gave the duda'im to Rachel did she merit to bear two more children. The division of the verses in the beginning of Shemos can now be clarified. The first verse records the names of the four children of Leah who were destined to be hers. The second verse, comprised of Yissachar, Zevulun and Binyamin records the children who were destined to be Rachel's (Yosef is not listed in the descent to Egypt for he was already there). The third verse records the children of the pilagshim.

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 a group of members.

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

**The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis is R' Shloime Schwartz.
Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by Shloime & Shaynee Schwartz
I'zecher nishmas Chaya Brina bas Chiam Yehuda.**

**If you would like to submit a name to the cholim list please email
gabbai@agudahsouth.com or contact one of the gabbaim.**

Shacharis	Weekday Schedule	Mincha
Sunday: 8:00 am & 9:00 am		12:40 pm & 4:40 pm
Monday & Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:55 am		Maariv
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 am & 8:00 am		5:00 pm & 8:00 pm (Mon-Thur)
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.)

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

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the email bulletin please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Friday Night Learning Program (FNL)

**The Friday Night learning program will take place this week.
Learning Seder: 8:00 pm Or Hachaim/Esoteric Mefarshim Shiur
FNL is sponsored by Yudi & Dinah Hadari in honour of the yearzeit of
Dinah's father, Ze'ev ben Avraham Moshe Z"L.**

Moreshes Aviva

**The Moreshes Aviv will IY"H meet this Tuesday Evening at 8:00 pm.
The Middah of the month is 'Dan L'Kaf Zechus: Judging Favourably.'**

Shovavim Shiurim

**The Rav's Shovavim Shiurim will take place Wednesday at 8:30 pm (January 6, 13, 29).
Topics: Hilchos Niddah and General Sholom Bayis Discussion.**