

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 8:15 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 6:45 pm & 8:15 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Pirkei Avos Shiur: 7:15

Mincha/SEUDAS SHLISHIS: 8:05 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 9:19 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 9:46 pm

Sunday Shacharis: 8:00 am

Parshas Emor

Adapted from Rabbi Yitzchok Adlerstein [www.torah.org]

Unlanded Gentry [1]

You shall count for yourselves from the morrow of the Shabbos...seven weeks...fifty day. You shall convoke on this very day...you shall do no laborious work...When you reap in the harvest of your land, you shall not remove completely the corners of your field as you reap, and you shall not gather the gleanings of your harvest. For the poor and the ger shall you leave them. I am Hashem your G-d[2].

Why do some of the laws of the mandatory gifts to the poor appear just at this point, as if forgotten somewhere else, and dropped in to a long section that deals with the holidays alone?

In getting us to Shavuot, the Torah has twice brought home an essential idea about the entitlement of individuals to sustenance and happiness. Through the avodah of the omer on Pesach and that of the shte ha-lechem on Shavuot, the Torah reinforces the idea that the source of each individual's contentment and prosperity is the Torah and its relationship to the Nation

of Israel. The Jewish People carry the message of the Torah into the larger world; each of its members derives his portion from his connection to the Torah.

This might seem so obvious that it scarcely is worthy of mention. Practically, however, this assertion is a sea-change from the realities of both the ancient and modern worlds.

The gap between the haves and the have-nots is not just quantitative. The very difference between life and death of have-nots often lodges in the whims of the haves. Those who have provide, at their pleasure, enough for the have-nots to sustain themselves. They offer this as a form of noblesse oblige, and don't take kindly to suggestions that this can be demanded of them. What they offer is charity, not fulfillment of a human duty.

In the ancient world (as well as across major swaths of the modern globe), the distinction between the two kinds of people concerned land. Those who had land were the haves. Those who

lacked it lived at the mercy of the landowner. What they received was accompanied by feelings of insufficiency, inadequacy and humiliation.

The omer and shte ha-lechem offerings told a different story. It was not land (or what modern society would call access to the means of production) that provided sustenance, but connection to the Torah. Those who received more had to see themselves as custodians of plenty on behalf of those who had less. The harvest did not belong to the rich and the landed, but to everyone. The landed citizens were simply conduits to direct G-d's blessing to a wider group

of end-users.

Precisely after the section of the shte ha-lechem the Torah details some of the matnos aniyim. Our pasuk stands in stark relief to the reality that the poor of other cultures are fed though the good will of the rich. Here, the Torah sends the poor into the fields at harvest, to help themselves to what Hashem has ordered the earth to yield up. The harvest is for them as much as for the landowner. It follows neatly from the message of the shte ha-lechem, and is the perfect postscript to it.

1. Based on the Hirsch Chumash, Vayikra 23:22

2. Vayikra, 23:15-16; 21-22A

Good Shabbos

This week's kiddush is sponsored anonymously.

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

Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by:

Moishe & Susie Feder in honour of the yahrzeit of Simcha Aryeh ben Yosef Tzvi.

The cholim list is being updated for Chodesh Iyar. 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		8:25 pm
Monday & Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:55 am		Maariv
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 am & 8:00 am		8:50 pm

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.

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

Join Our New Chesed Initiative

There has been some interest in forming a Chesed Committee to spur new chesed initiatives within the community. All men or women that are interested in joining please contact Moishe Korolnek at markkorolnek@gmail.com.

Pirkei Avos Shiur

The Rav's Pirkei Avos shiur will take place weekly 50 minutes before mincha. This week's Pirkei Avos Shiur is 7:15 pm. For more information email info@agudahsouth.com.

Lag Ba'omer Melaveh Malka/Kumzitz

Please join us for a Melaveh Malka/Kumzits this Motzei Shabbos Parshas Emor.

Location: Agudah South Social Hall

Time: 10:15 pm

Refreshments will be served

Sponsorships Welcome

For more information please email mailings@agudahsouth.com