

Agudas Yisroel Anshei Kielce



Zmanim

Candle Lighting: 8:45 pm

Mincha/Kabbalas Shabbos: 7:10 pm & 8:45 pm

Shacharis: 8:45 am

Sof Zman Kriyas Shema: 9:28 am

Pirkei Avos Shiur: 7:45 pm

Mincha/**SEUDAS SHLISHIS**: 8:35 pm

Maariv/Motzei Shabbos: 9:53 pm

Motzei Shabbos Rabbeinu Tam: 10:15 pm

Sunday Shacharis: 8:00 am

Parshas Behaloscha

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

The Little Committee That Could [1]

How could it be understood, other than a complete repudiation of his message? To Moshe, the people's fond reminiscences of freely obtained garlic and onions signaled failure of his mission. Hashem had entrusted him not only to give Bnei Yisrael the Torah, but to shape them into a nation that cherished the highest ideals.

Instead, they wailed in front of their tents for a menu change. We remember the fish that we ate freely in Egypt..the leeks and the onions and the garlic[2].

Moreover, there did not appear to be any way out. Moshe had complete faith and confidence in Hashem's ability to perform miracles, but the demands of the people were disappointing and inappropriate. They were hardly in the kind of crisis that Hashem would respond to with miraculous intervention. If the people were to be placated, the meat they sought would have to come from natural sources. Where was he to find a supply of meat for the sizeable population of the Jewish travelers through the wilderness? To make matters worse, Moshe was nagged by his recollection of the beginning of his public service career. When Hashem had first called upon him at the burning bush and asked him to argue the people's cause in front of Paroh, Moshe had demurred. For an entire week according to Chazal he attempted to persuade G-d to look elsewhere for His human spokesman.

Moshe would gladly have suffered any shame and any harm, if it would better the condition of the Jewish people. But he believed that he was unqualified for the job, and implored G-d to choose an alternative. Nothing could disqualify a candidate for leadership more than self-doubt in his own abilities. It was a recipe for failure – and he had now been proven correct!

"Why have You so afflicted Your servant; why have I not found favor in Your eyes[3]?" Why had he found so little favor in Hashem's eyes that He had spurned Moshe's most reasonable request? How could he possibly have succeeded? "Did I conceive this entire people, or did I bear them[4]?" When parents fall short of their goals, their failures are offset by the bonds of love and respect that children have for them. Those can compensate for less than perfect parental performance. But Moshe was not their parent. Love and respect were not available as a kind of instinct. Obviously, he thought, he hadn't earned it either, or they would not be asking trivial and impossible things of him. Their crying for meat mocked him as a failure.

Hashem's response to Moshe was not instantly reassuring. "Gather unto Me seventy men of the elders of Israel[5]." What purpose could be served by surrounding Moshe with a committee of seventy elders? Surely, Moshe thought, the immediate purpose of their appointment was to address the practical issue at hand. What benefit was there in seventy-one people contemplating an

impossible situation, rather than Moshe alone? "Six hundred thousand...people, and You say that I should give them meat that they should eat for a month[6]!"

G-d amplified upon His earlier statement that there would be more than ample meat. Moshe had understood that to mean that it would be available through natural means, since Hashem would surely not work miracles for such a small-minded request. "Will the Hand of Hashem be insufficient? Now you will see whether My Word will happen to you or not[7]." There are far more opportunities than you realize for My Will to be accomplished even within the limitations of the natural world the fulfillment of My Word can occur in ways that humans will never anticipate – even without overt miracles! No one could have anticipated the "fortuitous" gathering of quail for the people to collect. Yet the laws of nature did not have to be overturned to satisfy their craving for meat.

HKBH showed that He was in full control of the laws of nature not only in breaking them at will, as He did at the time of the Exodus, but in squeezing unexpected results from them when that was what He desired. What, then, was the role of the elders? The election of the seventy zekeinim did not seem to play a role in the timely

arrival of flocks of birds.

We should pause and consider that the seventy zekeinim became the prototype for the Sanhedrin that would guide and direct the nation in all exigencies of history, in good times and in troubled ones. Long after the death of Moshe, such batei din would bring the Word of G-d to the people in situations that would seem hopeless and impossible. They would need firm resolve to stand by Hashem's expectations, even where conditions would seem unfavorable for those expectations to be realized.

This first crisis faced by the Sanhedrin as the ultimate source of human guidance set the stage for the future activities of the elders of all generations. They do not always need to see in advance how a problem would be solved. They need to determine the right course of action, and have confidence that Hashem would provide practical solutions that human beings could not conjure up on their own.

1. Based on the Hirsch Chumash, Bamidbar 11:11-13, 21-23
2. Bamidbar 11:5
3. Bamidbar 11:11
4. Bamidbar 11:12
5. Bamidbar 11:16
6. Bamidbar 11:21
7. Bamidbar 11:23

Good Shabbos

This week's kiddush is sponsored in honour of the aufruf and upcoming wedding of Meir Coffer.

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

The guest speaker for Seudas Shlishis is Rabbi Matis Ribiat. Seudas Shlishis is sponsored by the shul.

The cholim list is being updated for Chodesh Sivan. 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		8:50 pm
Monday & Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:55 am		Maariv
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 am & 8:00 am		9:10 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.
 To subscribe or unsubscribe to the email bulletin please email mailings@agudahsouth.com.

Pirkei Avos Shiur

The Rav's Pirkei Avos Shiur will take place every Shabbos 50 minutes before Mincha.
 This week's shiur is at 7:45 pm.

New Pirchei Program

Every Shabbos 1 hour before Mincha
 Led by R' Ahron Friedman
 Snacks, Prizes, and More...
 For more information email mailings@agudahsouth.com

Join Our Kehillah Today!

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

Have a Simcha to announce?

To ensure that your Mazel Tov is announced and/or distributed, please email the details to mailings@agudahsouth.com



NEW SHABBOS PROGRAM!!

Attention all boys and girls (ages 10-14) of Agudah South!!

Do you love coming to Davening ?
Want some free pizza or ice cream?

It's easy! All you have to do is be by Davening by 9:25 A.M.
and stay next to a parent until the end of Leining.

If you are over Bar or Bat mitzvah, you need to be by Davening
at 9:15 A.M. (*Shochen Ad*) and stay next to a parent until after Mussaf.

Every week, you get a free gift card to Slice n' Bites worth \$2.75.
Thats equal to 1 slice of pizza or ice cream!
Spend it every week or save up and get more expensive items
like sushi or even a pizza pie!

BONUS:

EVERY 10 TIMES RECEIVE A VALUABLE PRIZE
LIKE A \$18 GIFT CARD TO MIRIAM'S JUDAICA!

So what are you waiting for ?
Sign up and start earning today!
For more information or to register, please contact Baruch Klein.

To sponsor a week or month of this program,
please contact Baruch Klein at 647-896- 0663 or email kiddush@agudahsouth.com