

AT THE ARTSCROLL SHABBOS TABLE

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WEEKLY INSPIRATION AND INSIGHT ADAPTED FROM CLASSIC ARTSCROLL TITLES

DEDICATED BY MENACHEM AND BINAH BRAUNSTEIN AND FAMILY

L'ILLUI NISHMAS RAV MOSHE BEN RAV YISSOCHOR BERISH AND MARAS YENTA BAS YISROEL CHAIM

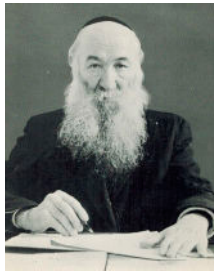
PARASHAH

PURE MOTIVES

The Torah Treasury by Rabbi Moshe M. Lieber

Why did the *Bnei Yisrael* expect a reckoning of the contributions to the *Mishkan*, yet demanded no accounting of the funds given for the Golden Calf?

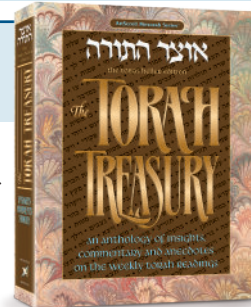
Rav Zalman Sorotzkin submits that this testifies to the pure motives of the Jewish people. Deep inside, every Jew wants to do the right thing; it is the enemy within that causes him to sin (see *Rambam, Hilchos Gerushin 2:20*). When a Jew contributes to something truly holy, he wants to be sure that every cent



Rav Zalman Sorotzkin

EVERY JEW WANTS TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

is dedicated to the cause. But if the evil inclination seduces him into contributing toward a sinful cause, the Jew is distraught and hopes that the money was ultimately misappropriated by the collectors. That way, his money will not be used for sinful purposes. Thus, for the *Mishkan* they wanted a full accounting; not so for the Golden Calf. 📖



PURIM

MOVING THE THRONE

Rav Aharon Leib Shteinman on Purim and Megillas Esther
Compiled by Rabbi Avraham Yeshayahu Shteinman

בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּשֶׁבֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ עַל כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבְּיָרָה.
In those days, when King Achashveirosh sat on his royal throne, which was in Shushan the capital (1:2).

Megillas Esther is implying here that Shushan had not always been the capital city. Why did Achashveirosh designate a new capital city, different from that of his predecessors?

Rav Tzvi Hirsch Levinson, the son-in-law of the *Chofetz Chaim*, gave the following answer. The Targum relates that Achashveirosh wished to be coronated specifically on the royal throne of Shlomo HaMelech, so he commanded that this throne be brought to the capital city. Along the way, when the throne reached Shushan, it broke, and they were afraid to transport it further. Instead, Achashveirosh moved his residence to Shushan, so that he could sit on Shlomo's throne.



Rav Tzvi Hirsch Levinson

But Heaven did not allow this evil, foolish king, who ruled of his own design, to sit on Shlomo

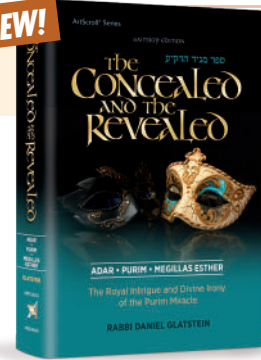
HaMelech's throne. Achashveirosh brought the greatest craftsmen from all different countries to repair it, but they did not succeed. Finally, having no other choice, he brought experts from Alexandria, and with great difficulty they managed to fashion a poor imitation of the original throne.

Why did Hashem orchestrate that the capital city be relocated?

The answer is that: אִישׁ יְהוּדִי הָיָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבְּיָרָה: וְשָׁמוֹ מֹרְדֳּכָי, *There was a Jewish man in Shushan the capital whose name was Mordechai (25)*. The *pasuk* does not say אִישׁ יְהוּדִי, but rather יְהוּדִי הָיָה, to inform us that even before Achashveirosh lived in Shushan, the Jew named Mordechai was already there. Rather than burden the righteous Mordechai by making him move to the city of the wicked Achashveirosh, Hashem preferred to arrange for Achashveirosh to move to Mordechai's city. 📖



ARTSCROLL PUBLICATIONS



The year was 1945. World War II had ended. Six million of our brothers and sisters had perished, murdered in cold blood by Germania's evil and destructive nature that was unleashed on the world. An International Military Tribunal was established in Nuremberg.

Nuremberg was chosen as the site for the war tribunal for several reasons. It had been a hotbed of Nazi propaganda. Many of the Nazis' rallies had taken place there in 1927 and 1929, and then annually from 1933 through 1938. In addition, the laws stripping Jews of their citizenship were passed there.

In November 1945, in the year תש"ו (the trial had initially been scheduled to begin in June 1945 but was postponed), eleven Nazi war criminals, among others, were brought to trial for their war crimes. They were: Hermann Göring, Hitler's second-in-command; Wilhelm Frick, the interior minister; Joachim von Ribbentrop, the minister of foreign affairs; Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel; Ernst Kaltenbrunner, the head of the Gestapo, under whose auspices Rav Elchanan Wasserman *Hy"d* was murdered; Julius Streicher, the founder and publisher of the virulently anti-Semitic newspaper *Der Stürmer*, which became a central element of the Nazi propaganda machine; Fritz Sauckel; Alfred Jodl; Hans Frank; Alfred Rosenberg, a philosopher who advised Hitler; and Arthur Seyss-Inquart.

Each of them was found guilty

and sentenced to be executed. The French judge recommended death by firing squad, but he was overruled. A firing squad was deemed not severe enough a punishment for the atrocious crimes they had committed. It was decided that their sentences would be carried out by hanging.

The sentencing had the desired effect. They expected nothing less than the death penalty, but the hangman's noose struck a chord within them that served to demoralize them. They understood that this



At the Nuremberg trial.

was a very demeaning manner in which to be punished.

The night before the scheduled execution, Hermann Göring committed suicide. The remaining ten Nazis were hanged the following day, on *Hoshana Rabbah*, October 16, 1946.

Newsweek reported the events of the execution (October 28, 1946):

Only Julius Streicher went without dignity. He had to be pushed across the floor, wild-eyed and screaming, "Heil Hitler!" Mounting the steps, he cried out, "And now I go to G-d." He stared

at the witnesses facing the gallows and shouted, "Purim Fest, 1946."

The hanging of these ten *reshaim*, these ten Amalekim from Germania, was a re-enactment of the *Yom Tov of Purim*, of the hanging of the *Aseres Bnei Haman*. Something inside Streicher's evil soul prompted him to connect the hanging taking place on that day to the events of Purim. The hanging did not take place on Purim, but the event itself was the answer to Esther's *tefillah*.

She knew that at some time in the future, the Jewish people would face the cruel brutality of another Haman. We would fall victim to Amalek once again. She beseeched Hashem: *יְהוָה יִתֵּן: גַּם מְחֹרָה - in the future, grant the Jews victory. Allow us to hang the ten Nazi criminals at that future time, just as the ten sons of Haman have now been hanged.*

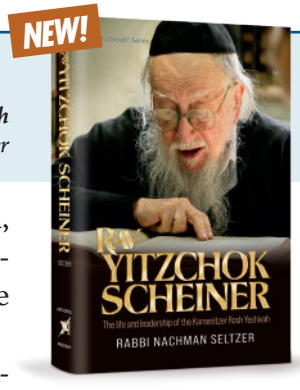
The ten sons of Haman were hanged again, in Nuremberg. An eleventh committed suicide — as did Haman's daughter when she jumped to her death after realizing that she had mistakenly poured the chamber pot over her father's head as he paraded Mordechai through the streets of Shushan.

Ten of Haman's sons were hanged, and an eleventh child died by suicide. Ten Nazis were hanged, and another died by suicide. The parallel is eerily identical.

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BREAKING THE ICE

Rav Yitzchok Scheiner – The life and leadership of the Kamenitzer Rosh Yeshivah
by Rabbi Nachman Seltzer



R' Akiva Fox has been a *rebbe* in various *yeshivos* for years. He would regularly bring *bachurim* to meet Rav Yitzchok Scheiner.

“When I would bring over boys to Rav Yitzchok from different *yeshivos*,” R' Akiva Fox says, “he welcomed them and told them his story.



Rav Yitzchok Scheiner

“I’m from the city of steel and graduated from Peabody High School,” he would say. ‘I thought I would be a math professor, but I became a *rosh yeshivah*.’ Those were his opening lines, and they worked incredibly well to break the ice.”

R' Akiva relates how one year there was an awkward moment as one boy, defiant of anything related to religion, introduced himself with his secular name. “Scott Glassberg* from Atlanta,” he said, shaking Rav Yitzchok’s hand.

Rav Yitzchok clasped Scott’s hand warmly in his own and replied, “So nice to meet you, Scott. I’m Yitzchok Scheiner from Pittsburgh.”

Rav Yitzchok melted

his youth, but he understood the attraction they presented to teenagers.

When people would ask him whether it was okay to take their kids to baseball games, he would reply, “I can still recall the names of the heavyweight champions from the boxing bouts when I was a kid. I still remember who won every fight. (Boxing was a huge sport in early 1920s America.) I can

“I’M FROM THE CITY OF STEEL AND GRADUATED FROM PEABODY HIGH SCHOOL.”

tell you the batting order of the Pittsburgh Pirates. These are things that you don’t forget for the rest of your life.”

The message was, “And since that is the case, why fill your child’s head with such inanities in the first place?”

✎

PURIM FEST 1946

continued from page 2

The Astounding Remez in the Megillah

Incredibly, the date of the Nuremberg executions is unmistakably hinted at in the *Megillah*. There are three small letters in the list of Haman’s ten sons: ת, ש, and ז. *Tishrei* 1946, when the ten Nazis were hanged, was תש"ז! Esther’s

tefillos were earmarked for a specific date and time, when another set of ten Amalekites would hang. The sentence was originally issued in תש"ו, but the Vatican pleaded for amnesty and the execution was postponed to October 28, 1946, *Hoshana Rabbah* תש"ז. Astonishingly, the *Zohar HaKadosh* teaches that *Hoshana Rabbah* is the day of judg-

ment for the nations of the world.

This astounding revelation was discovered by Rav Michael Dov Weissmandl, who was very active in rescuing *Yidden* from the Holocaust. He describes many of his life-saving efforts in his book, *Min HaMeitzar*. This *remez* to the Nuremberg Trial and execution of תש"ז is printed in his biography, *Ish Chamudos*. ✎

THIS WEEK’S DAF YOMI SCHEDULE:

MARCH / אדר ב'

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5	ב	6	ג	7	ד	8
ה	9	ו	10	ז	11	ח
Chagigah 24	Chagigah 25	Chagigah 26	Chagigah 27	Yevamos 2	Yevamos 3	Yevamos 4

THIS WEEK’S MISHNAH YOMI SCHEDULE:

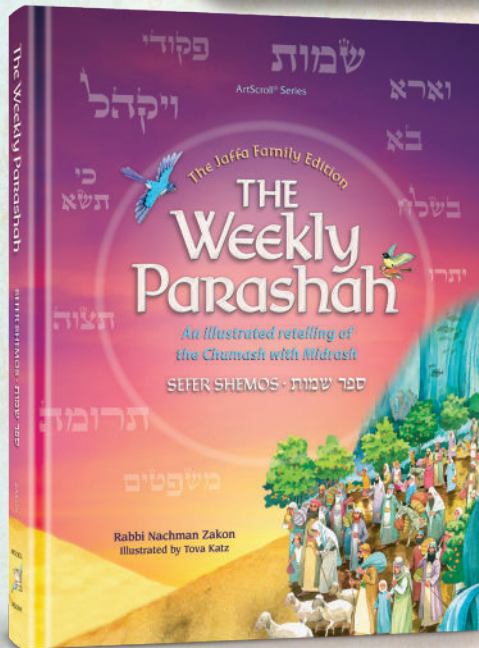
MARCH / אדר ב'

SHABBOS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5	ב	6	ג	7	ד	8
ה	9	ו	10	ז	11	ח
Demai 3:6-4:1	Demai 4:2-3	Demai 4:4-5	Demai 3:6-4:1	Demai 4:2-3	Demai 4:4-5	Demai 4:6-7



Parashah for Children

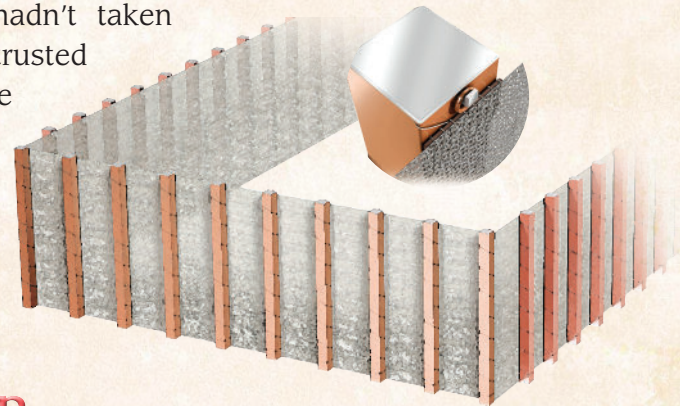
פרשת פקודי



Let's Count

Moshe called all the Jews together. In front of everyone, he gave an exact count of what they had donated for the Mishkan. Moshe let them know how all the money and materials had been used. He did this so no one should suspect that he had taken any of the donations for himself.

Moshe knew that he hadn't taken anything. Hashem knew Moshe hadn't taken anything. The people trusted Moshe. So why did he make a big public event to show that he hadn't taken anything?



Moshe was teaching us to be very careful with tzedakah (charity) money. We must make sure that the money is used the right way and that nobody is stealing the money.

The Mystery of the Missing Silver

Moshe reported, "The people gave 301,775 shekels of silver. Three hundred thousand shekels of silver were used to make the Adanim, the silver bases, of the Mishkan walls. The rest, 1,775 silver shekels, were used for..." Then Moshe stopped. He couldn't remember what that silver had been used for! Moshe was afraid the Jews would think he stole it!

There was silence. Everyone was waiting for

Moshe to announce what had been done with the 1,775 shekels of silver. Moshe was silent. It seemed he didn't know. Suddenly the silence was broken by a loud Heavenly voice. It said:

"1,775 silver shekels were used for the silver hooks on the pillars."

Now everyone knew — and Moshe's honor was saved.

WIN A \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD!

THE WEEKLY QUESTION

Question for Parashas Pekudei:

Who did Moshe Rabbeinu appoint to be in charge of organizing all the Levi'im to move the Mishkan?

Kids, please ask your parents to email the answer to shabbosquestion@artscroll.com by this Wednesday to be entered into a weekly raffle to win a \$36 ARTSCROLL GIFT CARD! Be sure to include your full name, city, and contact info. Names of winners will appear in a future edition. HINT: The answer can be found in *The Jaffa Family Edition Weekly Parashah*.

The winner of the Parashas Tetzaveh question is: YAAKOV KURTZ, Lakewood, NJ

The question was: What were the names of Aharon Hakohein's four sons?
The answer is: Nadav, Avihu, Elazar, and Issamar

