



# The sorts of tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz z"l, made sure his family was up to date on from the mundane, to the profound, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'



Parashas Va'eira 5783  
January 20th • 27 Teves

## Shabbos Mevorchim

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Shevat. Rosh Chodesh is on Monday, January 23rd. The molad is Motzaei Shabbos (January 21st) at 11:56 PM and 10 chalakim.

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levana (in the USA) is Tuesday night, January 24th. The final opportunity is Motzaei Shabbos, February 4th.

## Reminders

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Nedarim 87. The Daf Yomi siyum on Masechta Nedarim is this Tuesday, January 24th, mazal tov! The next masechta is Masechta Nazir which is just 65 blatt.

Mishnah Yomis: Erev Shabbos is Shabbos 22:5-6.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!

## Next on the Calendar

Tu Bishvat is on Monday, February 6th.  
Purim is on Tuesday, March 7th.

## Parshah in a Paragraph

**Va'eira:** Hashem reaffirms to Moshe that He will bring the redemption • An overburdened Klal Yisrael ignores Moshe • The descendants of Reuven, Shimon and Levi are listed leading up to Moshe's lineage • Hashem sends Moshe to Pharaoh • Due to his own speech impediment, Moshe attempts to defer the primary role of prophet to his brother, Aharon • Hashem appoints Aharon as spokesman • Hashem warns Moshe and Aharon of Pharaoh's obstinacy • Aharon's stick becomes a serpent • The sorcerers mimic this, but Aharon's stick swallows theirs • The Makkos begin with *Dam*, then *Tzefardei'a*, then *Kinnim* • To escape each *Makkah*, Pharaoh promises to concede yet reneges each time • Failing to mimic *Makkas Kinnim*, the sorcerers acknowledge that Moshe's powers derive from Hashem • With *Makkas Arov*, Pharaoh offers to compromise by

allowing sacrifices in Mitzrayim • Moshe insists on leaving Mitzrayim to bring sacrifices • The *Makkah* of *Dever* is followed by *Shechin* and *Barad* • Egyptians who heeded Moshe's warning to shelter their animals are spared • Each *Makkah* lasts 7 days • Pharaoh appears to surrender, yet retracts when *Barad* is over.

**Haftarah:** The Navi Yechezkel (28:25-29:21) relays a prophecy that there will be another episode where an Egyptian Pharaoh will suffer defeat at the hands of Nevuchadnezer for his failure to come to the aid of the Jewish nation.

## 613 Taryag Weekly

**Va'eira:** 121 Pesukim • No mitzvos listed

## For the Shabbos Table

וַיְצַוּם אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶל־פְּרָעֹה מֶלֶךְ מִצְרָיִם  
לְהוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם  
"And He commanded them regarding the B'nei Yisrael and regarding Pharaoh the King of Egypt to send out the B'nei Yisrael [from the land of Egypt] (Shemos 6:13)

The Pasuk states that the command to set the Jews free was addressed to Pharaoh and also to B'nei Yisrael. What command did the B'nei Yisrael receive regarding their own freedom from Pharaoh?

The Talmud Yerushalmi (Rosh Hashanah 3:4) explains that it was at that moment that the B'nei Yisrael were commanded in the mitzvah of *Shiluach Avadim*, to release Jewish slaves after a certain period of time. This, then, was their commandment, as hinted in our Pasuk. But the question remains: Why were they given this mitzvah specifically at this time?

The Dubno Maggid presents a parable of a man who sheltered a king from a rebellion. After narrowly saving the king from certain death, the man asked, "Your Majesty, what was going through your mind when the rebels were so close to capturing you?" The king responded to this question by condemning the man to death, claiming that the question was exceedingly brazen. The man was brought to the gallows

and the noose was placed around his neck. Suddenly, the king ordered for them to halt, and remove the noose. He tells the 'condemned' man, "Now you have your answer, now you know how I felt!"

The optimal way to perform *mitzvos bein adam l'chaveiro* is by putting oneself in the other person's position and trying to understand their needs. And so, just now, while the B'nei Yisrael were slaves and anticipating redemption, was the most opportune time for them to understand the mitzvah of *Shiluach Avadim*, as now they were experiencing the plight of an enslaved person. By contemplating how one would want to be treated, a person will be motivated to perform *chessed* and other interpersonal mitzvos in their highest forms.

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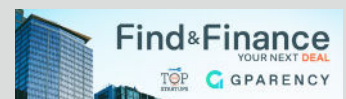
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# זמנים לשבת



Parashas Va'era | January 20

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פגמנה עש"ק
<b>Atlanta</b>	7:09	5:57	10:14	9:35	5:56	5:38	4:52
<b>Baltimore</b>	6:26	5:14	9:49	9:08	5:12	4:54	4:11
<b>Boston</b>	5:55	4:43	9:31	8:47	4:42	4:24	3:42
<b>Catskills</b>	6:11	4:59	9:45	9:01	4:58	4:40	3:58
<b>Chicago</b>	6:03	4:51	9:37	8:53	4:50	4:30	3:50
<b>Cleveland</b>	6:40	5:28	10:12	9:29	5:27	5:09	4:27
<b>Detroit</b>	6:44	5:32	10:19	9:35	5:30	5:12	4:30
<b>Lakewood</b>	6:14	5:02	9:41	8:58	5:01	4:43	4:00
<b>Los Angeles</b>	6:24	5:12	9:30	8:51	5:11	4:53	4:07
<b>Miami</b>	7:08	5:56	9:50	9:14	5:55	5:37	4:47
<b>Monsey</b>	6:11	4:59	9:41	8:58	4:58	4:40	3:57
<b>Montreal</b>	5:57	4:45	9:46	8:59	4:43	4:25	3:45
<b>New York</b>	6:12	5:00	9:41	8:58	4:58	4:40	3:51
<b>Orlando</b>	7:07	5:55	9:57	9:20	5:54	5:36	4:48
<b>Passaic</b>	6:12	5:00	9:41	8:59	4:59	4:41	3:58
<b>Philadelphia</b>	6:18	5:06	9:44	9:02	5:05	4:47	4:04
<b>Toronto</b>	6:25	5:13	10:06	9:21	5:12	4:54	4:13
<b>Yerushalayim</b>	6:19	5:02	9:14	8:36	5:01	4:26	3:56

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