



The sorts of tidbits

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

Klal Govoah
In Memory of Rav Meir Zlotowitz zt"l

Parashas Bamidbar 5783
May 19th • 28 Iyar

Shabbos Mevarchim

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Sivan. Rosh Chodesh is on Sunday, May 21st. The *molad* is Shabbos morning at 2:52 AM and 14 *chalakim*. (The actual molad will have already occurred before Birkas Hachodesh is recited. Some *gabbaim* note this by announcing that "the molad was" or "der molad iz gevehn".)

Reminders

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levana (USA) is Monday night, May 22nd. The final opportunity is Friday night, June 2nd. It is preferable that Kiddush Levana not be said on Shabbos, therefore it should be said by Thursday night.

The Shelah writes that Erev Rosh Chodesh Sivan (this Shabbos, May 20th), is an auspicious time to daven for the spiritual well-being of one's children, and therefore many recite *Tefillas HaShelah* on this day. Although generally we do not pray for personal requests on Shabbos, many allow this *tefillah* to be recited on Shabbos. He writes that one should give *tzedakah* (or pledge *bli neder*) to a worthy person along with this *tefillah*.

Tzidkas'cha is omitted at *Minchah* on Shabbos. *Vihi Noam* is omitted on Motzaei Shabbos.

As Rosh Chodesh begins on Motzaei Shabbos, one who extends *seudas shelishis* after sundown is in a quandary whether to say *Retzei* (for Shabbos) or *Ya'aleh Veyavo* (for Motzaei Shabbos) in *bircas hamazon* (or perhaps to recite both). Some are careful not to eat bread after *tzeis hakochavim* (thereby avoiding to eat bread on Rosh Chodesh; for this purpose *tzeis* is considered to be 35-40 minutes after *shekiya*) and then only say *Retzei*. Speak to your Rav.

Tachanun is omitted from Rosh Chodesh Sivan, through Isru Chag Shavuot. Some, including most Nusach Sefard congregations, omit *Tachanun* through the 12th of Sivan. The *Yehi Ratzons* recited after Kerias HaTorah on weekdays are also omitted, as well as *Tzidkas'cha* at *Minchah* on Shabbos.

The three days prior to Shavuot (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, May 23rd - 25th) are referred to as *Sheloshes Y'mei Hagbalah*, the three days of separation. The Bnei Yisroel in

the *Midbar* utilized these three days to prepare themselves for *Kabbalas Hatorah*. For those who observed the Sefirah mourning restrictions beginning from the first day of Rosh Chodesh Iyar ("second half"), the restrictions end Tuesday morning, the first day of the *Sheloshes Y'mei Hagbalah*.

Sefirah: On Friday night we count the 44th day of the omer.

Pirkei Avos: Perek 6 | Daf Yomi - Friday: Bavli: Gittin 3 • Yerushalmi: Demai 20 • Mishnah Yomis: Shekalim 7:5-6.

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 connect with them as well!

Next on the Calendar

Shavuot begins on Thursday evening, May 25th.

Parshah in a Paragraph

Bamidbar: Each tribe, excluding Levi, is counted • The number of men (ages 20-60, besides Shevet Levi) is 603,550 • The arrangement of the tribes around the *Mishkan* • Shevet Levi replaces the firstborn in performing the priestly services • The special status of the Kohanim and Levi'im • Levi'im aged 30 days and up are counted; they total 22,300 • The firstborn of the 12 *Shevatim* (besides Shevet Levi) are counted; they total 22,273 • 22,000 Levi'im each redeem a firstborn; the remaining 273 are redeemed with silver coins (300 Levi'im were themselves firstborn, and could only "redeem themselves") • The family of Kehas is charged with carrying the sacred vessels • Kohanim are instructed regarding preparing the *Mishkan* vessels for travel • The family of Kehas is warned not to approach the *Kodesh Kodoshim*

Haftarah: The *haftarah* for Erev Rosh Chodesh, "*Machar Chodesh*" is leined. It discusses the interaction that took place on Erev Rosh Chodesh between David Hamelech and Yehonasan, son of King Shaul. Although David would become king instead of Yehonasan, they remained as close as brothers. The *haftarah* tells the story of how Yehonasan saved David's life from King Shaul.

613 Taryag Weekly

Bamidbar: 159 Pesukim • No Mitzvos listed

For the Shabbos Table

"פָּקֹד אֶת־בְּנֵי לֵוִי...כָּל־זָכָר מִבְּרִיחַדָּשׁ וְנֹמֶלֶה תִּפְקְדֵם"

"Record the children of Levi...all males from the age of one month and above you shall record" (Bamidbar 3:15)

The census carried out of each shevet counted the adult males from the age of twenty years, with the exception of Shevet Levi, of which all boys were counted from thirty days old and older. Why was the Shevet of Levi counted from the young age of thirty days while the other *shevatim* were counted only from the age of twenty years?

Rashi writes that from a young age a Levite is considered a "*shomer mishmeres hakodesh*" - watchman of the kodesh. Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l explains that most of the nation led mundane lives subject to the challenge of balancing earning a livelihood with their spiritual pursuits. Therefore, until the age of twenty a person was not considered established enough to be considered a full-fledged member of the tribe. Members of Shevet Levi, however, were dedicated solely to Avodas Hashem. This position and lifestyle were their sole heritage transmitted from father to son, therefore, even a young Levi was already considered dedicated and destined to be "*shomer mishmeres hakodesh*". Rav Moshe explains that the spiritual level and dedication to Torah of a parent is transmitted to the children and secures their dedication to being a true Torah Jew. Chag Shavuot, the Yom Tov of Kabbalas HaTorah, is an opportune time for one to reaffirm his dedication to Torah and Torah learning, nurturing a Torah life for himself and future generations.

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זמנים לשבת

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Parashas Bamidbar | May 19-20

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פגל מנחה עש"ק
Atlanta	9:47	8:35	10:03	9:20	8:34	8:16	7:06
Baltimore	9:29	8:17	9:26	8:37	8:16	7:58	6:46
Boston	9:15	8:03	9:59	8:07	8:02	7:44	6:30
Catskills	9:28	8:16	9:14	8:23	8:15	7:57	6:43
Chicago	9:20	8:08	9:06	8:15	8:07	7:47	6:35
Cleveland	9:55	8:43	9:43	8:52	8:42	8:24	7:11
Detroit	10:03	8:51	9:47	8:55	8:50	8:32	7:18
Lakewood	9:22	8:10	9:15	8:26	8:09	7:51	6:38
Los Angeles	9:03	7:51	9:18	8:35	7:50	7:32	6:22
Miami	9:13	8:01	9:55	9:17	8:01	7:43	6:37
Monsey	9:24	8:12	9:13	8:22	8:11	7:53	6:39
Montreal	9:35	8:23	9:04	8:06	8:22	8:04	6:48
New York	9:22	8:10	9:13	8:23	8:09	7:51	6:38
Orlando	9:24	8:12	9:57	9:17	8:11	7:53	6:46
Passaic	9:23	8:11	9:14	8:23	8:10	7:52	6:39
Philadelphia	9:25	8:13	9:19	8:30	8:12	7:54	6:41
Toronto	9:53	8:41	9:31	8:36	8:40	8:22	7:07
Yerushalayim	8:49	7:31	9:07	8:26	7:31	6:56	6:04

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