



The sorts of tidbits

my father, Rav 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 Va'eira 5784
January 12th • 2 Shevat

Reminders

As the precarious situation in Eretz Yisrael continues, each person should increase reciting *tehillim* or performing other *mitzvos* as a *zechus* for the many *Acheinu Beis Yisrael* 'in travail and captivity'.

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levanah is Sunday night, January 14th. The final opportunity in the USA is Thursday night, January 25th at 7:45 pm EST.

Daf Yomi - Friday: Bavli: Bava Kamma 71 • Yerushalmi: Terumos 10 • Mishnah Yomis: Kesubos 4:4-5 • Oraysa: Next week is Yoma 51b-53b.

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

Tu B'shvat is on Thursday, January 25th.

Parshah in a Paragraph

Va'era: 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 role of primary prophet to his brother, Aharon • Hashem appoints Aharon as Moshe's spokesman • Hashem warns Moshe and Aharon of Pharaoh's obstinacy • Aharon's stick becomes a serpent • Pharaoh's sorcerers duplicate this feat, 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 duplicate *Makkas Kinnim*, the sorcerers acknowledge that Moshe's powers are derived 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 Nevuchadnetzar for his failure to come to the aid of the Jewish nation.

613 Taryag Weekly

Va'era: 121 Pesukim • No mitzvos listed

For the Shabbos Table

וַיְצַוּם אֱלֹהֵינוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶל־פַּרְעֹה מֶלֶךְ מִצְרַיִם לְהוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם

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 B'nei Yisrael receive regarding their own freedom from Pharaoh?

The Talmud Yerushalmi (Rosh Hashanah 3:5) explains that it was at that juncture that B'nei Yisrael were commanded in the mitzvah of *Shiluach Avadim*, to release Jewish slaves after a certain period of time. Our pasuk ("to send out the Bnei Ysrael") alludes to this commandment. But 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 the executioner 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 to put oneself in the other person's position and try to understand his 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.

This space was left blank because...

When you have nothing to say, say nothing.

-Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz z"l

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זמנים לשבת



Parshas Va'era | January 12-13

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פג מנחה עש"ק
Atlanta	7:01	5:49	10:14	9:35	5:48	5:30	4:45
Baltimore	6:16	5:04	9:50	9:07	5:03	4:45	4:03
Boston	5:46	4:34	9:32	8:47	4:32	4:14	3:34
Catskills	6:02	4:50	9:45	9:01	4:49	4:31	3:50
Chicago	5:54	4:42	9:37	8:53	4:40	4:20	3:42
Cleveland	6:31	5:19	10:13	9:29	5:18	5:00	4:19
Detroit	6:34	5:22	10:20	9:35	5:21	5:03	4:22
Lakewood	6:05	4:53	9:41	8:58	4:52	4:34	3:52
Las Vegas	5:59	4:47	9:20	8:39	4:46	4:28	3:44
Los Angeles	6:16	5:04	9:30	8:50	5:03	4:45	4:00
Miami	7:01	5:49	9:49	9:13	5:49	5:31	4:42
Monsey	6:01	4:49	9:42	8:58	4:48	4:30	3:49
Montreal	5:46	4:34	9:47	9:00	4:33	4:15	3:36
New York	6:02	4:50	9:41	8:58	4:49	4:31	3:50
Orlando	7:01	5:49	9:56	9:19	5:48	5:30	4:42
Passaic	6:02	4:50	9:42	8:59	4:49	4:31	3:50
Philadelphia	6:09	4:57	9:45	9:02	4:56	4:38	3:56
Toronto	6:15	5:03	10:07	9:22	5:02	4:44	4:04
Yerushalayim	6:11	4:55	9:13	8:35	4:54	4:18	3:50

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