



# 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 Vayechi 5785**  
January 11th • 11 Teves

## Asara B'teves

Today, Friday, January 10th, is the fast of Asara B'Teves. Asara B'Teves was the tragic day on which Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Yerushalayim. (This is the only fast day that can fall on Erev Shabbos.) During *Chazaras HaShatz* of Shacharis, only the *Shaliach Tzibbur* adds *Aneinu*. *Chazaras HaShatz* is followed by *Selichos*, *Avinu Malkeinu*, *Tachanun*, and *Krias Hatorah*.

*Mincha* includes *Krias Hatorah* followed by the *Haftarah* of a fast day (*Yeshayah 55:6-56:8*). Those fasting add *Aneinu* in *Shemoneh Esrei*. *Nusach Ashkenaz* says *Sim Shalom* in place of *Shalom Rav*. The *Shaliach Tzibbur* adds *Aneinu* and *Bircas Kohanim* in *Chazaras HaShatz*. As it is Erev Shabbos, *Avinu Malkeinu* and *Tachanun* are omitted. The regular Shabbos preparations such as hot showers etc. are permitted.

While the fast ends at the regular *z'man* for a *Ta'anis* (*tzeis hakochavim*), one may not eat or drink until after he hears *Kiddush*.

The Abudraham explains that this fast is observed even on a Friday because the Pasuk states regarding Asara B'Teves, "*B'tzem Hayom Hazeh*" (*Yechezkel 24:2*) which indicates it must be observed on this day specifically and is not postponed. He adds that this fast would technically be observed even on Shabbos itself - although this will never actually occur based on our current calendars. What is the significance of Asara B'Teves?

The B'nei Yissaschar explains that *Aschalta D'Paranusa Adifa*, the onset of tragedy, is most significant, and that Asara B'Teves was the beginning of the siege which led to the destruction of the first *Beis Hamikdash* and subsequent tragedies. The Chasam Sofer (*Toras Moshe*, vol. 2, *Vayikra*, *Drush 7 Adar*) explains that on this date the *Beis Din Shel Maalah* decreed the destruction. Furthermore, the Chasam Sofer states that any generation that does not merit the rebuilding of the *Beis Hamikdash* is considered as if it was destroyed in its days. If so, each year on this date the *Beis Din Shel Maalah* reconvenes regarding the status of the generation and their worthiness for the *Beis Hamikdash*.

## Reminders

The weeks of *Shovavim* begin this Sunday, with the week of *Parashas Shemos*. *Shovavim* is an acronym

for the six weekly Torah portions: *Shemos*, *Vaera*, *Bo*, *Beshalach*, *Yisro* and *Mishpatim*. *Shovavim* is an auspicious time to review the Laws of *Taharas Hamishpacha* and for introspection regarding our spiritual purity. Some say additional *tehillim* and other *tikkunim*, while others fast on Mondays and Thursdays during this period.

The final opportunity for *Kiddush Levana* is late Monday night, January 13th at 4:34 am EST.

Daf Yomi - Shabbos: Bavli: Sanhedrin 25 • Yerushalmi: Shabbos 46 • Mishnah Yomis: Sanhedrin 8:1-2 • Oraysa: The *siyum* on Beitzah is this Sunday, January 12th. Megillah begins next. Next week is Beitzah 40a - Megilah 3b • Kitzur Shulchan Aruch: 39:2-40:4

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

Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Shevat is in two weeks, Shabbos Parashas Va'eira.

## Parshah in a Paragraph

**Vayechi:** Yaakov enjoins Yosef to not bury him in Egypt • Yaakov falls ill, he blesses Yosef's children, Ephraim and Menashe • Yaakov promises the city of Shechem to Yosef • *Birchos Yaakov*: Reuven, Shimon, and Levi are rebuked for their misdeeds • Yehudah is blessed with kingship • Levi, with priesthood • Zevulun, with successful trade • Yissachar, with Torah • Dan, with judges • Gad, with success at war • Asher, with fertile land • Naphtali, with swiftness • Yosef, with beauty and fertility • Binyamin, with strong will • Yaakov's final instruction to his sons • Yaakov dies and is embalmed • He is mourned for forty days • Yosef receives permission to go bury his father in *Canaan* • After the great mourning at *Goren HaAtad*, it was renamed "*Avel Mitzrayim*" • The brothers fear Yosef's revenge; Yosef reassures them • Yosef asks Bnei Yisrael to take his remains with them when they leave Egypt and bury him in Eretz Yisrael • Yosef passes away and his casket is placed in the Nile River • *Chazak Chazak Venis'chazek!*

*Haftarah:* The *parashah* relates the *tzava'ah* (final wishes) of Yaakov Avinu that he gave his children shortly before his passing. The *haftarah* (*Melachim Alef 2:1-12*) similarly relates the *tzava'ah* that David

Hamelech gave to his son Shlomo Hamelech.

## 613 Taryag Weekly

**Vayechi:** 85 Pesukim • No Mitzvos listed

## For the Shabbos Table

"וַיֹּאמֶר לְיוֹסֵף הִנֵּה אָבִיךָ הוֹלֵךְ"

"And they told Yosef behold your father is ill" (*Bereishis 48:1*)

The Gemara (*Bava Metzia 87a*) teaches us that prior to Yaakov Avinu, the natural order for a person was a relatively sudden death. Yaakov prayed and instead became old and frail before his passing. Rashi explains that this period of weakness is to be a time for a person to leave his will and testament to his children. If this twilight period was important for humanity, why did it only begin from the time of Yaakov Avinu?

Rav Yitzchok Feigelstock zt"l explains that this period is primarily so one can transmit his strengths and heritage to the next generation. Avraham, Yitzchok and Yaakov were all considered Avos - Fathers in their own right, as each one primarily established *Chesed*, *Gevurah* and *Emes* respectively. *Am Yisrael*, beginning with the *Shevatim*, took hold of the *middos* of their forefathers and transmitted them to the next generation. Therefore, only with the *Shevatim* did this transmission of *mesorah* represent the lifeline and the imperative, eternal mission of *Klal Yisrael*.

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# זמנים לשבת



**Klal Govoah**  
In Memory of Rav Meir Zlotowitz z"l

Parshas Vayichi | January 10-11

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פלג מנחה עש"ק
<b>Atlanta</b>	7:00	5:48	10:14	9:34	5:47	5:29	4:44
<b>Baltimore</b>	6:15	5:03	9:50	9:07	5:02	4:44	4:02
<b>Boston</b>	5:44	4:32	9:32	8:47	4:31	4:13	3:33
<b>Catskills</b>	6:00	4:48	9:45	9:01	4:47	4:29	3:49
<b>Chicago</b>	5:52	4:40	9:37	8:53	4:39	4:19	3:40
<b>Cleveland</b>	6:29	5:17	10:13	9:29	5:16	4:58	4:17
<b>Detroit</b>	6:32	5:20	10:20	9:35	5:19	5:01	4:21
<b>Lakewood</b>	6:03	4:51	9:41	8:58	4:50	4:32	3:51
<b>Las Vegas</b>	5:57	4:45	9:20	8:39	4:45	4:27	3:43
<b>Los Angeles</b>	6:15	5:03	9:30	8:50	5:02	4:44	3:59
<b>Miami</b>	7:00	5:48	9:49	9:12	5:48	5:30	4:41
<b>Monsey</b>	6:00	4:48	9:42	8:58	4:47	4:29	3:48
<b>Montreal</b>	5:44	4:32	9:47	9:00	4:31	4:13	3:35
<b>New York</b>	6:01	4:49	9:41	8:58	4:48	4:30	3:48
<b>Orlando</b>	7:00	5:48	9:56	9:19	5:47	5:29	4:41
<b>Passaic</b>	6:01	4:49	9:42	8:58	4:48	4:30	3:49
<b>Philadelphia</b>	6:08	4:56	9:45	9:02	4:55	4:37	3:55
<b>Toronto</b>	6:14	5:02	10:07	9:22	5:00	4:42	4:03
<b>Yerushalayim</b>	6:10	4:54	9:13	8:35	4:53	4:17	3:49

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