



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 Beshalach 5785
February 8th • 10 Shevat

Tu BiShvat

Tu BiShvat, the 15th day of the month of Shevat (*Tu* is an acronym for *tes-vav*, the numerical equivalent of 15), is this Thursday, February 13th. Tu BiShvat marks the New Year for trees. In honor of this day, many have the custom to eat fruits from trees, with some specifically eating fruit of the *shivas haminin* or a "new fruit" that carries the requirement to recite a *beracha* of *shehecheyanu*. Reciting a *shehecheyanu* on fruits which are available year round may be questionable; consult your Rav.

Some have the minhag to make a "*seder*" of sorts and eat fifteen different types of fruits. One should be cognizant of the issues of *tola'im* (insect) infestation in certain fruits. Some have the custom to eat esrog products on Tu BiShvat (*Kaf Hachaim*), and to daven for a beautiful esrog for the upcoming Succos (the Ben Ish Chai composed a special tefillah for this).

Tachanun is omitted on Tu BiShvat, as well as at *minchah* on Wednesday, February 12th, the day prior.

Reminders

Shabbos Parashas Beshalach is often referred to as *Shabbos Shirah*, as the *Parashah* contains the *Shiras HaYam* (Az Yashir etc.). Many read the *pesukim* of the *Shirah* that contain Hashem's name with a special tune, and some have the custom to stand during this *leining*. In some congregations, the *Shiras HaYam* at the end of *Pesukei d'Zimra* is read aloud verse by verse.

There is a *minhag* to put out food for birds (according to many Poskim this may not be done on Shabbos itself). One reason for this is based on a tradition that birds sang *Shiras HaYam* along with the B'nei Yisrael. Another explanation is that the birds consumed the *mahn* that Dasan and Aviram left to be found on Shabbos in their attempt to embarrass Moshe.

This week is the fourth week of Shovavim.

The final opportunity for Kiddush Levana in the USA is next Tuesday night, February 11th.

Daf Yomi - Shabbos: Bavli: Sanhedrin 53 • Yerushalmi: Shabbos 74 • Mishnah Yomis: Maalos 3:14-15 • Oraysa: Megillah 11a-13a • Kitzur Shulchan Aruch: 52:16-53:2

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws,

grandparents and Rebbe 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 Bishvat is next Thursday, February 13th.

Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Adar is in two weeks, Shabbos Parashas Mishpatim.

Parshah in a Paragraph

Beshalach: Hashem leads the B'nei Yisrael in a circuitous route from Egypt • Moshe retrieves Yosef's remains for transport from Egypt • The B'nei Yisrael are led by a cloud-pillar by day and a fire-pillar by night • The Egyptians pursue the B'nei Yisrael • B'nei Yisrael cry out; Moshe reassures them of their impending salvation • A *malach* and a pillar of clouds stand between them and the Egyptians • *Kerias Yam Suf* • The waters return and drown the Mitzrim • *Shiras HaYam* • Miriam's *Shirah* • B'nei Yisrael cannot find drinking water • Moshe sweetens Marah's bitter waters with a bitter(!) branch • B'nei Yisrael complain about the lack of food • The *mahn* • *Mahn* left over until the morning goes bad • Double *mahn* portion on Fridays • Some seek *mahn* on Shabbos and find nothing • Prohibition of leaving the *techum* on Shabbos • A portion of the *mahn* is put aside as a testimony for all generations • The people complain about not having water • Moshe strikes the rock, water pours out • Amalek attacks • Moshe commands Yehoshua to fight Amalek and Moshe davens • Declaration of war against Amalek is commanded for all generations

Haftarah: The Parashah discusses the miraculous salvation of *Kerias Yam Suf* and the downfall of the wicked Pharaoh. This led to the song of praise and thanks to Hashem of "*Az Yashir Moshe*". The haftarah is the *Shiras Devorah*, a song of praise to Hashem for the miraculous victory over the wicked Sisra. (Shoftim 4:4-5:31)

613 Taryag Weekly

Beshalach: 116 Pesukim • 1 Prohibition

1) Do not leave the *techum* on Shabbos. *Midoraysa*, one may not travel beyond 12 mil (approx. 8 miles) outside his city. However, *miderabanan*, the *techum* is reduced to just 2000 amos (approx. ⅓ of a mile). By making an *Eruv Techumin*, one can extend this boundary to one direction by an additional 2000 amos.

For the Shabbos Table

“זֶה קְלִי וְאֶנְהוּ”

"This is my G-d and I will exalt Him" (Shemos 15:2)

Rashi states that during *Kerias Yam Suf* there was a remarkable revelation of Hashem, and every Jew was able to sense His presence, point a finger and say "this is my G-d." Rashi continues that at this moment even a simple maidservant saw what Yechezkel Hanavi, one of the greatest *nevi'im*, did not merit to witness in his spiritual revelation of the *Maaseh Merkava*. One may question that the revelation at the *Maaseh Merkava* was an indescribable event in a spiritual realm. How can this be compared to the physical phenomenon of the Splitting of the Sea?

Rav Yeruchem Levovitz zt"l (Daas Torah) explains that miracles do not merely facilitate salvation, but are a revelation of Hashem in this world. The revelation to Yechezkel of the *Maaseh HaMerkava* was an actual revelation of Hashem's Presence and His spiritual Omnipresence. Nevertheless, the revelation at the splitting of the sea was so strong that Hashem's presence was just as obvious.

It is perhaps for this reason that during *Kerias Hatorah* of the *Shiras HaYam*, only the verses containing the name of Hashem are sung with a special *niggun*, as the recognition of Hashem is the ultimate purpose of this event. Often, stories and instances of hashgacha pratis (divine providence) engender feelings of amazement and awe. These instances should be recognized as a revelation of Hashem giving us a glimpse of His Presence in our lives, to further enhance our *emunah* and *bitachon*.

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Parshas Bishalach | February 7-8

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פגל מנחה עש"ק
Atlanta	7:27	6:15	10:10	9:32	6:14	5:56	5:07
Baltimore	6:47	5:35	9:43	9:03	5:34	5:16	4:29
Boston	6:19	5:07	9:24	8:41	5:06	4:48	4:02
Catskills	6:35	5:23	9:37	8:55	5:22	5:04	4:17
Chicago	6:27	5:15	9:29	8:47	5:13	4:53	4:09
Cleveland	7:04	5:52	10:05	9:23	5:50	5:32	4:46
Detroit	7:07	5:55	10:11	9:29	5:54	5:36	4:50
Lakewood	6:36	5:24	9:34	8:53	5:23	5:05	4:18
Las Vegas	6:27	5:15	9:14	8:36	5:13	4:55	4:07
Los Angeles	6:42	5:30	9:25	8:47	5:29	5:11	4:22
Miami	7:21	6:09	9:47	9:13	6:09	5:51	4:59
Monsey	6:34	5:22	9:34	8:53	5:21	5:03	4:16
Montreal	6:23	5:11	9:37	8:52	5:10	4:52	4:07
New York	6:34	5:22	9:34	8:53	5:21	5:03	4:16
Orlando	7:22	6:10	9:54	9:18	6:10	5:52	5:01
Passaic	6:34	5:22	9:34	8:53	5:21	5:03	4:16
Philadelphia	6:40	5:28	9:38	8:57	5:27	5:09	4:22
Toronto	6:50	5:38	9:58	9:15	5:37	5:19	4:33
Yerushalayim	6:36	5:19	9:10	8:33	5:18	4:43	4:10

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