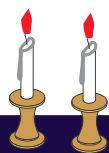




Shaarei Tefillah | שערי תפילה

פרשת בלק



Shabbos Times

Mincha	4:54pm
Candle Lighting	4:54pm
Shkiah	5:12pm
Shacharis	9:00am
Latest time for Shema	10:00am
Halocha Shiur	4:15pm
Shabbos Mincha	4:40pm
(followed by Seudah Shlishis)	
Shabbos ends	5:58pm
Avos Ubonim	7:00pm

Shaarei Youth Boys Youth Kiddush

Winter Shabbos Groups
No Shabbos groups this week

Seudah Shlishis After Mincha

Wednesday Night Learning
Not this week

Avos Ubonim

This Week 7:00-7:45pm

School Holiday Program
There will be a youth minyan
next week Monday - Friday
Shacharis 8:30am followed by
breakfast & learning

Guest Speaker

Rabbi Yitzchak Schwartz
Rosh Yeshiva Orchos Chaim
will be speaking at Shaarei this Friday Night

Halocha Corner

BIKUR CHOLIM

This week, one of the topics discussed during Daf Hayomi was the mitzva of Bikur Cholim.

There are several Biblical sources for the mitzvah of bikur cholim, visiting the sick. Some of the details of this mitzvah are derived from the manner in which Yosef visited his ailing father, Yaakov. Indeed, some Rishonim consider bikur cholim to be a Biblical mitzvah. According to the Rambam, this mitzvah is included under the general commandment of "v'ahavta l're'acha kamocho—you should love your fellow as yourself."

The Shelah divides the mitzvah of bikur cholim into three categories:

1. B'gufo, with one's body—by taking care of the patient's needs.
2. B'memono, with one's money—by covering the sick person's expenses so that he has peace of mind.
3. B'nishmaso, with one's soul—by davening for the sick person. One who visits a sick person and does not daven for him has not performed the mitzvah of bikur cholim. One who is able to daven for a sick person and does not do so, is called a sinner.

The Rambam writes that one who visits the sick should be prepared to tell cheerful stories or engage in idle talk so that the patient's mind will be temporarily distracted from his illness.

The Rambam adds that anyone who walks into a patient's room should do so happily, since a patient is sensitive to the mood of the people who visit him.

Contemporary poskim discuss the issue of fulfilling bikur cholim by means of the telephone. The consensus is that while certain aspects of the mitzvah can be performed over the telephone, other aspects cannot. They rule, therefore, that when a personal visit is impossible, a phone call should be made so that the mitzvah is at least partially fulfilled.

Daf HaYomi - We will be starting Nedarim 42a on Sunday



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Shiurim and Learning at Shaarei this Week

Bein Odam Lechaveiro	Monday Night 8:45pm
Gemora Megillah	Tuesday Night 7:30pm
Gemora Kiddushin	Tuesday & Thursday 8:45pm
Daily Mishne Brurah	Sunday - Thursday after Maariv
Daf HaYomi	Mon - Fri 5:45am
	Sun - 7:15am, Shabbos 8:15am
Hilchos Shabbos Shiur	Shabbos afternoon 4:15pm
Halocha Yomi	Daily after Shacharis & Maariv

Davening Times this Week

	Shacharis	Maariv
Sunday	8:00am	Taanis
Monday	6:30am	8:15pm
Tuesday	6:45am	8:15pm
Wednesday	6:45am	8:15pm
Thursday	6:30am	8:15pm
Friday	6:45am	4:58pm

Something for the Shabbos table

The main part of our Parsha deals with Bilam who was hired by Balak to curse the Bnei Yisrael. However, after several failed attempts at cursing, Bnei Yisrael are blessed by Bilam, and the danger is averted. Indeed, there was a real danger involved had Bilam been successful; the Gemora reveals that Bilam knew the certain moment in the day when Hashem 'is angry' and accepts curses, and to prevent Bilam being successful, Hashem closed this window of opportunity. Moreover, Bilam's wisdom in orchestrating death amongst Klal Yisroel is evident in the latter part of our Parsha; his arranging for the Bnei Yisroel to sin with the Bnos Midyan.

If one thinks about the events objectively, there should be no natural way for Bnei Yisroel to have known of Bilam's attempted curses. How would they? There were two people on faraway mountains gazing at the Bnei Yisroel and trying to utter curses. In fact, the Chassam Sofer writes that until the Bnei Yisroel received the complete Torah at Moshe's death, Bnei Yisroel did not know anything about what Bilam and Balak had conspired to bring about. This is made more amazing when one takes into account a Rashi in Parshas Mattos. The posuk there reports that in Bnei Yisroel's battle against the Midyanites, Bnei Yisroel managed to kill 'the five kings of Midyan, and Bilam son of Be'or they killed by the sword.' Why does the Torah feel it important to tell us that Bilam was killed by the sword? Rashi answers that this type of death was handpicked by Hashem measure-for-measure; Yaakov was blessed with the power of tefillah (the mouth), whilst Esav was given the power of the sword. In (his attempted) cursing of the Bnei Yisroel, Bilam was trying to use the Bnei Yisroel's power (the mouth) against them, so measure-for-measure, he was killed with the power of Esav; the sword.

There are two themes which can be learnt from this. Firstly, this is all part of Hashem's kindness to us; not only does He save us from precarious or dangerous situations, but He often does so without our knowledge; only later do we find out. Thus, not only are we saved from the danger itself, but we are saved the anguish at having to worry about the danger (for we did not even know about the danger in the first place). The Brisker Rav used to convey this via Tehillim. We say in Tehillim 117 (and hallel) 'all the nations will praise Hashem for the kindness He has done to us (the Jews).' Asks the Brisker Rav; why is it that specifically the non-Jews are praising Hashem for the kindness He shows to us? He answers that often the non-Jews had plotted against the Jews, and Hashem prevented these plans from coming to fruition. Thus, the non-Jews were in the best position to recognise Hashem's kindness to us, but we - who didn't even know there was a plot, let alone that it was foiled - would not realise what was done to be able to thank Hashem for it.

This weeks Kiddush Roster:

Lanie Goldberger
& Amanda Teller

This weeks Clean Up Roster:

Antony Ossip
& Sruli Deutsch

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Fast of 17th Jamuz

Sunday 5th July

Fast starts	6:24am
Shacharis	8:00am
Mincha	4:40pm
Fast ends	5:51pm