

Young Israel of the Main Line Weekly Update

273 Montgomery Ave.
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Stan Sved, President



Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
Rabbi Avraham Steinberg

YIML Cookbook

YIML proudly presents our very own COOKBOOK. Please submit recipes to Ilana Buchbinder (ijl927@aol.com) or Shani Daniel (shani314@yahoo.com) ASAP. Sponsorships are available at \$36, \$54, \$72 and \$180. The success of this cookbook depends on you!

Chevra Mishnayos

The Chevra Mishnayos is currently learning Seder Zeraim. Please sign up by putting your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The siyum is tentatively planned for the shul Chanuka Mesiba. If you would like to sponsor the siyum or you have any questions, please contact Moshe Eisenberg.

Mazel Tov to...

... **Josh and Tal Weinberger** on the birth of a baby boy. The Shalom Zachor will take place at the Weinberger home (140 Upland Terrace) this Friday night at 7:45 p.m.
... **Moshe and Barbara Goodman** on the bas-mitzva of their daughter, Atara.
... **Mendel and Shira Kupfer** on their new home.
... **Drs. Jay and Mindy Rosenblum and Family** on the marriage of Rachel Rosenblum and Yisroel Kleinman.

Women's Shiur - Shmuel II

On Wednesday nights at 8:15 PM, join Rabbi Steinberg in studying Sefer Shmuel Bais. Each week begins with a recap, so new attendees are always welcome.

Pirchei of Philadelphia

Pirchei of Philadelphia will meet this week at Lower Merion Synagogue from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Boys grades nursery and up are welcome to attend. For further information or to sign up for email list, please contact R' Yisrael Schwartz at yisraelschwartz@verizon.net.

B'nos of Bala Cynwyd

B'nos of Bala Cynwyd will meet this Shabbos at Lower Merion Synagogue from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please call Miriam Ciner or Rivka Levy for more information.

R' Steinberg Info: Shul: 610-667-3255 ext. 1 E-mail: rabbi@yiml.org
Stan Sved, President Info: Home: 610-660-5002

November 24-December 1, 2006

Parshas Toldos

פרשת תולדות

Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting:	4:21 p.m.
Mincha - Friday:	4:20 p.m.
Shacharis:	8:45 a.m.
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:23 a.m.
Mincha for Shabbos followed by Shalosh Seudos:	4:05 p.m.
Maariv:	5:24 p.m.

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis- Sunday:	8:00 a.m.
Mincha- Sunday:	4:25 p.m.
Shacharis- Mon, Thurs:	6:40 a.m.
Shacharis- Tues, Wed, Fri:	6:50 a.m.
Maariv (Mon-Thurs):	7:45 p.m.

There will not be weekday Mincha until the Spring.

Next Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting:	4:18 p.m.
Mincha - Friday:	4:20 p.m.

Special Shiur by Rabbi Steinberg

Rabbi Steinberg will be giving a shiur at the YIML on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at 8:20 p.m. (Maariv: 7:45, Refreshments:8:05) entitled, "Al Tiftach Peh Lasatan": Protecting Ourselves from Our Words, A Discussion in Halacha and Aggadah." Source sheets will be provided. Admission is free and \$75 sponsorships are also available. Both men and women are welcome. For more information, please contact Rabbi Steinberg at rabbi@yiml.org.



Shiurim*



DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	8:15 a.m.	Parshas Hashavua	Rabbi Steinberg	
Shabbos	45 min. before Mincha	Michtav me'Eliyahu	Rabbi Steinberg	
Shabbos	Between Mincha and Maariv	Medical Ethics Chabura	Dr. Daniel Eisenberg	<u>Topic:</u> Lifnei Iver
Sunday Morning	After Davening	Sefer Hachinuch	Moshe Buchbinder	CANCELLED
Mon., Wed.	Before Mincha	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
15 minutes before Shacharis on Sun.-Fri.		Chovos Halevovos	Rabbi Steinberg	
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Tehillim Group		
Tuesday	8:00 p.m.	Gemora Kesuvos First Perek	Rabbi Steinberg	
Wednesday	8:15 p.m.	Sefer Shmuel Bais	Rabbi Steinberg	Shiur for Women
Thursday night	10:15 p.m.	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

A Burning Heart

By Rabbi Label Lam

And he (Essau) said (Aloud to his father Isaac): "Isn't his name appropriately called Yaakov, because he tricked me these two times. First he took my birthright. Now he took my blessing. (Breishis 27:36)

Essau makes a strong accusation against his brother Jacob which is never openly answered in the text. Are we quietly in agreement on his point? Is it time again for us to bow our heads in shame and apologize for the crude way our father Jacob acquired the birthright from his brother Essau, by taking advantage of him in his moment of weakness? Can we excuse his actions by claiming he only did so because he recognized Esau's inherent lack of fitness for the Divine service? That always sounds like a "whitewash". How can we defend the indefensible to skeptical ears?

Continued on facing page

For millennium we are on trial for the honest reporting of events from the earliest days of our family history. Now, just relying on what's written there in the verses I would like to try in a lawyerly way to present a case that it was Essau who fumbled his place in Jewish History and not Jacob who callously stripped him of it.

1) The defense would like to call Essau to the stand as a witness. "Essau, do you recall your comments when asked to sell your birthright? Were you maybe too tired and hungry to open your mouth? Is that why with your last ounce of strength you asked that the food your brother Jacob was carefully preparing be poured down your throat? Remember your words?" "Behold, I am going to die, what good is this birthright to me?" Would you like to defend this statement claiming that it was not so much expressing a disdain for the birthright as it was desperation for some food at that time. Could be! Let's see!

2) Who amongst the reading audience would sell their Jewish Heritage for a lunch? I know! What are they serving? Seriously! How many millions of Jews over thousands of years of history were willing to give their lives rather than alter a single custom, as the law requires, that is when our religious mettle is being tested?

It is known that the Nazis used to capture the Jewish leaders when conquering a city and execute them first to demoralize the rest of the community. It is told that in this one town it was rumored that the mayor was a Jew from a great grandparent. For three generations no one had practiced Judaism. To test the veracity of the matter the Nazis took him to the synagogue and placed a Sefer Torah in his arms and asked him at gun point to throw the scroll on the ground and trample it. He declared, "I want to thank you for returning me to my people and my G-d!" They killed him on the spot. For what value did Essau cash his heritage?

3) The verse says, "And Jacob gave to Essau bread (It wasn't on the menu) and cooked beans (That's what he asked for) and he ate and he drank (not part of the meal plan either), and he got up and Essau despised the birthright." (Breishis 25:34) Why over here does it say that "Essau despised the birthright"? Why is that declaration anchored to this place in the narrative? If the whole claim against Jacob is that he took advantage of his starving brother to snatch the blessing, his complaint should have been filed at the time he finished eating. The verse testifies that he ate and drank and got up and left without a murmur of protest. That's when he most clearly expressed disdain for the birthright.

Clearly, he was not tricked as he later claimed. They made a deal like any other business deal based upon a fundamental disagreement about the value of a thing. Jacob opted for eternity while Essau ordered soup. Remarkably, even when the bowl was empty so was he. Essau walked away with only heartburn while Jacob continued to stir within a burning heart.

Taken from torah.org