

# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

## Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
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### Parshas Bereshis פרשת בראשית

כ"ו תשרי תשס"ט—25—24 October

#### Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting: 5:01pm  
Candle lighting: 5:50pm  
Mincha - Friday: 5:50pm

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 10:04am  
Shacharis: 8:45am  
Mincha: 5:45pm  
Maariv: 6:52pm

#### Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday: 8:00am  
Shacharis (Mon.): 6:40am  
Shacharis (Tue., Fri.): 6:50am  
Shacharis Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan (Wed., Thurs.): 6:30am  
Mincha/Maariv Sunday: 5:50pm  
Maariv (Mon.–Thu.): 7:45pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting: 5:41pm  
Mincha - Friday: 5:40pm

## Calendar of Shiurim

| DAY        | TIME                     | TOPIC                 | SPEAKER               | NOTES   |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Shabbos    | 7:55am–8:15am            | Parsha Chabura        | R. Werrin             | ROTATES |
| Shabbos    | 8:15am                   | Mishlei Shiur         | R. Steinberg          |         |
| Shabbos    | After Mincha             | Medical Halacha       | D. Eisenberg          |         |
| Mon., Wed. | After Maariv             | Mishna Berura         | Eli Back              |         |
| Sun.-Fri.  | 15 min. before Shacharis | Chovos haLevovos      | R. Steinberg          |         |
| Tuesday    | 9:00pm                   | Choshen Mishpat Shiur | R. Steinberg          |         |
| Thursday   | 10:10pm                  | Nefesh Hachaim        | Rav Sholom Kamenetsky |         |

\*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

### THIS SHABBOS

#### Kiddush:

Kiddush is being sponsored by David & Sharyn Chase in honor of the Bar Mitzva of their son, Akiva Moshe.

### UPCOMING SHIURIM

#### New Shiur in Choshen Mishpat—Starts This Week!:

Rabbi Steinberg will be starting a new, weekly, in-depth shiur in Choshen Mishpat. Sources will be e-mailed to participants in advance and the shiur will follow the order of the *Tur-Shulchan Aruch* (beginning with chapter 378—*Hilchos Nizkei Mammon*).

To join the e-mail list for sources, please e-mail Rabbi Steinberg: [rabbi@yiml.org](mailto:rabbi@yiml.org).

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי ([weeklyupdate@yiml.org](mailto:weeklyupdate@yiml.org)).

## MAZEL TOV!

### **To David & Sharyn Chase and Family...**

... on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of Akiva Moshe this Shabbos.

### **To Sherman & Susan Frager and Family...**

... on the engagement of Michal Frager to Yonatan Frankel of Queens, NY.

### **Two Requests from the Gabbaim:**

The Gabbaim request that all the men (particularly new members!) make sure that their names are correctly listed on the "Master Aliyah Sheet" on the shulchan. Ensuring that this list is comprehensive and accurate helps the davening to move more smoothly.

Additionally, please note that the periodic pruning of the "Cholim" list is occurring. If you have a name that should be included on the sheet, please communicate it to the Gabbaim.

## ONGOING EVENTS

### **Chevra Mishnayos:**

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Zeraim.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

### **Women's Tehillim Group:**

The Tehillim Group meets Mondays at **10:00am** at 345 Bala Ave.

### **Women's Chovos haLevovos Group:**

The Chovos haLevovos Group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am at 8 Concord Circle.

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### **Are you on our e-mail list?**

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to [majordomo@chaseplanet.us](mailto:majordomo@chaseplanet.us) with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

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### **Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information**

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## D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

All of the problems of humankind and life itself are revealed to us in this opening parsha of the Torah. Desire, greed, violence, murder, jealousy, paganism and tragic disappointment mark the events of this parsha. The human story and its history over the ages is not necessarily a pleasant one.

All of the disappointments that appear in this week's parsha recur in every generation of the descendants of Adam and Chava. Nevertheless, we see that the Lord Himself, the Creator and sustainer of all life, so to speak, never loses heart. The Torah emphasizes that out of the original mess that mankind has made of its beginnings there does emerge a righteous individual.

The final words of the parsha are that Noach found favor in God's eyes. Thus at the beginning of the Torah itself, we are taught a basic lesson in Jewish thought and values—the worth of one individual. As the rabbis in Avot phrased it: "There were ten generations from Adam to Noach and each generation was more corrupt and provocative than the one before it until Noach came along and reaped the potential reward of all of those generations."

One person can collect the reward for millions of others who do not appreciate or obtain that reward that awaits them. In fact the entire book of Bereshith whose reading we have just embarked upon in the synagogue is a story of individuals. The backdrop to the story are great world events—floods, wars, famines and changing social societies—but the main story and certainly its heroes and heroines are individuals.

The Talmud asks: "Why was only a single human being created to begin life on this earth?" The Talmud gives a number of important answers, mainly that no one should be able to lord it over another human being because of ancestry or genealogy. But one of the ideas implicit in the creation of only one individual is to teach us that very fact of the worth and importance of an individual.

In our world of billions of people it is quite easy to forget this basic lesson of the Torah—that a person is worth everything. In the past century we were witness to ideologies and their protagonists who destroyed tens of millions of people in order to implement a concept, philosophy or social order. This complete disregard for the worth of an individual and the human life that that individual possesses is one of the sorriest stories in the human saga.

The Jewish people are small in number relative to other nations and faiths. Yet our value is counted in our worth as individuals, in our personal behavior and in our devotion to our eternal Torah values and its way of life. We truly believe that there are great things that each individual can accomplish, achievements that can and will live on long after one's years on earth are ended.

At the beginning of this great and good year that is now upon us let us resolve that we value ourselves and others as individuals of special worth and unique abilities. This will mark a very good beginning to our year.

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