

YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

Weekly Update

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Parshas Chukas-Balak פרשת חוקת-בלק

July 3-4 — ט"ו תמוז תשס"ט

Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting: 7:00pm
Candle lighting: 8:16pm
Mincha - Friday: 7:00pm

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:21am
Shacharis: 8:45am
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishis: 8:00pm
Maariv: 9:18pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday: 8:00am
Shacharis (Mon.): 6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.): 6:50am
Mincha/Maariv (Sun.-Wed.): 8:20pm

Shiva Asar b'Tamuz—Thursday, July 9 — י"ז תמוז

Fast Begins: 4:28am
Shacharis: **6:20am**
Mincha/Maariv: **8:00pm**
Fast Ends: 9:17pm

Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting: 8:14pm
Mincha - Friday: 7:00pm

Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am– 8:15am	Parsha Chabura	I. Pendrak	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Mishlei Shiur	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Seudah Shlishis	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	J. Weinberger	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.–Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Sefer Hamaspik L'Ovdei Hashem	R. Steinberg	
Tuesday	9:00pm	Choshen Mishpat	R. Steinberg	Resumes in Sept.
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

THIS SHABBOS

Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos:

Kiddush is community sponsored.

Seudah Shlishis is community sponsored.

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel Tov to Gershon & Aleeza Ben Shalom and Family...

... on the bris of Moshe Chai.

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Joshua & Michelle Levy and Family...

... on the occasion of Dovid's Bar Mitzva.

SUPPORT THE ERUV

Please consider the benefit you have from our community's Eruv, and pay your annual dues. Checks should be made out to Young Israel with "Eruv" written in the memo.

- Family: \$75.
- Single, Student or Other: \$36.

Thank you.

MAILING LIST

Pumpkin-time is nigh for the production of this year's annual mailing. In addition to choice tidbits such as the Yomim Noraim seating forms, we will be sending out the latest revision of our shul mailing and phone list.

Be the first on your block to submit corrections to data that are currently incorrect. Bonus points if your corrections are indeed correct.

Please submit your corrections to David Chase.

ONGOING EVENTS

Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Kodshim.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

Women's Tehillim Group:

The Tehillim Group meets Mondays at **10:45am** at 8 Concord Circle.

Women's Chovos haLevovos Group:

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

Are you on our e-mail list?

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

Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information

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D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

There is an old adage in both the Jewish and non-Jewish world which states something like this: "I can deal with my enemies but Lord please help me with my friends." The problem figure in this week's parsha is not so much Balak, who is easily identified as the enemy of the Jewish people, as it is Bilaam whose mouth utters soaring blessings and compliments to the Jews.

Hypocrisy has always abounded in the world and we should not be surprised at its presence in our personal and national lives. Bilaam's blessings are seductive to our ears—he was a wordsmith of extraordinary ability—and everyone likes to hear compliments and praise even when we know deep down in our being that they are not really sincere or meant.

Bilaam's praises led to disasters and death for thousands of Jews and eventually he was killed by the very people that he blessed with his false praise. All of us may have many acquaintances but good, reliable, truthful, loyal friends are certainly a rarer commodity. If this is true even regarding personal matters and friends how much truer is it regarding nations and allies.

The well-known and very accurate description of the situation is that there are no friendships between nations, only interests. Bilaam's interest was to destroy us, even with kindness and blessings if necessary. Many Jews foolishly succumbed to his blandishments with fatal results.

We still treasure Bilaam's words of how goodly are our tents and dwelling places. Yet deep down in our souls we are aware of his enmity and poisonous hatred of us. He is only the forerunner of many others of his type over the long centuries of our existence. And they are certainly still around today.

As a minority in the world and with a very small state we are understandably desirous of acceptance by the outside world. We constantly cast about for ways, policies, speeches, and actions that will somehow achieve this desired goal. Yet Bilaam himself informed us that we are pursuing an unattainable object. He characterized us as being a singular and lonely nation that will not be counted fairly and equally among the nations of the world.

Rashi points out that when Israel rejoices very few if any of the outside world rejoices with us. Jews have always been the ultimate outsider and now our state of Israel is treated as such by the other nations of the world. Bilaam's characterization of us has been proven to be exactly correct. We certainly do not desire to be the pariah of the world but we have survived being in that situation for centuries on end.

Bilaam is not our friend because his financial and personal interests lie with Balak and Moab. And as mentioned above, interests always trump friendship. There is therefore much to be learned from Bilaam's words and actions in this week's parsha.

The rabbis portrayed Bilaam as the quintessential evil prophet—vain, arrogant, corrupt, unscrupulous but very accurate in his assessments and predictions. We should continue to be astute enough to recognize him in whatever form he now manifests himself.

From: <http://www.rabbiwein.com/Weekly-Parsha/2009/07/371.html>