

Thought of the Week

The Torah writes, "All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you (v'heeseegucha)" [28:2]. There are many interpretations given to this strange use of the word v'heeseegucha. Part of the challenge in interpreting the word is that the exact same word is used in the later verse "And all these curses will come upon you and overtake you (v'heeseegucha)" [28:15].

The Shemen haTov gives a homiletic interpretation, which even if not an accurate translation of the word in context, it does provide insight into a concept that is fundamentally true. The Shemen haTov says that the pasuk means, "The blessings should come to you and remain with you as YOU." So many times in life, we see that when a person is showered with blessings, they change him. He is not the same person anymore. Success in business, wealth, or prestige all tend to change a person. The thrust of the pasuk then is that the blessings you receive should not go to your head. They should remain with you and you should be the same person who you always were.

This is also the silver lining to the "curse" "And all these curses shall befall you v'heeseegucha." Sometimes a person has so many bad things happen to him that those negative experiences change him as well. He cannot handle all his misfortune and he is changed by it. The pasuk is hinting at the fact that even curses should not have the corrosive effect on a person that sometimes comes with misfortune.

The Almighty has His calculations and we have to accept them, the Rock His Actions are Pure (haTzur Tamim Pealo), but even if we will understand it as 'good' in the next world, in this world it is clearly 'bad'. The hope always is however, that people will be able to overcome tragedy and misfortune. It should not change them. It should not corrode or warp their personalities. We pray that people should have the strength to go on and live their lives in a semblance of the way they lived it before. G-d is a Healer of broken hearts. There are so many broken hearts amongst us. It is horrible.

Even though all these curses befall us – and we do not understand why they happen – we hope that the victims and the witnesses to the tragedy should not be changed by these misfortunes and they should have the strength to carry on despite the curses that have befallen us. May Hashem help us achieve this.

Adapted from "The Hidden Blessing of Being Unchanged -- By Blessings or By Curses" by Rav Frand
<http://www.torah.org/learning/ravfrand/5770/kisavo.html>

Young Israel of the Main Line

273 Montgomery Ave
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
www.chaseplanet.us/yiml

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg
610-667-3255
rabbi@yiml.org



Sherman Frager, President
610-667-7063

Parshas Ki Savo
August 27-28

פרשת כי תבוא
י"ח אלול



Shabbos Davening Times



Candle lighting:	7:23pm
Mincha - Friday:	7:00pm
Parsha Chaburah - Round Robin:	7:55am
Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur:	8:15am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:43am
Kiddush this week is community sponsored.	
Mincha:	7:10pm
Shalosh Seudos this week is community sponsored.	
Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.	
Maariv:	8:24pm

To subscribe to the YIML email list, visit
<http://mail.chaseplanet.us/mailman/listinfo/yiml>

Next Week's Davening Times

Shacharis:	Sunday:	8:00am
	Monday and Thursday:	6:40am
	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv:	Sunday through Thursday:	7:20pm
Candle lighting next Friday night:		7:12pm
Mincha/Maariv next Friday night:		7:00pm

Weekday Shiurim

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 min before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Wed after Maariv
Nefesh HaChaim:	Thursday 10:15pm

Check with Dr Daniel Eisenberg to confirm.

Women's Learning Experience - Spring Session

Mon at 10:45am - Tehillim for Cholim, followed at 11:30am by Rabbi Steinberg teaching The Chazon Ish's Faith and Trust.
Tues at 9:30am - Rabbi Shmidman teaching Tehillim at LMS.
Wed at 9:30am - Dr. Goldman teaching Parshas haShavuah.
Thurs at 9:30am - Mr. Dorman teaching Pirkei Avot.
All classes at 8 Concord Circle, unless otherwise noted.
For information, call Janis Fine 610-617-0913

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd is preparing for a great new year! Membership \$36 per girl for the year. The first shabbos Bnos group of the year will be Parshios Nitzavim/Vayailech. Watch for the Bnos Motzai Shabbos Kedoshim Tehiyu program! Contact Meira Friedman (610-617-9529) for more information.

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Taharos. See shul bulletin board to sign up or email eisenber@pol.net with your name and the masechta (and chapters) you intend to learn.

Questions? Comments! Sponsorships\$ weeklyupdate@yiml.org

Yamim Noraim Seating Requests

Rosh Hashana is a couple of weeks away. Please take the time now to send in your seating request forms and dues. All forms are due in by September 1. Please send your dues and information to the Young Israel or hand it to Sid Laytin, Sherman Frager or David Chase.

Rosh Hashana Shiurim

On Rosh Hashana, between Mincha and Maariv, first and second nights (Sept 8th and 9th), Rabbi Steinberg will give a shiur entitled: What is Olam Habah? A Discussion of the Rambam's Hilchos Teshuvah - Chapter Eight.
Shabbos, Sept 11th, following 6:55 Mincha, Shabbos Shuva Drasha: The Centrality of Bain Adam Lachavairo

Kivrei Tzadikim Trip - Sunday, September 5th

First day of Selichos, departing from YIML at approximately 9:00am, men of the community are invited to visit the graves of many of the great Gaonim buried in Queens, NY. Rabbi Steinberg will speak about each of the figures, and the group will recite Tehillim and tefillos at their graves.

A Father-Son Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg (recommended age of 5th grade and up) studying Sefer Melachim Aleph (Kings I) Monday nights at 8:00pm. Class will meet Sept 13th and then weekly Oct 4th. E-mail Rabbi Steinberg to join.

The Halacha Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg will be learning "classic" Yoreh Deah (Hilchos Basar v'Chalav, Taaruvos, etc.) Tuesday nights at 8:30pm. Shiur will meet Sept 14th and resume weekly Oct 5th. Visit the yiml website for instructions to join the online group for mareh mekomos and other updates and to be part of the massa umattan between shiurim.