

## Thought of the Week

Your Flattery Will Be The Death of Me

"Do not take a ransom . . . And you will not pollute the land . . . rather you shall execute him."(35:33,34)

The Sifri sees in the words "lo sachnifu" es ha'aretz, a prohibition against flattery, for the word "chanifa" means "flattery". The Ramban attempts to show the connection between flattery and the prohibition against condoning murder which is the simple interpretation of the verse. Accepting a bribe from a murderer in exchange for his pardon is a form of flattery. We are treating him as an upstanding citizen of society, although he is a wicked person.

Perhaps another parallel can be drawn between flattery and murder. Murder destroys a person's physical reality. However, a person can be destroyed emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually as well. Flattery gives one a false sense of his reality. A person who is not in touch with who he really is, is not considered to be alive. This is a false sense of existence. Flattering a person, thereby being the catalyst to his losing touch with his true reality, is akin to murdering him.

Respecting Human Life

"Then Moshe designated three cities." (Devarim, 4:41)

The Talmud teaches that the three cities of refuge on the east bank of the Jordan River only became functional after the three on the west bank were established. Although Moshe knew that the latter three would only be established fourteen years after his passing, he insisted on establishing the three on the east bank. The Talmud uses this as an example of Moshe's alacrity in the performance of mitzvos.

Generally, alacrity in the performance of a mitzva leads to the mitzva being accomplished sooner. However, in Moshe's case, since the cities offered no refuge until after they all were completed, what was there to be gained by his promptness?

The cities of refuge served a dual purpose. One function was as a safe haven for the perpetrator of an accidental murder, while the second was to create a higher degree of awareness amongst Bnei Yisroel concerning the sanctity of human life. The mere presence of the city sent a message to everyone to be more cautious with their actions. Although the first function did not take effect until after the conquest of Eretz Yisroel, Moshe was able to immediately set the second function into motion.

Adapted from <http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbizweig/5771/masei.html> by Rabbi Zweig.

בס"ד

## Young Israel of the Main Line

273 Montgomery Ave  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004  
[www.yiml.org](http://www.yiml.org)  
[www.chaseplanet.us/yiml](http://www.chaseplanet.us/yiml)

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
610-667-3255  
[rabbi@yiml.org](mailto:rabbi@yiml.org)

Sherman Frager, President  
610-667-7063



Parshas Masei

Stone Chumash page 918; Haftarah, page 1193.

July 29-30, 2011

פרשת מסעי

כ"ח תמוז תשע"א



### Shabbos Schedule Mevorchim haChodesh



Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos:	7:00pm
Candle Lighting:	8:00pm
Parsha Chaburah by Dennis Rosen:	7:55am
Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur:	8:15am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:32am
Rabbi Steinberg's Drasha topic is "Half Shabbos".	
Kiddush is sponsored by Marguerite and Yakov Werrin in honor of their 30th wedding anniversary. Mazel Tov!	
Sefer Ir HaKodesh V'Hamikdosh Shiur:	7:00pm
Mincha:	7:45pm
Shalosh Seudos is communally sponsored.	
Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.	
Maariv:	9:02pm

Questions? Comments! Sponsorships\$ [weeklyupdate@yiml.org](mailto:weeklyupdate@yiml.org)

### **Weekday Davening Times**

Shacharis:	Sunday:	8:00am
	Monday (Rosh Chodesh Av):	6:30am
	Thursday:	6:40am
	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv:	Sunday to Thursday:	8:00pm
	Mincha Friday, and Kabbalas Shabbos:	7:00pm
	Candle Lighting Friday:	7:53pm

### **Weekday Shiurim**

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 minutes before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Mon and Wed after Maariv
Melachim Aleph Shiur:	Monday at 8pm
Halacha Shiur:	Tuesday at 8:30pm.
Nefesh HaChaim:	Will resume after the summer.

### **Chevra Mishnayos**

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

### **Women's Learning Experience – Summer Session**

Mon at 9:45am: Tehillim for Cholim.  
Mon at 10:15am: Rabbi Greenspan - Parsha haShavua.  
Tues at 9:30am: Rabbi Shmidman - Sefer Tehillim, at LMS.  
Tues at 8pm: Stacey Goldman - Chana, at 161 Highland Circle.  
Wed at 10am: Mrs. Biberfeld - Michtav M'Eliyahu.  
Thu at 9:30am: Rabbi Steinberg - Geshet HaChaim.  
All classes at 8 Concord Circle, unless otherwise noted. Free babysitting is available, reservations must be made in advance. For information or babysitting, call Janis Fine 610-888-0477.

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

### **Special Shiur Mini-Series for the Three Weeks**

During the Three Weeks, Rabbi Steinberg will give a special shiur each Shabbos afternoon, 45 minutes before mincha, open for men and women.

Learning from Sefer Ir Hakodesh V'Hamikdash. By Rav Yechiel Michel Tukachinsky, author of Geshet HaChaim.

A Taste of the Historical, Halachic and Hashkafic meaning of Eretz Yisroel to the Jewish People.

### **Kivrei Tzadikim Trip For Women**

Visiting the Graves of the Gaonim and Tzadikim buried in Queens, NY. Rabbi Steinberg will speak about the illustrious personalities and the group will daven and recite Tehillim.

Tentative Date: Sun, Sept 4th, departing at 9am. To help us plan, please send an e-mail to [Janis Fine jfine@comcast.net](mailto:Janis.Fine@comcast.net) if you think you would like to participate in this trip.

### **YIML Annual Barbeque**

Young Israel of the Main Line invites you to a Community BBQ on Sunday, August 21, 2011 from 4 to 7pm at South Ardmore Park (near Torah Academy). Cost, reserved in advance, \$15 single, \$25 couple, \$8 per child (2-12) , \$54 family max. Cost at BBQ: \$18 single, \$36 couple, \$10 per child, \$72 family max. Prepayment required by Motzai Shabbos, August 20. Give monies to Richie and Janis Fine, Sherman Frager, or Sid Laytin. Once again, Gourmet Foods with a Baltic flavor, prepared by Master Chef, Israel Pendrak. Bring baseball gloves, frisbees, etc.

### **Daily Mussar Shiur – New Sefer!**

The Daily Mussar Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg will be starting a new sefer (3 Av 5771, Wed, Aug. 3rd). Chovas HaTalmidim by the Great Rebbe of Piaseczna. The Mussar Shiur meets 15 minutes before Shacharis on Sundays through Fridays (except when Shacharis is early, e.g. Rosh Chodesh, slichos, etc.). Now is the perfect time for new attendees to join!