

Thought of the Week

The Torah records for us the genealogy of Pinchas, the true and justified zealot of Jewish history. There are many reasons advanced as to why the Torah felt impelled to tell us of the names of his father and grandfather. Many commentators saw in this an explanation to justify Pinchas' behavior while others emphasized that it was an explanation for Pinchas' reward and God granting him the blessing of peace.

But aside from these insights there is another more general message that the Torah is recording for us. And that is that a person's behavior affects all of one's family members, even those of previous generations who may no longer be currently numbered among the living.

A great act of sanctification of God's name such as the one performed by Pinchas enhances the reputations and stature of previous generations as well. My rebbe in the yeshiva summed this lesson up in his usual concise and pithy manner: "If both your grandparents and your grandchildren are proud of you and your achievements then you are probably alright in Heaven's judgment as well."

Our idea of immortality is based upon generations of our families, both previous generations and later ones. We find vindication of our lives and efforts in the accomplishments of those that come after us and continue our values and faith. We cannot control what children and grandchildren will do, whom they will marry and what type of life they will lead. But innately, we feel that we have a connection to the development of their lives and the actions that they will take.

The Torah emphasizes for us that Pinchas' zealotry did not come to him in a vacuum. The Torah allows everyone freedom of will and behavior. Neither good behavior nor evil behavior is ever predestined. Yet as medicine has shown us, in the physical world there is an element of physical predestination in our DNA. And this DNA affects our moral behavior as well.

Judaism always envisioned itself not only as a universal faith but as a particular family as well. In our daily prayer service we constantly recall who our founding ancestors were. We name our children in memory of those who have preceded us. We extol a sense of family and a loyalty to the values that our families represent. ...

[continued inside...]

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Parshas Pinchas

פרשת פינחס

Stone Chumash page 876; Haftarah, page 1190.

July 15-16, 2011

י"ד תמוז תשע"א



Shabbos Schedule



Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos:	7:00pm
Candle Lighting:	8:11pm
Parsha Chaburah by Naftali Perlberger:	8:15am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:26am
Kiddush is communally sponsored.	
Mincha:	7:55pm
Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Rabbi Josh Weinberger and family le-iluy nishmas his grandmother, Leah bas R'Yisachar Dov z"l. During Shalosh Seudos, Josh will make a siyum on maseches Menachos.	
Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.	
Maariv:	9:13pm

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

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis:	Sunday:	8:00am
	Monday and Thursday:	6:40am
	Tuesday (Shiva Asar b'Tamuz):	6:30am
	Wednesday, and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv:	Sunday to Thursday (not Tuesday):	8:15pm
Mincha Friday, and Kabbalas Shabbos:		7:00pm
Candle Lighting Friday:		8:06pm

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:	Thursday at 10:10pm

Check with Dr Daniel Eisenberg to confirm.

Chevra Mishnayos

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Kodshim. See shul bulletin board to sign up or email 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'Elياهو.
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.

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

Thought of the Week, continued...

One of the most destructive trends in modern society has been the erosion of the sense of family in the world and amongst Jews particularly. Assimilation means abandoning family and abandoning family certainly contributes to intensified assimilation and loss of Jewish feelings and identity. It is ironic that in a time such as now when most children can be privileged to know grandparents and even great grandparents the relationship between generations in many Jewish families is frayed and weak. Pinchas comes therefore to reinforce this concept of tying generations – past, present and future – together. It is imperative for us to know Pinchas' genealogy for otherwise we have no clue as to who Pinchas was and why he behaved as he did in those given circumstances.

Adapted from <http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbiwein/5771/pinchas.html> by Rabbi Wein.



▪ Mazel Tov to Kathie and Aaron Shrager on the bris of their baby boy, David Amiron Shrager.

Shiva Asar b'Tamuz - Tuesday, July 19th

Fast Begins:	4:36am
Shacharis:	6:30am
Mincha:	7:55pm
Fast Ends:	9:11pm

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.