



Times of Services

2015

Friday 13 November
Rosh Chodesh Kislev
Shacharit: 8.00 am
Shabbat begins: 3.59 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.00 pm

Shabbat 14 November
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Haftorah: Brian Robinson
Mincha: After Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 5.03 pm

Sunday 15 November
Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 20 November
Shabbat begins: 3.50 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.00 pm

Reading the Haftarah



If you would like to read Haftarah to mark a special event or just to make your personal contribution to the service, please contact Brian Robinson, who will be delighted to help with any preparation or revision.

Sponsoring an Event



If you are celebrating a Simcha or commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or if you are just feeling generous, please consider sponsoring a Shabbat morning Kiddush, Seudah or Sunday morning breakfast. Contact Joan Michaels: 020 8579 4261.

AJR—Meets the 1st Tuesday in every month at 2.00 pm. Contact Leslie Sommer: 020 8993 7574.

Israeli Dancing!



Every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm at Ealing Synagogue. All welcome. No charge.

In the event of a bereavement, in the first instance please contact the Burial Office : 020 8950 7767.

Rabbi Hershi Vogel: 07970 829758
 Brian Robinson: 020 8567 6558
 Neil Shestopal: 020 8579 5099

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter



שבת שלום

Friday 13 November 2015/Shabbat 2 Kislev 5776

Sidra: Toldot

THURSDAY 12 AND FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER
ROSH CHODESH KISLEV
SHACHARIT : 8.00 AM

SHABBAT 14 NOVEMBER

This week's Dvar Torah will be given by Daphne Gerlis.

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER AJEX NATIONAL PARADE

The **AJEX** National Parade and Remembrance Ceremony will take place on Sunday 15 November at the Cenotaph on Whitehall at 2.30 pm.

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER MITZVAH DAY

Ealing Synagogue will be hosting the residents and carers of St David's Home. Please join Ealing Synagogue in welcoming our guests for tea from 2.30 pm.

THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER : 12.30 PM CHANUKAH COMMUNITY LUNCH

Please join us for a special Chanukah lunch. Everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, please contact Alison Shindler-Glass (alisonshindler@aol.com) if you would like to come.

For your diary, the next Community Lunch will be on Thursday 21 January 2016.

Ealing Synagogue,
 15 Grange Road, London W5 5QN
 Reg. Charity No. 242552

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 Administrator: Sandra Moses

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Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com

Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

SECOND EDITION / ISSUE 6

14th November 2015

TOLDOT

2nd Kislev 5776

Kohen - First Aliya:

Chapter 25, verse 19- Chapter 26, verse 5

- Yitzhak (Isaac) and Rivkah (Rebekah) marry and are both desperate to have children but Rivkah remains barren. After many tefillos (prayers) later, Rivkah finally conceives twins, but her pregnancy is a difficult one as the twins were constantly fighting one another in her womb.
- Hashem tells Rivkah that both twins will become great nations and the older will serve the younger.
- Aisav (Esau) is born first and grew up to be a hunter and became Yitzhak's favourite child. Whereas the second twin Yaacov (Jacob) became a shepherd and was Rivkah's favourite son.
- Returning back from a hunting trip, a tired and hungry Aisav, in exchange for a bowl of red lentil soup swears an oath and hands over his birth-right to Yaacov.
- A famine strikes the land. Hashem commands Yitzhak to stay within the boundaries of Israel and not to go down to Egypt.

Levi - Second Aliya:

Chapter 26, verses 6 – 12

- Yitzhak dwells in Gerar and just like his father, Avraham before him; tells Abimelech that his wife was his sister in order to save his life from the Philistines.
- Upon learning the truth, Abimelech guaranteed Yitzhak safety, and that no harm will come to him.

Sh'Tishi - Third Aliya:

Chapter 26, verses 13 - 22

- Hashem blesses Yitzhak with a bountiful crop and a multitude of sheep and cattle.
- Yitzhak re-digs up all the wells which had once belonged to Avraham but were later filled up again by the Philistines (Philistines).

RVTI - Fourth Aliya:

Chapter 26, verses 23 - 29

- Abimelech is becoming jealous of Yitzhak's accumulating wealth; so Yitzhak moves to Beer-Sheba.
- Hashem appears to Yitzhak telling him not to be afraid and reiterates his covenant he made with Avraham that his descendants will become great and numerous.
- Abimelech also renews his oath with Yitzhak that neither party will make war with the other.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:

Chapter 26, verse 30 - Chapter 27, verse 28

- An aging Yitzhak has now become blind. He sends Aisav out to hunt and prepare game for him as Yitzhak would like to bless him before he dies.
- Overhearing this, Rivkah prepares a meal for Yitzhak and commands Yaacov to present it to his father in order that Yitzhak will bless him instead of Aisav.
- Wearing the skins of goats on his hand and the clothes of his brother, Yaacov lays the cooked venison, down in front of his father to eat.
- On believing Yaacov to be his favourite son Aisav, upon finishing his meal he calls Yaacov over and blesses him.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya:

Chapter 27, verse 28 – Chapter 28, verse 4

- Aisav returns back to his father only to find out he has been deceived and demands to be blessed too.
- Blaming Yaacov for the deception, an enraged Aisav threatens to kill him on sight.
- Rivkah and Yitzhak send Yaacov away to live with Lavan to escape Aisav's wrath.

Sh'v'i - Seventh Aliya:

Chapter 2, verses 5 - 9

- Aisav marries the daughter of Ishmael.

Haftorah – Malachi, Chapter 1, verse 1 to Chapter 2, verse 7

OVERVIEW:

- Malachi finds himself facing a Jewish nation that no longer believes Hashem loves them. As proof of the contrary, Malachi recounts the tremendous love Hashem bestows upon Yaacov, his children and his future generations. He told them the fact that the Jewish Nation still exists today even though there have been many who want us destroyed proves without doubt that Hashem hasn't changed his mind about us being his chosen nation.
- Malachi then rebukes the Kohanim (priests) who offer blemished and emaciated animals on Hashem's altar: and implores them to return to the original mandate of the Torah which Hashem commanded their ancestor, Aaron the Kohen Gadol to perform.

GEMATRIA LINKED TO THE SEDRA:

- When Esav went out to get food for his father, Yitzhak, the word 'לצוד' (latzud (to hunt)) is used. However when he went hunting for himself the torah uses the phrase 'מִן הַגִּזְלָה', min gezel from stolen goods'.
- As the numerical value for both expressions is 130, this conveys the idea that when Esav went out, he hunted other people's livestock.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

Parsha Toldot beautifully illustrates the striking difference between the natures of twin brothers and their parents doting their love and favoritism towards one over the other. Yitzhak preferred Esav both because of his strong beliefs and because he knew how to look after and provide provisions for himself and his family; whereas Rivkah loved Yaacov because he was a quiet, studious man who was thoughtful and emotionally in control.

Aside from being a hunter and bringing home the tastiest meat, Esav actually seems to have done little to merit Yitzhak's devotion towards him. Even the torah identifies Esav as the father of Edom and Amalek, two enemy tribes whose ethos was to destroy our Jewish identity and way of life. So what did Yitzhak see in him which he did not see in Yaacov?

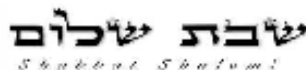
The classic response Rashi gives is that Yitzhak was entrapped by the words of Esav. Meaning; that because of the language Esav used and the questions he asked relating to Halacha (Torah laws), he was able to deceive Yitzhak into believing that Esav was a righteous, passionate and a strict Torah observant man who would be proud to continue fulfilling Hashem's legacy and promise which he made to his grandfather, Avraham. When in truth the complete opposite was true.

I must admit I'm not really comfortable with this explanation. How could someone as spiritual and in tune with the way of Hashem, like Yitzhak, not realize he was being duped by his own son and not know who or what Esav truly was. I believe the reason why Yitzhak loved Esav more was because he knew precisely who Esav was and the damage he could cause if let loose.

To illustrate this point, there is a famous story of a man who presented Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Kook (the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of pre-state Israel) with the following dilemma. The man had always given his children a good Jewish education and had always abided by the 613 mitzvot. Now one of his sons has drifted himself away from Judaism, so much so he even no longer identified himself as being a Jew. What should the man do? 'Did you love this son whilst he was still religious?' Inquired Rabbi Kook. 'Of course I did' replied the man. 'The Answer is simple then' responded Rabbi Kook. 'Just love him even more now'.

Although Yitzhak was physically blind his eyes were wide open. He knew sometimes love can affect a person more positively than a rebuke ever could. Instead of using his academic intellect, Esav was driven by his emotions and utilized his passions and drive in order to succeed. Yitzhak knew he shouldn't turn his back on him, do nothing and treat him as a lost cause. So Yitzhak played to Esav's strengths. His skills and ability to hunt. This way instead of seeing Esav as the black sheep of the family and cast him out, Yitzhak came to the realization that even though he did love Yaacov, he needed to invest more of his time and effort nurturing, praising and loving Esav even more; trying to persuade his son to come back or at least try and keep him contained and prevent Esav from becoming too wayward.

To some extent it worked. Esav reciprocated the love and devotion right back to his father, caring for him right up to his death. Rabbi Shimon ben Gamliel once quoted "No man has ever honoured their father more than I but Esau respected and honoured his more." Although some people may think no matter how much effort they put in there is still a strong chance they would fail. They should learn from our patriarch Yitzhak who never gave up on his son Esav who despite remaining a hunter and a man of the field; epitomizes the way any son or daughter should approach the fifth commandment of K'vod (Honour) towards a parent. Proving that there is always a glimmer of hope of bringing a person back towards the right path.



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons

DELVE INTO SCRIPTURE



‘SCRIPTURAL REASONING’ AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

‘CHANGING LANDSCAPES’ - 15TH NOV 14:00-16:30

‘PILGRIMAGE’ - 22ND NOV 14:00-16:30

Two thought-provoking and interactive workshops exploring passages
from the Jewish, Muslim and Christian scriptures.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

BOOKING: ‘What’s on’ at <http://www.britishmuseum.org/>

THE
BRITISH
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UNIVERSITY OF
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Cambridge Inter-faith Programme

The Zemel Choir



Anniversary Concert and Dinner

Celebrating 60 Years 1955 - 2015



Sunday 22nd November 2015

North Western Reform Synagogue, Alyth Gardens
Concert at 6.30pm followed by Dinner. Tickets £25
Afternoon Workshops for Past Members of the Choir
email tickets@zemelchoir.org or call 07802 898400

For Registration Form please visit www.zemelchoir.org/tickets



Exploring a century of émigré history
in London through the hidden treasures
of the Ben Uri Collections

Image: Victor Hageman
The Emigrants, c.1910
Ben Uri Collection

OUT OF CHAOS

Ben Uri: 100 Years in London
02 July – 13 December 2015

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**"JEWISH SONGWRITERS VERSUS THE REST,
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WITH ROY BLASS - SINGER AND MUSICIAN

On The First Night of Chanukah

On Sunday 6th December 2015

Doors Open at 7.00 pm for Candle Lighting at 7.15 pm



**As You Will Appreciate We Need To Have All Tickets Paid For In
Advance By 30th November As Food Has To Be Pre Ordered.**



I Require Hermolis Fish Meals or Vegetarian Meals At £15.00
Children under 13 - £10.00

I enclose my Cheque, made payable to Ruislip Ladies Guild, for £.....

Please send to the Treasurer, Mrs. M. Simons, Flat 45, Lutyens Lodge, 523 Uxbridge Road,
Hatch End, Middlesex, HA5 4JX.

Names of All Guests..... Tel Number.....