



Dvar Torah by RABBI GEIGER: BUILDING A SOUND FOUNDATION

The building of the Mishkan was a seminal event in Jewish History. It represented the essential mission of the Jewish People to be the emissaries of God in this world. In addition, after the Golden Calf, it represented the ability of Man to change, to repent, to make amends. We as a nation truly go only "by the grace of God." Without His protection we are open to the attacks of all our myriad enemies and the whims of history. With all that was riding on this project, one would assume that a mandatory tax would be levied to ensure the projects completion. Truth be told, there were three opportunities to donate to the Mishkan (see Rashi, beginning of Parshas Terumah). Two of these campaigns were targeted at the capital fund to construct the Mishkan itself. While one was certainly mandatory, the other was voluntary. One was a call for donations of the materials needed to build, the other a call for a half-shekel donation to be used for the silver sockets used to hold up the pillars of the Mishkan. One would have thought that the prior would be the most important and, thus, the obligatory donation. Would it be so hard to furnish enough silver for the base sockets? Certainly the overwhelming majority of Jews would give such a small donation of their own accord. Yet Hashem, in His infinite wisdom, saw it necessary to mandate the half-shekel donation, while leaving the larger capital campaign open to the good will of each Jew. Why?

The answer, perhaps, can be found in the deeper meaning behind the sockets themselves. Chazal saw in the silver bases a representation of emunah, loosely translated as faith. Emunah, in fact, is far more than simply faith. True emunah includes, not only, a tangible awareness of Hashem's presence, but an awareness of indebtedness and a constant reliability. Emunah in Hashem is defined by an ability to put complete trust in the One above. In order to do so, I must live, to the best of my ability, a faithful life. That which I commit to must bind me in an unwavering dedication that, short of an act of Nature, I will make good. I must be aware of all my debts in order to ensure that I repay all I am obligated to. Once I live a life such as this, then I am capable of believing, of knowing and understanding that Hashem, the ultimate Being, is so much more. This emunah is the foundation upon which a relationship with the Divine is built. All other "donations" are understood only in the light of my emunah and all future acts of devotion will strengthen that connection. Without this emunah my acts of devotion become void of perception and depth.

Now we can understand why it is Hashem made the half-shekel donation mandatory, while leaving the balance of capital fundraising optional. In order for the Mishkan to achieve its lofty goals of reconciliation with the Divine, every Jew had to recognize his connection and indebtedness to his fellow Jew and to His Creator. With this fundamental character in place, the nation would move forward with an overflowing generosity to build the Mishkan for its Creator.

Announcements

Shabbos of Song: This Friday night March 24th at the 6:55 minyan, join us as Rabbi Geiger leads our special Carlebach-style Kab-

balas Shabbos that will uplift your spirits without taxing your patience. Prayer and Song with SOUL!

Chofetz Chaim Chabura Matza: We will once again be getting a very limited supply of matza from Chofetz Chaim this year. If you'd like to order some, please email kendra@anshe.org asap before we run out. The price this year is \$31/lb.

Shabbos HaGadol: With Rabbi Y.Y. Rubinstein, who will speak at Anshe Emes throughout Shabbos HaGadol, April 7-8. Reservations for meals at O'WOKS can be made online at www.anshe.org/yyshab-baton. There is limited seating for meals, so please reserve your seats right away. See flyer for schedule and details.

Shabbos Zmanim Erev Shabbos

Pre-Plag (5:52) Mincha: 5:39 pm
Candle Lighting: 6:49 pm
Mincha/Maariv: 6:55 pm

Shabbos Day

Shachris, Hashkama: 7:00 am
Shachris: 8:45 am
Mussar Shiur: 6:00 pm
Mincha: 6:45 pm
AleI Shur Shiur: 7:49 pm
Maariv/Shabbos Ends: 7:59 pm

Sponsorships

**Hashkama Kiddush is sponsored
by the Hashkama minyan.**

Want to sponsor Kiddush, Seuda Shlishis
or help the shul?
(310) 275-5640 | Anshe.org
RavSummers@anshe.org | RabbiGeiger@anshe.org

Shiurim

Shabbos:
8:00 am In-depth sefer Yehoshua Shiur by MARK MAGID
11:30 am Rotating topic shiur by MARK MAGID
Sundays:
6:00-6:45 am Tefila shiur by RABBI PINCHAS RABINOVICZ
8:35-9:35 am Gemora Makos shiur by RABBI NACHMAN MORGAN
Wednesdays:
11:00 am On Hiatus Haftorah shiur for women by MRS. HOLLANDER

Zmanim for the Week

	Shachris	Mincha/ Maariv	עלות השחר	משיכיר	הנץ החמה	סזק"ש גרי"א	סז"ת גרי"א	מנחה גדולה	שקיעה
Sun 3/26	6:45/7:30 am	7:00 pm	5:34	5:59	6:49	9:54	10:56	1:30	7:10
Mon 3/27	5:45/6:30 am	7:00 pm	5:32	5:58	6:47	9:53	10:55	1:30	7:11
Tue 3/28	5:45/6:30 am	7:00 pm	5:31	5:56	6:46	9:52	10:54	1:29	7:12
Wed 3/29	5:45/6:45 am	7:00 pm	5:29	5:55	6:44	9:51	10:54	1:29	7:12
Thu 3/30	5:45/6:30 am	7:00 pm	5:28	5:53	6:43	9:51	10:53	1:29	7:13
Fri 3/31	5:45/6:45 am	7:00 pm	5:27	5:52	6:42	9:50	10:52	1:29	7:14

7:04pm+10 מולד ניסן:

רי"ח ניסן

הדלקת נרות 6:54