



April 26, 2013

ט"ז אייר תשע"ג

פרשת אמור

Candle Lighting 7:31 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban  
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman  
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon  
ראשי הישיבה

Issue 15

Dvar Torah- Maintaining Purity by Rabbi Noam Grossman

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At the end of פרשת אמור, the Torah discusses the story of the מקלל, the man who cursed הקדוש ברוך הוא.

When it was determined that his punishment is מיתה, the פסוק says that בני ישראל carried out

the command "כאשר צוה ה' את משה" to kill him. The ספורנו and רמב"ן both say that these words are coming to teach us that בני ישראל didn't kill the Egyptian because of any kind of hatred due to the fact he was a גר מצרי and fought with a Jew. It seems we might have thought that בני ישראל would have killed the מצרי out of hatred, so the Torah is telling us their motives were pure.

If we take the full picture into account, this seems a bit strange. First of all, we are dealing with the דור דעה. These were people who we would not assume would be affected by petty feelings of racism. Also, the Torah taught us in last week's פרשה that we should have an extra sensitivity to מצרים because of the fact that we were גרים in מצרים, and this was the actual generation that had been there - one would expect them to certainly have this additional sensitivity. In addition, the "מצרי" was

really a full-fledged Jew - his mother was Jewish and his father was a מצרי. Furthermore, let's examine what this man did. He cursed the רבונו של עולם. He rightfully deserved to be put to death! It would seem strange for a negative bias to play a role in this situation when what the man actually did was so terrible. There was a very legitimate כוונה for בני ישראל to think about without allowing any outside negative thoughts to come into play. Finally, we should bear in mind what is happening to this man - it's not that בני ישראל would be giving him a slap on the wrist - the prejudiced thoughts would be affecting them when they are in the process of killing him.

Yet we see that despite all of these factors, בני ישראל are praised for maintaining pure motives and not allowing themselves to be influenced by negative intentions. The lesson we can learn from here is two-fold. On one hand, we see how difficult it is for people to remove inclinations towards racism and not feel a dislike for those whom they perceive to be very different from themselves. We also see how despite the natural difficulty involved, the greatness of a human being is such that we are able to overpower those natural feelings and do what is right with the most noble intentions. May we be זוכה to overpower our יצר הרע and that all our actions should be שמים.

Dvar Halacha- Hilchos Aveilus by Yitzchok Elephant, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Due to the tragic death of Rabbi Akiva's 24,000 talmidim between Pesach and Shavuot, we observe 33 days of aveilus during this time period. Based on the concept of *miktzas hayom kekulo*, which states that if one mourns for just part of the day, it is as if the entire day was observed, on the morning of Lag B'Omer (for Ashkenazim), one can listen to music,

take a haircut, etc. As *miktzas hayom kekulo* doesn't extend to the night before, one must wait until the morning before listening suspending these Hilchos Aveilus. Although this year one is permitted to shave and take a haircut on Friday *lekavod* Shabbos, the rest of the *halachos* of *aveilus*, such as the prohibition against listening to music, remain until Sunday morning.

## The Weekly Quiz

**Q:** What is the direct connection between Megilas Esther and Pesach? (this is straight from the Pesukim, not from any Perush)

Answers or ideas for future questions may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to [Quiz@ytcteam.org](mailto:Quiz@ytcteam.org)

The first correct answer submitted will be announced in the next Spotlight. You need not be a student to participate. Hatzlochah!

## Benny Friedman Saves the Day— by Meir Mittel, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

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The pupils in Mr. Schwartz's Jewish Music Enrichment class were very sad indeed. You see, it is still *Sefirah*, and they didn't know how they can possibly survive without the music in class. In the past, Mr. Schwartz has arranged some amazing interviews with Jewish music sensations such as Simcha Leiner, Aryeh Kunstler and Dovid Gabay. "But what's gonna be with this week?", we all thought, "Could Mr. Schwartz possibly replace our musical



drought with something so awesome and exciting? Could he make everything *Hakunah- Matata* again?" The answer is a resounding YES!! As the students were sitting in class, the smart board screen turned on and the class saw a sight that had them all in shock and Netanel Raden jumping for joy. In front of their eyes was the one and only, BENNY FRIEDMAN, live

and in person!! From there, a most enjoyable interview kicked off featuring intricate questions and answers, Benny's hilarious humor, and even an exclusive rendition of Benny's hit song, "*Yesh*

his work. He explained that each style of music has the ability to reach all members of Klal Yisrael, satisfying Moshe Baruch Ackerman's love of techno style music. He explained that music affects one's soul and told us that he enjoys spreading positive and uplifting messages through the uses of a combination of genres. When the dismissal bell rung many student even stayed behind to continue conversing with such a Jewish Music legend. As students walked out they realized the crowd had grown from the original

*Tikva*!!"!! The students even received his email address! Benny told us about his journey into the Jewish music industry. He told us about being Avraham Freid's nephew and wishing to emulate his uncle from as early as six months old. He explained to us how he uses his music to inspire the masses. He also spoke about how he uses many different styles of music in

23 student in the class to many more members of the yeshiva including; other students, members of the Bais Medrash, Rabayim, Administrators and office staff. Throughout the afternoon and the following week students were not as sad as they were before that fateful period, but rather, were dancing with joy singing Benny's Music.



Chesed Avraham Lev, The Dr. Abraham Chames Foundation  
Is having a Yard Sale Sunday May 5  
From 9am-4pm  
5978 Sw 37<sup>th</sup> avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
**All Proceeds go to Charity!**  
For Questions: Please email or call Jennifer at:  
[Jenniferchames@gmail.com](mailto:Jenniferchames@gmail.com) or (786) 355-4275

## Accreditation is Here! by Uri Goldberg, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

For over a year the Yeshiva had been preparing for this past Tuesday. Much anxiety and excitement, along with loads of preparation, had been directed towards this day. Representatives of the AISF and Middle States Association came to visit the Yeshiva, which was seeking reaccreditation. The school and its students created a tremendous Kiddush Hashem and represented the Yeshiva beautifully. The visiting Principals of other schools checked on classrooms, witnessed a successfully executed fire drill,

and observed the way the Yeshiva runs smoothly. Our visitors were very impressed by the students' commitment both to Yiddishkeit and to their academic growth. Some of the visiting principals talked with the students to hear a firsthand impression of how they loved the Yeshiva and what it offered both in ruchniyus and academically. In the end, the Kiddush Hashem demonstrated by the school was enough to leave the representatives with smiles on their faces and a glowing report about our Yeshiva.