Rabbi Shmuel Razovsky notes that pursuing and attaining a state of קדושה - holiness - is a most sublime mission. It entails climbing to elevated levels of spiritual spheres and ascending to higher plateaus of intellectual understanding. In its initial stages, though, the path to holiness is achieved with small and seemingly insignificant steps. This is when a person makes an effort and performs simple gestures to reach beyond his natural routine and to establish himself as one who strives for true greatness. For example, a person may delve into Torah when no one else is noticing, or when he himself is not particularly compelled to do so. It is when a person awakens from his sleep a few minutes earlier than he must in order to perform his mitzvah obligations with a bit more zeal. It can also be when a person withdraws himself from indulging in his food portion, for the sake of heaven, as if to make a statement that the food is not the goal in and of itself, but rather the energy and strength one gains from the food in order to serve Hashem more efficiently. These are all simple examples of gestures which put a person on track to true holiness. 

The rule is that whenever a person rises above his mundane existence, and he is able to withstand the trials and challenges of his worldly affairs, his actions declare and testify that he acknowledges that he lives to fulfill a greater purpose. His efforts announce that he aims to honor Hashem and that he has been created to achieve this goal.

We see, therefore, that when a person sanctifies his actions, he succeeds in sanctifying the name of God as well. Our sages have taught us this insight into our verse “You shall be holy—for I am holy.” It is specifically due to our achieving levels of holiness that we are credited with sanctifying God’s name.

Throughout the centuries, this pasuk, which forbids telling lies, has been a basic tenet of our religion. Rabbeinu Yonah derives from this pasuk a novel approach to understand Hashem’s request to Bnei Yisrael that they should ask the Egyptians for certain things (Shemos 11:2) - הליך אשת החオリジナル את אשת תרצה.

Upon their exodus from Egypt, our forefathers solicited from the Egyptians their gold and silver vessels. According to Rabbeinu Yonah, these vessels were given as presents. He argues that it is impossible for the term "לشيخ" to be translated in the traditional fashion “let them borrow”. Ostensibly, the Egyptians owed Bnei Yisrael an enormous sum of money for their years of laborious work. Moreover, Bnei Yisrael were obligated to undertake the mission of fulfilling Hashem’s promise to Avraham Avinu that his descendants would leave their land of bondage with great wealth. But Hashem would never instruct the people to procure this wealth in a devious manner. To claim to “borrow” the money and then to actually retain it permanently would be a violation of “you shall not deny falsely and you shall not lie”. Rabbeinu Yonah therefore concludes that the money must have been an outright gift.

Many pious individuals have consistently conducted their activities in a totally sincere mode. A sincere, lifelong dream of continually performing additional commandments becomes, for many, a realistic and seemingly attainable goal. However, sincerity alone is not sufficient. We must always remember that “the ends do not necessarily justify the means”. The best intentions to fulfill a lifelong dream
must fully conform to the halachos and guidelines of the Torah. Bnei Yisrael were clearly entitled to a huge compensation from the Egyptians. They sincerely believed that the gold and silver was deservedly theirs. Moreover, the merit of implementing the fulfillment of Hashem’s oath to Avraham Avinu was within their grasp. However, achieving this ambition in a deceitful fashion was unquestionably forbidden. Even the sincerest of intentions must be carried out in a manner which complies with halacha, and therefore any falsehood must be avoided.

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TEACHING BY BEING A MODEL

Rabbi Aharon Kotler notes that the mitzvah of delivering rebuke is not accomplished only when one offers a protest or reprimand to his fellow Jew. In fact, it can be achieved more effectively when it is communicated in a pleasant and caring manner. The Gemara (Arachin 16b) even points out that if, as a result of telling someone that his actions are sinful, it causes the person’s face to change (to pale due to humiliation), then the mitzvah has not been fulfilled.

The most proper manner to deliver a message of guidance and direction in order to correct the wayward actions of one’s fellow Jew is by indirect influence. The opportunity to set an example for others to follow is available every moment that people are gathered together. This is true whether the group is large or even if there are only two people present. When a person acts in an exemplary manner, everyone notices and will remember how to do things properly the next time. Every time a person speaks with dignity, or performs an impressive action, or proudly accomplishes a mitzvah, he has set himself as a role model, and others follow. Unfortunately, people also notice when a person acts improperly, and a chillul Hashem can result as others learn to be lax and irresponsible.

Accordingly, whenever a person finds himself among others, he does influence them, and he must take care to make a solidly positive impression, and to do so with pride. This is the optimal method of fulfilling the mitzvah of reproof, for his actions have a great impact upon others, more than words alone.

Some people feel that they are not leaders, and that whatever they do, no one will notice or care. Therefore, they do not act with pride, and they feel that no one else is affected. Actually, the only reason a person is exempt from setting an example for others to follow is if his creating an influence would be beyond his control. However, everyone is indeed capable of teaching others by serving as a model, and everyone is even expected to be an influence upon those around him. Everyone is required to strive and accomplish and indeed achieve prominence to whatever level he can reach, and to that degree he will, in fact, be noticed by others and he will impress them. If someone neglects this mission in life, he is held responsible for not creating a mood of success and for not serving as a model of determination.

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TO OFFER ONE’S BLESSING

A question was asked of Rav Moshe Feinstein, to which he composed a response, which is included in his Igros Moshe (Yoreh De’ah 4:51). People regularly came to Rav Moshe due to his great saintliness and asked him to daven for Hashem on their behalf, or they asked that he confer a blessing upon them for all types of needs. Rav Moshe never turned down such a request, but he writes that although people thought very highly of him, he admits that he knew the truth about the limitations of his mitzvos and good deeds. He writes that there have been others who, when approached and asked to offer a bracha, refused to do so and directed the one in need to go to others who were more meritorious.

The prayers of every Jew are fit to be accepted by Hashem. When others daven for the welfare of the sick, they also fulfill the mitzvah of bikkur cholim. We do not know where the salvation for any situation may arise, so it is incumbent upon every Jew to respond when called upon to help his fellow man. Furthermore, when one person hears the ordeal which his friend is experiencing, and he feels affected to the point where he turns to God to daven for him, he is also fulfilling the mitzvah of tefillot kvelah, and this is itself a great merit by which the tefillot may then be heard in the heavens.

Finally, when a Torah scholar is approached and asked to daven for a certain situation, the one who asks is demonstrating a wonderful trust in the power of Torah
and the merit of those who study it. Whether the particular scholar is the most accomplished or qualified is not the issue at that point, but it is rather the wonderful gesture being expressed by the one advancing the request. In fact, it will be counter-productive for the scholar to try to discourage the one asking, because it will seem that he is even more worthy, for his refusal would only appear to be a sign that he is humble as well as scholarly. Therefore, Rav Moshe concludes that anyone who is assumed to be a Torah scholar must acquiesce when asked to daven for someone else, or to give a bracha to one who requests it.

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Questions for Thought and Study

1. Why does Hashem tell Moshe to both “speak” (בָּאָדָה) and “say” (נָאָדָה) the commandments that are presented at the beginning of the parasha? See Ohr HaChaim 19:2
2. How should one react if he is not paid on time? See Ba’al HaTurim 19:13
3. What are the three reasons that Ramban gives as to why one may not eat the fruits of ḥ突如 (the first three years of growth, then the fourth year’s fruit are considered holy)? See Ramban 19:23
4. Why is revering the Mikdash written in the same pasuk following the commandment to keep Shabbos - אֲנִי אֲנִי - שָׁבָתָה בְּעֵשָׁבָה? See Rivash 19:30
5. Of what pasuk is the word רָבָּה in Pasuk 20:9, regarding one who curses his parents, a continuation? See Ramban 20:9
6. What is the connection between Hashem’s separating Bnei Yisrael from all the other nations and the prohibition of ברוות and ṣיוף sorcery? See Ba’al HaTurim 20:16

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This Week Likutei Peshatim is Sponsored

- Hebrew Theological College wishing mazal tov to Board of Regents member Dr. Oscar Novick and his wife Bernice on the birth of a great-granddaughter, born to Dov & Karen Rush; and to Blitstein Institute student, Tamar Cohen, on her engagement to Benjamin Stolz.
- Hebrew Theological College’s Gourmet Torah at Shallots Bistro will take place this Thursday, May 16, 12:35-1:15. Rabbi Yaakov Sussman will speak. Complimentary appetizers as well as a discounted menu available for shiur participants. Men and women invited to attend. For more information: Rabbi Joshua Zisook at 847-982-2500 or yzisook@htc.edu.
- Applications for The Israel Experience Program are still available. This important program benefits students going to Seminary or Yeshiva in multiple ways. 1) Students receive 30 recognized HTC credits upon successful completion of classes. 2) Students are nurtured & advised by HTC & Blitstein leadership throughout the year. 3) Eligible students can receive federal & state grants & loans for their year in Israel by going through an accredited U.S. program. Info: Rabbi Zisook 847-982-2500 or Mrs. Mann 773-973-0241.
Summer Semester at Blinstein Institute begins June 24th. Students can gain a semester's worth of credits in the abbreviated summer term. Join us for 6 weeks of learning, growth and advancement toward your baccalaureate degree. For more information, call Dr. Chani Tessler at 773-973-0241.

Yeshivas Hakayitz 2019 enrollment is open for campers who will be entering 6th through 11th grades. Dates: July 2nd - July 29th. For application and all related camp information, please visit yhk.htc.edu. To reach Rabbi Yosef Polstein call 847-982-2500 ext. 1125, or yhk@htc.edu.


Park Plaza Senior Living Community enriches the quality of life for our residents through daily shiurim, live music, outings and much more. Park Plaza also has beautifully furnished apartments for rent: daily, weekly and long term or for your simcha. For more information, visit our website at www.park-plaza.org or contact Adina at 773-465-6700 or adina@park-plaza.org.

TAG Chicago is here to help! Offering filtering solutions for smartphones, tablets and computers. We offer free volunteer assistance to keep your devices safe. Visit tagchicago.org. call 847-920-8245 or email Help@TAGChicago.org to book your appointment. $150 Central Park, Skokie. Remember - "Call before you buy!" We will help guide you.

Summer is right around the corner! Do you have your plans yet? Come join the Maayan Midwest family and our individualized programming, brand new air conditioned bunk houses, experienced staff, six-lane pool, 1400 feet of lakefront, beautiful lodge, star performers, and state of the art recording studio for a summer of nonstop fun, growth, and friendship. For more info call 847-440-4940 or check out our website at maayanmidwest.com.

Calling all students - Elementary through High School: Enter the Mizrachi – Religious Zionists of Chicago Yom Yerushalayim 5779 Art Contest, sponsored by Howard D. Geller z”l and Sheldon Robinson. Three divisions: Grades 3-5: $800; Grades 6-8: $1000; Grades 9-12: $1500. Deadline is May 20, 2019. Awards presented at RZC Yom Yerushalayim Celebration, Sunday morning, June 2, at Or Torah in Skokie. For full contest rules and entry form, visit: artcontest.rzc.us.

Mizrachi - Religious Zionists of Chicago, in partnership with YU Torah MiTzion Kollel, proudly presents the next shiur in our 5779 lecture series, “Exploring the Foundations of Religious Zionism”, sponsored by the Bellows family. Wednesday, May 22, 7:30 PM, in the RZC Center, 3740 Dempster, Skokie. Join us! Speakers include Rabbi David Ari, Executive VP, RZA Mizrachi, and Rabbi Ari Katz, executive VP, RZA Mizrachi, as they discuss: “Exploring the Two Paradigms for Israel’s National Anthem”. For more information, call 847-674-9733 x2.

CJE SeniorLife is pleased to introduce our new Care Management Program that maximizes available resources and coordinates care for older adults in our community. Our experienced and compassionate Care Managers provide a free holistic assessment to evaluate your needs, then develop & implement a custom Care Plan. Your share of Home Care Services would be a low hourly rate. You must be over 60 & meet specific residential, income and asset requirements to qualify. Call 773-508-1000 to learn more.

Congregation KINS invites the community to our Annual Banquet, Sunday, May 19, honoring Lev and Orly Katz, remembering Rabbi Barry Robinson z”l, and thanking Rabbi Dov and Miriam Lerner. Sign up today. The deadline to place an ad is Sunday, May 12th. To place an ad or make a reservation, visit our website at www.congkins.org or contact the shul office 773-761-4000.

Congregation KINS is proud to host Mrs. Rachel Besser as Scholar in Residence as part of the OU Counting Towards Sinai 2019 Program - Shabbat May 18th, Parashat Emor. For more information, call 773-761-4000 or visit www.congkins.org.

Agudath Israel of Illinois is offering a 2nd Chance Community Shaimos Collection, Sunday, May 12, 12:00-3:00, at 7530 St. Louis. Charge based on volume. We strongly recommend that you use our boxes so you will be charged exactly what you have. Peeled boxes can be purchased on your amount you hit the Agudah office, 3542 Peterson, Kesher Stam, or Rosenblums Book Store. Boxes will also be available for purchase at the collection. No garbage bags or very big & heavy boxes will be accepted. Info: Rabbi Bider 773-315-7255.

"Fake Truth and Virtual Living - A Torah View of Today's Moral and Social Dilemmas"! Join Rabbis Akiva Tatz, Dovid Gottlieb, and Yitzchak Breitowitz at the 18th annual Ohr Somayach Yom Iyun Evening of Learning, on Monday, May 20th, 7:30 PM, at Adas Yeshurun, 3050 Toudy. Suggested donation: students free. Doors open at 6:45 PM, Mincha at 7:10, refreshments during intermission. For more information, call 718-677-6200 or ohr.edu.

Congregation Shearith Israel is happy to announce the resumption of the Shabbat afternoon Mincha at 6:00 PM, followed by Rabbi Shkop’s shiur in Massechet Brachot. Come and join our group for an hour of in-depth exciting learning at our new location at 2828 W. Pratt.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center and Congregation Or Torah invite the community to “Confronting the Old/New Anti-Semitism” - A panel conversation with Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Decalogue Society Vice-President Patrick D. John, and Professor Gunther Jikeli, this Thursday, May 16th, 2019, at 7:00 PM. Location: Congregation Or Torah, 3800 Dempster, Skokie. Event is free. Registration required: swregister.eventbrite.com.

Project Shalom Bayis was founded by the Daughters of Israel in 1984. It makes qualified therapy available to couples through referrals and/or financial assistance if needed. The Project Shalom Bayis Annual Buffet has become the only fund-raiser for this vital therapeutic service to the Chicago Orthodox Jewish community. Project Shalom Bayis is a 501c3 charitable organization.

The 10th annual Amy Kahan Memorial Lecture will take place on Sunday May 19th, at Congregation Or Torah. Ms. Zissy Turner will discuss “What Do We Do When Metaphors in Our Culture Seem No Longer Relevant?”. Ms. Turner serves as the Community Educator at Lincoln Square Synagogue. She is a graduate of Yeshiva University’s Graduate Program in Advanced Talmud Study. Chavurta Learning at 10:00, followed by lecture at 11:00. Light refreshments.

Nesanel Davis would like to invite all the men of the community to an inspiring Melave Malka - this Motzaei Shabbos, Parshas Gedesh, benefiting Kollel Taharos. 10:15 PM, at his home, 3434 W. Glenlake Avenue, with the participation of HaRav Shimon Galei י”ר. Zemiros by Mishpachas Brodt. Don’t miss it!
The Mizrahi – RZC Book Club’s 45th Annual Miriam Brody, a’h. Maot Chitim Memorial Event will be on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 2:00 PM, at the home of Elise Ginsparg. For the 6th Sema Menora, a’h, Literary Review, we will feature best-selling author, Ronald Balson. For questions, please call the RZC office: 847-674-9733 x2.

Darchei Noam Glenbrook is honored to host this year’s Chai Lifeline Girls Shabbaton, May 10-11. Kol HaKavod to Rabbi Crandall and all their tremendous staff and volunteers.

Daughters of Israel invites you to a 60th Anniversary Celebration featuring honored guest Hadassah Goodman and also recognizing our current kallah teachers, Sunday, May 26th, 2019. Doors open 6:30 PM; dinner at 7:00 at Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation, 7117 Crawford Avenue, Lincolnwood, hosted by Midwest Conference Center. Couvert.

Anshe Sholom B’nai Israel Congregation invites you to our Sixth Annual Summer Soirée and Benefit on Thursday, May 30, at 7:00 PM, honoring Josh Ehrlich & Sarah Unterman, Karli Salinger, and Seth Greenberg. Visit asbi.org/soiree to learn more and to register.

Chicago Mitzvah Campaign is announcing another Tefillin checking opportunity in Chicago, Sunday, June 2nd, through Wednesday, June 5th, at Agudas Yisroel of West Rogers Park, 2801 Pratt, Renowned experts will be checking batim and parshios. CMC is endorsed by Vaad Mishmeret STAm and local Rabbinim. RSVP necessary to guarantee same day turn around. Call 1-866-MY RABBI (1-866-697-2224).

This Sunday! May 12th, please join us for the 31st Annual Tea for the Joan Dachs Hachnosas Kallah Fund, at the home of Mrs. Rivky Webster, 6237 North Central Park, Chicago, at 7:30 PM, Mrs. Bassy Einstadter will be speaking. Delicious homemade dessert buffet and exciting mini Chinese auction. Chairwomen: Mrs. Soaresth Cohen and Mrs. Rachel Kahn.

Dreaming of summer? Preschool Summer Camp at Bernard Horwich JCC will engage your child’s imagination through water-play, music, art and lots of playtime outside. For children 2-3 years old. 4 and 8-week sessions available. Learn more at jccchicagoearlychildhood.org.

Please join us at the ACT-IL event and learn about the new and innovative tools to promote Israel and fight Anti-Semitism. The Times of Israel recently referred to Act-IL as “one of the fastest growing Israel advocacy groups ever”. Join us to learn more about the venture and ways to bring it to our community in Chicago! Wednesday May 15, at 7:30, at the Azaraf residence, 2044 Churchill Lane, Highland Park. For details: http://bit.ly/actchicago.

This Sunday! NILI-Chicago Institute of Women’s Learning invites all women for a special Mother’s Day Shuir with “Sister Sarah” Sharon White. “Sister Sisters” Sunday morning May 12th, 9:00 AM light breakfast, 9:15 AM shuir, at Or Torah, 3800 Dempster, Skokie. Mrs. Miriam White is the Director of Religious Guidance and a Teacher at Yeshiva University High School for Girls.

All women of the community are invited to NILI’s Shabbat afternoon shiurim. In WRP at the home of Bluma Broner (2928 Estes Avenue) at 6:00 PM with Rabbi Reuven Brand. In Skokie at the home of Renee Rosenberg (9058 Pottawattamie) at 5:30 PM with Rabbi Shaanan Gelman. In Lincolnwood at the home of Judy Daniels (6441 St Louis Avenue) at 5:30 with Rabbi Yehuda Meyers.

Chai Lifeline Midwest thanks Darchei Noam Glenbrook, Rabbi Yehoshua Karsh, Rabbi Daniel Fox, & the Northbrook community for helping us Shabbos for our girls’ Friends ‘N Fun Weekend. Many thanks to our hosts, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Avner, Dr. & Mrs. David Dobkin, Mrs. Judy Leapman, Sandy Loebmann, Mrs. & Mr. Richard Olswang, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Silverstein, & the many who opened their homes.

We look forward to a wonderful Shabbos with you! Friends ‘N Fun Weekends in memory of Sari Ort, z”l.

Celebrate Yom Yerushalayim, Sunday, June 2, with Mizrachi - Religious Zionists of Chicago at Cong. Or Torah in Skokie, 8:45 AM: Tefillat Shacharit Chagigat; Guest Speaker Rabbi Zev Sandalov, Teacher and Rav in Ma’ale Adumim, former Rav of KJBS; concurrent children’s program; complimentary breakfast buffet. Youth Art Contest winners announced. No admission fee. For sponsorship opportunities, please visit ym.rzc.us; email office@rzc.us; or call 847-674-9733 x2.

Please join Hillel Torah for the premier screening of our 8th Grade students’ documentary, “Names, Not Numbers, A Movie in the Making”, this Sunday, May 12th, 2:00 PM. This poignant film documents the lives and losses of six Holocaust survivors as they were interviewed by our students. It will be shown at Fairview School, 7040 Laramie in Skokie. Doors open at 1:30 PM. The film will be followed by a Dessert Reception with Rabbi & Mrs. David Dobkin. Visit: www.hilleltorah.org for more information. Sponsored by Chaya & Maury Aaron.

Please join Kehilat Chovevei Tzion and No Shame On U for “Mental Health 101: What Every Person Ought to Know”, featuring Dr. Melanie S. Levine. Sunday, May 19th, 11 AM to 12:30 PM, at KCT in Skokie. The program will promote a deeper understanding of the mental health issues the members of our community face, de-stigmatize the experience of mental health struggles, and explore how to identify when to seek help.

Yachad is honored to pay tribute to Stan & Mashie Gertz with the Lev Zahav Award, and Debra & Ira Hartman of Renee Rosenberg Family Foundation as the honorees of Renee Rosenberg White is the Director of Religious Guidance and a Teacher at Yeshiva University High School for Girls.


Just a few days left to nominate your child’s outstanding Rebbe, Morah, or Teacher for ATT’s 10th Annual Hartman Family Fdn Educator of the Year Awards. One award of $18,000 and 2 awards of $6,000 will be presented to 3 outstanding teachers. To use online nomination forms, go to www.att.org or for Teachers ➔ Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year Award. For paper nomination form & more info, visit ATT, 3531 Madison St, Skokie or www.att.org or 773-973-2828. Submission deadline: Thursday, May 14, 5 PM.

The Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago invites the community to its Evening with the Stars. Join the ATT as it presents student and teacher awards at its Awards Presentation and Annual Meeting, on Tuesday evening, May 21, 2019, at the Ida Crown Jewish Academy, 8233 Central Park Avenue, Skokie. The program will begin at 7:15 PM, followed by a Glittering Star Reception. For more information, call the ATT: 773-973-2828.

The Solomon and Dora Einhorn Glenbrook Mikvah proudly presents “The Marriage Challenge”. Come and take your marriage from Ordinary to Extraordinary in 30 days with Adina Silberman! Sunday, May 19, 7-30 PM, at Darchei Noam Glenbrook in Northbrook. For women only. For more details, call 847-278-2939 or email info@glenbrookmikvah.org.
The Great Jewish Family Festival, Lag B’Omer, Thursday, May 23, 4:00-8:00 PM, at Westfield Old Orchard, Skokie. Celebration for the entire family. Fair with rides for all ages. BMX Bike Show! Plus our signature all-you-can-eat food court. Brought to you by Lubavitch Chabad of Illinois & your local Chabad Center. Discounted all-inclusive entrance wristband at www.JewishFamilyFest.com.


The Skokie community is honored to host Rabbi Mordechai Twerski of Milwaukee/London, Shabbos Parshas Emor, May 17/18. Early Shabbos (6:25) davening & sponsored family dinner at Skokie Community Kollel (RSVP required). Shacharit 8:45 followed by gala kiddush at Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie Cteen Mooz Lounge, 4049 Dempster. Shabbos afternoon class (7:00) followed by Mincha (7:45) & Shalosh Seudos at the Mooz Lounge. Accommodations & lunch available. Info & to RSVP: twerskiskobosinskokie@gmail.com.

Emma’s Bagel Café is giving all moms a complimentary pink iced cupcake with your order for Mother’s Day. Also introducing their delicious Shakshouka in both their regular-spicy-hot flavor and now a milder flavor with no jalapenos. I tried their new deep fried Brownie Fritters for dessert that were amazing! - Yakir

The Lerner, Mayefsky, and Silverstein families thank all of their friends and the community for their outpouring of kindness, support, expressions of condolences, memories shared, and support were a great source of comfort for us.

The commandment is that all the sacrifices should be done correctly on Shabbos. If they are early fruit.

To sponsor Likutei Peshatim for a future Shabbos, call Naomi Samber, 847-982-2500, Fax 847-982-2507, email samber@htc.edu

In memory of our dear mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Dorothy Marshak, on the occasion of her second yahrtzeit on 4 Iyar; and commemorating the yahrtzeits of my o’papa and their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Goldie Abrams, David & Karin Kaufman and family; Hindy & Moshe Goldfinger and family; Avi & Oreet Kaufman Miller, Ellen Braun, and families.

In memory of our beloved mother, grandmother, & great-grandmother, Mrs. Dorothy Marshak, d on the occasion of her nineteenth yahrtzeit on 9 Iyar. We miss her love, warmth and care every day. She was a true eishes chayil. May her neshama have an aliyah. May her memory be for a blessing.

In memory of our beloved mother, grandmother, - Betty Kaufman, on the occasion of her fifteenth yahrtzeit on 12 Iyar. - By Ira Kaufman and family; David & Karin Kaufman and family; Hindy & Moshe Goldfinger and family; Avi & Oreet Kaufman and family; and Zahava & Chaim Suss and family.

In memory of our dear mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Goldie Abrams, on the occasion of her seventeenth yahrtzeit on 7 Iyar.

In memory of our beloved mother, grandmother, & great-grandmother, Betty Kaufman, on the occasion of her fifteenth yahrtzeit on 12 Iyar. - By Ira Kaufman and family; David & Karin Kaufman and family; Hindy & Moshe Goldfinger and family; Avi & Oreet Kaufman and family; and Zahava & Chaim Suss and family.

In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Sarah Miller, on the occasion of her first yahrtzeit on 7 Iyar. Unveiling will take place Sunday, May 19, at 11:00 AM, at Shalom Memorial Park, followed by a siyum in WRP. - Jocelyn Isenberg, Dov Miller, Ellen Braun, and families.

By Inger and Leonard Saphire-Bernstein in loving memory of Dr. Enoch J. Saphire, on the occasion of his twelfth yahrtzeit on the 7th of Iyar.

By Regina Wolgel and family in loving memory of my mother, Helene Sokaler - Betty Kaufman, on the occasion of her second yahrtzeit on 4 Iyar; and commemorating the yahrtzeits of my o’papa - my grandfather, my mother, my aunt, who were killed during the Holocaust on 26 Iyar, their actual yahrtzeit date recently discovered. (Or Torah).

By the Gassel and Cooper families in loving memory of our dear mother, bubbi and great-bubbi, Esther Gassel, on her yahrtzeit on 12 Iyar.

By the Marshak and Carron families, in loving memory of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Dorothy Marshak, on the occasion of her nineteenth yahrtzeit on 9 Iyar. We miss her love, warmth and care every day. She was a true eishes chayil. May her memory be for a blessing.

Likutei Peshatim is endowed by Les & Ethel Sutker in loving memory of Howard & Susie Sutker, Mr. & Mrs. Max and Mary Sutker and Louis and Lillian Klein, Max and Mary Sutker and Louis and Lillfan Klein, Mrs. Howard Sutker. May their memory be for a blessing.

Answers:
1. The word “רמז” represents speaking in a very stern way, while “רומז” represents speaking in a softer tone. Because Moshe was instructing so many commandments to all of Bnei Yisrael, each teaching had to be tailored for the audience for which it was intended.

2. The prohibition of cursing one’s fellow man (עזרהlek) (19:14) is written directly after the prohibition to not withhold wages. This indicates that one who is not paid should not curse, but should legally collect his wages in court.

3. One reason is that for the first three years the crop yield and quality of the crop are less than optimal. As we sanctify Hashem with the fruits of the fourth year, it should be plentiful and of the highest quality. Secondly, fruit in the first three years have a lot of liquid, which makes the fruit גזר (sticky). This is harmful to the body, so we should not eat it. Thirdly, in those days, sorcerers would cast spells to cause trees to grow quickly. To avoid even the temptation of participating in this prohibited worship, the Torah does not allow eating the early fruit.

4. The commandment is that all the sacrifices should be done correctly on Shabbos. If they are not done correctly, then there is no exception that permits them to be sacrificed on Shabbos, and one would be desecrating the Shabbos.

5. The word “שנים” is a continuation of Pasuk 19:3 regarding the fear one should have of his parents. It is repeated here before all the prohibited relationships that are about to be listed.

6. The other nations used the sorcery of קערות (spells) to cause trees to grow quickly. To avoid even the temptation of participating in this prohibited worship, the Torah does not allow eating the early fruit.

Prepared by Rabbi Ben-Zion Rand, Editor, and Mrs. Naomi Samber, Managing Editor.

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Please do not read Likutei Peshatim during the Torah readings or during the repetition of the Shmoesh Esrei

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A partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community