THE KOHEN'S WORD

Kli Yakar points out that the afflicted person cannot become cured and purified unless he is assisted by a Kohen, a descendant of Aharon HaKohen. The reason for this is that according to Chazal, tzara’as is a punishment for sins of speech (see Arachin 16a), and the Kohanim possessed three specific positive traits that directly countered and neutralized three aspects of the sin that led to the disease. First of all, the sinner promoted strife and harm, leading to the distancing of people from each other. Aharon was famous for embracing peace and pursuing calm and contentment among people, which always led to understanding and brotherhood.

Furthermore, the sinner acted haughtily, assuming himself to be a judge and spokesman by declaring degrading opinions in public and shaming those around him. This fault was to be corrected by the Kohen, who represented humility and modesty. “Greater is that which is said regarding Moshe and Aharon even more than that which
the Torah states in reference to Avraham Avinu. For Avraham said about himself, ‘I am like dirt and dust,’ whereas Moshe and Aharon said, ‘We are nothing.’” (Gemara Chulin 89a) We see from here that the family trait of the Kohen was utter humility.

Finally, afflictions were brought about due to stinginess and the inability to deal with others with chesed. Kohanim did not receive a portion in the division of the Land of Israel. They were supported through simple means with truma and occasional gifts from the nation. They developed the trait of satisfaction and contentment with what they had. They were not stingy, for that is a trait which develops in one whose goal is to accumulate and hoard material goods all for himself.

We can now see that it is specifically a Kohen who was best equipped to cure the afflicted individual from his spiritual maladies.

* * * * *

**TWO KINDS OF DISEASE**

The obvious difficulty is that if a small white spot renders one impure - unclean - why should turning totally white be considered pure? Oznayim LaTorah explains that this is undoubtedly an example of a Torah concept which is beyond the grasp of a human to understand fully. Nonetheless, we can try to understand it to whatever degree possible.

It is well-known that there are two distinct kinds of pielisim - skin diseases. There are those which are a result of an internal physical ailment. These present no spiritual impurity. The others are a God-sent warning for one to repent, and they therefore defile him spiritually, and force him to dwell alone, away from everyone.

We have another general rule that even sinners among the Jewish people are filled with mitzvos as a pomegranate is filled with seeds (Chagiga 27a). As we know that the mitzvos correspond to the limbs and sinews of a man’s body, it would now be impossible to find a Jew who has not sanctified at least some part of his body. If so, the spiritual tzara’as could not affect his entire body, as some part would be protected by the mitzvos he had fulfilled. Therefore if a man is totally white it is obviously a medical problem which does not render him impure.

* * * * *

**NOTHING NATURAL**

Rabbi Shimshon Raphael Hirsch explains that this chapter on pielisim serves, more than any other part of the Torah, to show the absolute folly of the erroneous idea that the Laws of Moshe are rules and regulations to be enforced for health and sanitary purposes. On the surface, there are certainly sufficient facts in this chapter to give rise to such an illusion. Clearly it deals with diseases, with a disease which had always (until recent times at least) been considered contagious. Those affected have to be isolated. For what purpose would this be done if not to prevent contagion? This sufficed, in some people’s minds, to fix the character of these laws of nega’im as being sanitary health regulations and thus stamp the functioning Kohanim who administered them as doctors. Let us look at these laws in their most prominent details and see if it is even possible to give them any medical character.

Let us first note that real leprosy, רפס, in itself does not cause impurity at all. The “evil” leprosy, the “incurable Egyptian leprosy”, does not bring any state of pielisim, as it says (13:18) that the pielisim of קנה and קנה only arise in pielisim, when the leprosy has already begun to heal and healthy skin has already formed over it. Furthermore, the fact is that the outbreak of the “leprosy” over the whole of the body, מ牽ך מי, brings מצא ברא - the absence of רעא - “from the sole of your foot to the top of your head”. (Devarim 28:35) Even these simple facts must have made these theorists pause. Let us consider further: The Torah repeatedly tells us that the appearance of pielisim, מ牽ך מי, healthy flesh forming on the diseased spot, is a sign of pielisim, while its disappearance and the pielisim breaking out in its place confers pielisim again. No careful examination is required in the folds of the body, but only in those parts of the body which are directly visible to the eye of the Kohen. In Pasuk 14:36, the Kohen
is expressly ordered to remove everything out of the house before he makes his examination, as should he have to declare the house ªט, everything in it becomes likewise ªט. Now, if the purpose of the isolation is to prevent the spread of infection, it would be a very peculiar procedure to take out the suspect infected clothes, bedding, utensils, etc. out of consideration for the loss to the owner.

And, as a matter of fact, the symptoms described in our chapter have nothing at all in common with the diseases which are described in books of medical science on skin diseases under the heading of “Lepra” leprosy. Whereas these all start with an inflammatory swelling that makes the skin darker in color, our לַעֲרָה consist of white patches, of greater or lesser bleaching of the skin. Rabbi Mordechai Tzaddok Kohanim expressly says there is no swelling or raising of the skin. סְפָּרָנוּ, who was a doctor, in his commentary on the Torah, remarks on the complete difference between these לַעֲרָה and the dreadful diseases which he found described under the name of leprosy in scientific medical writings. We had, accordingly, long been completely convinced that the sequestration and expulsion which the Torah prescribes for a לַעֲרָה is in no way meant to be a protection against any possible infection.

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Halachic Corner

According to the Gaon of Vilna

Krias Shma - Sat. 9:39 Sunset - Sat. 6:25
Tefilla - Sat. 10:44 Sunset - Sat. 7:20

According to the Magen Avraham

Krias Shma - Sat. 9:03 Sunset - Sat. 7:20 10:20 Sunset - Sat. 6:25 7:21
Tefilla - Sat. 10:20

Rema (Orach Chaim 132:2) writes that we should stand while reciting Aleinu, and should recite it with concentration. Mishna Berurah adds that a person must say Aleinu with awe and fear, because all of the legions in heaven listen to us. Hashem stands with His heavenly entourage, and when they hear us recite Aleinu they respond, ¨יִהְוֶה יִשְׂרָאֵלִים יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - “Praiseworthy is the people for whom this is so, praiseworthy is the people whose God is Lord.” Archo HaShulchan and Siddur Ya’avetz add that Aleinu should also be said with joy. Chayei Adam writes thatAleinu at the end of davening, before leaving the shul, to strengthen our faith in the experential sovereignty. Bolstered by this declaration of faith, if we recite Aleinu, we make Hashem and bow to Him when reciting יִהְוֶה יִשְׂרָאֵלִים יִשְׂרָאֵל שֵׁם יְמֵשְׁמֶרֶת כָּלֵּי כָּלֵי הַיָּמִים, וְלֹא יְבַשֵּׂסֵר שֵׁם יְמֵשְׁמֶרֶת כָּלֵּי כָּלֵי הַיָּמִים. Aroch HaShulchan and Siddur Rema (Orach Chaim 132:2) writes that we should stand while reciting Aleinu, and should recite it with concentration. Mishna Berurah adds that a person must say Aleinu with awe and fear, because all of the legions in heaven listen to us. Hashem stands with His heavenly entourage, and when they hear us recite Aleinu they respond, יִהְוֶה יִשְׂרָאֵלִים יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל - “Praiseworthy is the people for whom this is so, praiseworthy is the people whose God is Lord.” Archo HaShulchan and Siddur Ya’avetz add that Aleinu should also be said with joy. Chayei Adam writes thatAleinu at the end of davening, before leaving the shul, to strengthen our faith in the experential sovereignty. Bolstered by this declaration of faith, if we recite Aleinu, we make Hashem and bow to Him when reciting יִהְוֶה יִשְׂרָאֵלִים יִשְׂרָאֵל שֵׁם יְמֵשְׁמֶרֶת כָּלֵּי כָּלֵי הַיָּמִים, וְלֹא יְבַשֵּׂסֵר שֵׁם יְמֵשְׁמֶרֶת כָּלֵּי כָּלֵי הַיָּמִים.

Questions for Thought and Study

1. What is noteworthy about the juxtaposition of our parasha, which starts with the laws of the purity of a woman who gives birth, and the end of last week’s parasha?
   See Ibn Ezra 12:2

2. Which words indicate that a Bris (circumcision) can occur any time on the 8th day?
   See Ba’al HaTurim 12:3

3. How do the shades of tzara’as, הבש כָּלי כָּלֵי הַיָּמִים, represent different types of speaking negatively about someone else?
   See Ohr HaChaim 13:2

4. What is the connection between all the times that the word ¨יִהְוֶה¨ (“the beard”) is mentioned in Tanach?
   See Ba’al HaTurim 13:30

5. How is the miraculous condition of tzara’as different regarding an object (house or clothing) versus the tzara’as of a person?
   See Ramban 13:47

6. What is the difference in material between a ביש (warp - the threads that run lengthwise) and an ªט (woof - the threads that run across) in different types of material?
   See Radak 13:48

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This Week, Likutei Peshatim is Sponsored

Chicago - Hebrew Theological College wishing mazal tov to Rabbi & Mrs. Mordechai Ginspar on the engagement of their daughter, Adina Leah, to Yechezkel Stein, and to grandparents, HTC Board of Regents member Rabbi Colman Ginspar and his wife Elise; and to Dr. & Mrs. Yakov Weil on the marriage of their son Ephraim to Chayala Schonfeld.

Hebrew Theological College’s Gourmet Torah at Shallots Bistro will take place this Thursday, April 11, 12:35-1:15. Rabbi Moshe Schecter will speak on “Insights Into the Hagaddah”. Complimentary appetizers as well as a discounted menu available for shuir participants. Men and women invited to attend. For more info: Rabbi Joshua Zisook at 874-982-2500 or zisook@htc.edu.

HTC’s Rabbi William Z. and Eda Bess Novick Bigdei Yisrael would like to inform the community that due to an excess of clothing collected this past year, our clothing drop-off will not take place before Pesach. We look forward to resuming this very important clothing drive next year.

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- **Pesach Treat for Little Kids:** What? Fun show and craft; For whom? Children ages 5 and under, and the ir parents. Location: Board Room. Date: Friday, April 5th. Time: 11:30 AM-12:30 PM. Details: pesachcars2019@gmail.com!

- **By Hebrew Theological College and Fasman Yeshiva High School congratulating and thanking our FYHS students for spending their Purim raising money for our Yeshiva, our community and for the needy in Israel. These donors of our community combined to raise $140,000.**

- **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.

- **Fasman Yeshiva High School currently has openings for a part-time guidance counselor, a full-time or part-time learning services coordinator, and a full-time (residential) dormitory supervisor. For more information, please contact careers@htc.edu.**

- **Wishing hatzlacha to our very own students, Zev Popel and Avi Edelson, on their car-cleaning for Pesach. They are available by appointment until the before Pesach! They have an early bird special, so hurry and reserve your appointment! They will also be at the cRc Pesach Fair this year by appointment only! To book your appointment for regular cleaning at the Pesach Fair please email pesachcars2019@gmail.com!**

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- **Are you downtown? Got 5, 15, 30 or 45 minutes? Learn & daven at M. Geller, Ltd, 29 E. Madison, Ste 1805. 1:05 PM, 30 minute shiru; 1:35 Mincha; 1:47, 5 minute dvar Torah. Shiurim led by: Monday- HTC- Rabbi Pinchas Zuzis; Tuesday- Chicago Community Kollel- Rabbi Shmussman; Wednesday- YUTM Kollel- Rabbi Michael Friedman; Thursday- Chabad- Rabbi Menachem Slavaticki. Info: 312-984-1041.**

- **Park Plaza Senior Living Community enriches the quality of life for our residents through daily shiurim, live music, exercise classes, lectures, 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 at adina@park-plaza.org.**

- **TAG Chicago is here to help! Offering filtering solutions for smart phones, 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. 8150 Central Park, Skokie. Remember - “Call before you buy!” We will help guide you.**

- **Don’t miss out! Apply today and be among applicants from over 18 different cities for an unforgettable summer at Maayan Midwest! Just over two hours away from Chicago. Our brand new air conditioned bunkhouses, completely renovated campus, beautiful lake, customizable programming and experienced staff are just part of what makes Maayan Midwest the premiere sleep away camp for girls in the Midwest. For more info or to apply, check out maayanimidwest.com or call 847-440-4940.**

- **Mizrahi - 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 families, this Monday, April 8, 2019, 7:30 PM, in the RZC Center, 3740 Dempster, Skokie. Join us as Rabbi Daniel Kantor speaks on “The Philosophy and Activism of Rav Zvi Hirsch Kalischer”. For more information: office@rzc.us or 847-674-9733 x2.**

- **Join Kehilat Chovevei Tzion on the red carpet as they honor Jen and Ben Amrami. This award-winning dinner will be hosted this Sunday, April 7th, from 6:00-9:00 PM at KCT. Sign up at www.skokieshul.org/event/2019Dinner.**

- **This year’s Chicago Rabbinical Council Pesach Fair will be Sunday, Apr. 14, 2-5:30 PM, at Hebrew Theological College, featuring kashering of keilim, live demonstration of Romaine lettuce checking (2:30-3:30), shaatnez testing, knife sharpening by professional sharpener, Sharpening by Dave, available 3:30-5:30, & FAQ booth. Last orders accepted at 5 PM. For questions, call 773-250-5476 or email info@crweb.org. Please note, items being sharpened must be cleaned hours before.**


- **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.**

- **Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation A.G. Beth Israel invites the community to a Pre-Pesach “Ask the Rabbi Discussion - Everything you Wanted to Know about Pesach but Were Afraid to Ask”, this Sunday, April 7, at 10:00 AM.**

- **Burning of Chometz will be available at F.R.E.E. of Chicago – The Bellows Center on Erev Pesach, Friday, April 19, 8:00-11:00 AM. Bring your chometz during that time to have it burned while you say Kol Chamirah. Do you know someone looking for a seat at a seder? There will be a community Seder at F.R.E.E. of Chicago – The Bellows Center on April 19th at 7:15 PM. Anyone who wants to participate or is looking to celebrate Pesach with friends is welcome to join us!**

- **Erase your Passover stress. We invite the community to Ezras Israel’s Pre-Passover Scholar in Residence Dinner. Friday night, April 12. Guest Speaker Dr. Malka Z. Simkovich will speak on “The Revelation of the Passover Haggadah”. Family cap on cost. For more information and to reserve your place, please call the shul office at 773-764-8320. Deadline: April 5. Mincha 6:15. Dinner at 7:00 PM at Ezras Israel, 7001 California Avenue, Chicago.**

- **Pesach Treat for Little Kids: What? Fun show and craft; For whom? Children ages 5 and under, and their grownups; When? Sunday, April 14, at 2:00 PM; Where? Barnes and Noble, Old Orchard Mall, downstair; Who is doing this? Mrs. Zeeya Posnarski.**

- **Last chance for earliest discount! The Jewish women’s event of the year! On Sunday, May 5th, join hundreds of Jewish women of all backgrounds for CTN’s Iene C. Leon Spa Day for Your Soul. Keynote addresses by Stacey Anbar (Toronto) and Esther Wein (New York). Workshops on a wide array of topics by Shira Francis, Beth Perkel, and Nurit Siegal. www.Torahnetwork.org or 773-761-0400 x207.**

Sun., May 5, RZC Center, 3740 Dempster. 9:15 AM Refreshments, 9:45 Program. 847-674-9733 x2, office@rzc.us.

Congregation KINS invites the community to our Annual Banquet, Sunday, May 19, honoring Lev and Orah Katz, remembering Rabbi Barry Robinson zt”l, and thanking Rabbi Dov and Miriam Lerner. The deadline to place an ad is Friday, May 10. To place an ad or make a reservation visit our website at www.congkins.org or contact the shul office 773-761-4000.

Adas Yeshurun has added a 9:00 AM Shacharis and a 10:30 PM Maariv during Bein HaHazmanim, in addition to all of the regularly scheduled Minyanim. Shacharis is at 5:50 AM, 6:15 AM, 6:45 AM, 7:15 AM, 8:00 AM & 9:00 AM. Early Mincha is at 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM. Maariv is at 8:15 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:00 PM & 10:30 PM.

Adas Yeshurun invites the community to Rabbi Zev Cohen’s Shabbas HaGadol Drasha on April 13 at 5:30 PM.

The floor hockey pick up game is looking to add players and goalie to our Wednesday night game (9:00 PM at Arie Crown). For more info please WhatsApp Chaim Suss at 773-307-2023.

Yachad’s adult division (Rayim) is excited to join forces with ILIC at the University of Chicago Hillel, Sunday, April 7th, for a fun night of activities and dinner. We’re also looking forward to our mock seder for Juniors (ages 7-14), Sunday, April 14th, at our office. To register for either event or for more info please contact us or come meet us with Yachad, go to Yachad.org/Chicago or email Elana Lipman at lipmane@ou.org. #BecauseEveryoneBelongs.

Parents of kids ages 1 - 6: Junior Gan Israel registration now open. Terrific new campsite at Dawes School, corner Oakton & Dodge (California). Many options to choose from to suit your family. Lots of stimulating & fun activities, such as outdoor swimming, sports, gymnastics, music, science, animals. Transportation, catered lunches, flexible hours. Financial Incentive Program. For a delightful, age appropriate summer experience, go to www.JuniorGanIsrael.org or call Mrs. Zeesy Posner at 847-677-1770 #1.

Join the YU Torah Mitzion Kollel and Maot Chitim and help package food for those in need this holiday season. Sunday morning, April 14th, 5:55 AM Shacharit, with packaging to follow at the Maot Chitim warehouse, 6137 Monroe Court, Morton Grove.

This Shabbat! Living Torah in the Line of Fire. YU Torah Mitzion Kollel’s Aron & Rifka Friedman Living Torah series welcomes Rabbi Dov Fendel, Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshivat Hesder Sderot, for words of Torah straight from Sderot, Israel! April 5-7. Friday Night Oneg, 9-10:30, Abe & Miriam Sova’s home, 6538 Christiana, Lincolnwood; Shabbat Drasha at KJBS; Pre-Mincha Shiur, 5:30, Randy & Robyn Cohen’s home, 2955 Greenleaf, WRP; Seudah Shlishit at KINS; Sunday, 9 AM at Michael Best A’H Memorial Shiar at Or Torah.

Men and women are invited to the Aron and Rifka Friedman Living Torah and the Michael Best A’H Pre-Pesach shiur with Rabbi Dov Fendel, Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshivat Hesder of Sderot, on the topic of “Spiritual Preparation for Pesach”. This Sunday, April 7th. Breakfast 8:45 AM, Shiur 9:00 AM, at Or Torah, 3800 Dempster Street, Skokie.

Fuel the Flame ‘19 - Mikor Hachaim is excited to announce that its annual fundraising will be for 30 hours starting at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, April 9th. Take advantage of this opportunity to partner with Mikor as it spreads its warmth and energy to the men, women, young professionals, college students, and children of the Chicago Jewish community.

Who can bring a smile to a child’s life? Who can help change the world? Whose work lasts a lifetime? Who will be the 2019 Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year Awardees? Help decide - user friendly Online Nomination Form! To complete & submit go to www.att.org ➔ For Teachers ➔ Hartman Family Fdn. Educator of the Year Award. For paper nomination forms & more info, visit Associated Talmud Torahs, 3531 Madison St., Skokie or www.att.org or call 773-973-2828. Submission deadline: Tuesday, May 14, by 5 PM.

The Solomon and Dora Einhorn Glenbrook Mikvah will be offering Hagalas Keilim on Sunday, April 14, from 3-5 PM, at 3465 Techny Road, Northbrook. Keilim mivkav will also be open, and tours of our gorgeous women’s mikvah are available upon request. For more info visit glenbrookmikvah.org.

Do you or does someone you know need a place for Seder? The Bnei Ruven Community Seders (6350 N. Whipple Street) take place each evening: Friday, April 19th, at 7:15 PM, and Saturday, April 20th, at 7:45 PM. Catered meal, warm welcoming environment, wheelchair accessible, no one turned away for lack of funds. For reservations or to participate in this mitzvah by becoming a sponsor, visit BneiRuven.org or call 773-743-5434.

Agudas Yisroel of Peterson Park, together with the Midwest Bais Horah, would like to inform the community that Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst נוחו יניע will be giving a special shiur for women on “Common Pesach Questions” this Shabbos, Parashas Tazria (April 6), at 4:45 PM, at the Agudah Shul, 3541 W. Peterson Avenue.

Spring cleaning? Donate unused items and help your neighbor out! Chicago Chesed Fund’s Second Time Around Program has extended their schedule for the Pesach season. Now, there will be more frequent trips to pick up your gently used clothes, shoes, housewares and other items directly from your home. Find your pickup location or schedule a pickup in your neighborhood for the weeks of Monday, April 8th, and Monday, April 15th, at SecondTimeAroundChicago.org.

Need anything for Pesach? Preparing for Pesach can be overwhelming, especially for those hosting for the first time. Luckily, Chicago Chesed Fund’s gemach lends out all the essentials for Yom Tov and throughout the year—wheelchairs, pack n’ plays, ramps, medical supplies and more. You name it, Chicago Chesed Fund provides it to anyone in the community who asks. To borrow, or for more information, please call 847-679-7799 or email Office@ChicagoChesedFund.org.

Club J at Bernard Horwich JCC is a weekly gathering for Jewish teen girls in 6th-8th grade. They can workout, play games, go swimming or just hang out and talk. Club J is every other Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Info is at jccchicago.org.

Expanded Minyanim times at Kahal Ohr Yisocher Chodorov for the month of Nisan: 8 Shacharis Minyanim-6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45, 10:15 AM. Early Mincha 1:30 PM. Mincha/Maariv 10 minutes before shkia & late Maariv at 9:30. Zmanim are the same through May 3. Chag Kosher Vsamaich!

The popular Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim for bachurim will be starting this Tuesday, April 9th, at Kahal Ohr Yisocher Chodorov. Deluxe breakfast after davening, 10:00 AM learning, shiur from 11-11:30 AM on “Inyanei Pesach”. Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim will continue through Chol Hamoed.
The new Chicago Orthodox Student Union continues its Learning Program directed by the YU Torah Mitzvon Kollel this Tuesday, April 9, at KINS - 7:45 PM Dinner - 8 PM Shmura. CLIK - "College Learning Initiative at KINS" Shiur - "Why We Keep Minhagim", led by Rabbi Daniel Kanter. Meat/Veggie food included! Questions? Please email chicagoorthodoxstudentunion@gmail.com.

Thank you to Rosenblum’s World of Judaica for your Pesach Sale featuring so many choices of Hagadot, Seder Plates, Matzah Covers, great games and toys for the kids, as well as all your other fantastic Judaica selection. - Neil Politin.

Thank you so much Kol Tuv for making my Pesach shopping this year a breeze! You had everything I needed and more! With the added convenience of free delivery - you’ve exceeded all my expectations. - Simcha Pesach.

Mazal tov to our son and daughter-in-law, Noam & Tali Feifel, on their marriage this past Sunday! Mazal tov to Tali’s parents, Steve & Sandy Laserson, from Cleveland. We welcome them home to celebrate Sheva Brachot and Noam’s Shabbat Chatan at KINS this weekend. Love, Mom & Dad.

Congratulations to Mrs. Chana Greenberg, second grade teacher at Yeshiva Our Boruch. You have worked long and hard to make this dream come true and we are so happy for you! Mazal tov! - From your loving family in WRP and Washington, D.C.

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

LIKUTEI PESHATIM HAS TORAH CONTENT - PLEASE TREAT IT RESPECTFULLY
A partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

5. Answers:

1. The end of Parshas Shemini is about the purity (kashrus) of animals. After discussing that, the Torah describes the purity of mankind.

2. The words "528 פִּסְלֵי אֱלֹהִים הָאָדָם שָׁעַר מֵעָלָיו הוא כִּי לְשׁוֹנָה דָּוִד שֵׁרָדָד ("On the eighth day you shall circumcise the flesh") is numerically equal to ספִּלָּהוֹ תָּפָרָה כִּי לְשׁוֹנָה דָּוִד שֵׁרָדָד ("the whole day is fit for circumcision").

3. The term "Torah" is speaking falsely about someone else. The term "Torah" is similar to the term as it is used in the verse for Torah כּוֹדֶשׁ שֶׁלֶק הָאָדָם קַרְפַּת קַרְפַּת ("do not say God’s name for naught") (Shemos 23:1). Such abusive use of words is the root of all falsehood. The term "Torah" is speaking truthfully (but with malice) about someone else. It is related to the term "Karraf" (truthfulness). Even though this information is true, it is a sin to spread the information.

4. The term "Tzara’a" is mentioned here regarding the anointing of Aharon and his sons as he was given the power to examine and purify people with tzara’a. It is also mentioned in connection with the destruction ofSancheiriv (Yeshaya 7:20), as they were also punished with tzara’a.

5. Tzara’a as of a person (according to Ramban) can happen as a natural phenomenon. Tzara’a as of an object can only happen miraculously.

6. In wool רָפָאָה the רָפָאָה threads are thin, and the רָפָאָה threads are thicker. In linen רָפָאָה the threads are equal in thickness.