A PROPER FUNERAL

It would seem that the phrase “to be laid to rest with his fathers” refers to burial. Yet, if this were the case, the order of the events in the verse would be reversed. Yaakov first asked “to be laid to rest with his fathers”. He then requested “to be carried from Egypt”. Yet the burial, which took place at Me’aras haMachpelah, occurred only after his body was transported from Egypt to the Land of Canaan.

Sforno explains that the concept of being put to rest with one’s ancestors actually refers to the placement of the casket containing the remains of the person at the spot where the eulogies will be said. It is there that the funeral is conducted, and where the mourners sit around the bier. This is also the meaning of the phrase whenever it is found in connection with the death of various kings throughout Tanach.

Accordingly, Yaakov was concerned that the Egyptians would not allow his burial to take place outside of the country. The plan which Yaakov proposed and about which he informed Yosef, was that after his demise, a proper funeral would be arranged and the days of mourning would come to an end. Only then would it be feasible for the family to take his casket away, without much resistance from the Egyptians, to the Land of Canaan for burial at Chevron.

CONTRASTING THE WICKED AND THE RIGHTEOUS

Ba’al HaTurim notes that the term “על המיטה” – “upon the bed” – appears only two times in Tanach. The first time is here in our verse, when Yaakov sits up on his bed and addresses his children and grandchildren. He calmly blesses them and directs them with his prophetic words of counsel and guidance. He presents them with a message of strength and fortitude.

The other reference is in the context of Haman, as he stood accused of having built a gallows for Mordechai (Esther 7:8). Haman had just achieved the height of power and control, having being invited to a private meeting alone with King Achashverosh and Queen Esther. Suddenly, he was exposed as a threat to the queen and her people, and accused of planning to execute Mordechai, the loyal guard of the king. Just then, according to the Midrash, an angel came and pushed him upon the bed next to Esther just as Achashverosh entered the room. “Will you also grab the Queen with me in the house?” exclaimed Achashverosh. With that, Haman was sentenced to die.

By using the same terminology, “ען בקופסא” – “upon the bed”, the Torah illustrates the contrast between the righteous and the wicked. The righteous display signs of strength and leadership even as they become ill and weak. The evil, however, are in a state of failure and destruction even at the height of their apparent power and control. Although they seem to be on top of things, the truth is that the charade quickly ends, and their actual state of free fall becomes obvious.
Yaakov chose to feature Menasheh and Ephraim in the formula he established to be used as the blessing which Jews would use to bless their own children. This needs to be explained, for what advantage do these sons of Yosef possess that their names should be used in this context more than any of Yaakov’s other sons?

Rabbi Shlomo Bloch points out that earlier, when Yosef first presented Menasheh and Ephraim to Yaakov, Yaakov declared that he considered these grandchildren to be for him “as Reuven and Shimon”. The lessons of Yaakov had made their impression upon his sons, and each of the tribes represented the ideals and philosophy of Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov. Normally, however, we would expect somewhat of a decrease in intensity to occur from one generation to the next. Would the children of the tribes each carry this mission with its full impact? The statement of Yaakov was therefore a powerful testimony that Menasheh and Ephraim indeed rose to this challenge. Yaakov then established a formal declaration which all fathers should wish upon their own children. We pray that our children merit to carry on the mission and tradition of our people without any loss of intensity or devotion from that of previous generations. The role model of Menasheh and Ephraim was especially appropriate to be chosen to represent this message, more than any of the sons of Yaakov themselves.

SAY IT LOUDLY

Should we say “Baruch Shem” out loud in our liturgy, even without Moshe’s having said them. The Acharonim note that we say many praises about Hashem from authors other than Moshe. Surely, the fact that Yaakov Avinu, according to the Midrash, pronounced these words should be an adequate rationale to include them in our liturgy, even without Moshe’s having said them.

The Tzlach (Pesachim 56a) explains, one is certainly permitted to say “Baruch Shem” out loud. And, indeed, we do recite it out loud, for example in the Yom Kippur Katan services said before Rosh Chodesh. The reason we don’t say “Baruch Shem” aloud in Shema is that Shema consists of verses that Moshe said, and we don’t want to interrupt such verses (“Moshe’s pesukim”) with words that he did not utter.

On the other hand, Rabbi Shlomo Kluger says that according to the Tzlach it is not clear why it would be permissible to say “Baruch Shem” out loud on Yom Kippur. Therefore, he says, we learn from Moshe that “Baruch Shem” is such a lofty praise of Hashem that really only the angels have a right to say it. Thus, on Yom Kippur, when we attain a status of being as angels, we also have a right to say it. According to this reasoning, on Yom Kippur Katan (etc.), even though it is not an interruption in Shema, even so, one should not say “Baruch Shem” aloud. Nonetheless, the common custom is to say “Baruch Shem” aloud in services such as Yom Kippur Katan (etc.), as the Tzlach holds.

TOLERATING THE INTOLERABLE

When they arrived at the Me’aras HaMachpela, Eisav came and wished to prevent [the interment there], saying to them...“Kiryat Arba is so called because four couples [were buried there] - Adam and Chava, Avraham and Sarah, Yitzchak and Rivka, and Yaakov and Leah. Yaakov buried Leah in his portion and what remains belongs to me.” They replied to him: “You sold it.”...He said to them, “Produce a document [of sale] for me.” They replied to him: “The document is in the land of Egypt. Who will go for it? Let Naftali go, because he is swift as a deer.”...Among those present was Chushim, the son of Dan, who was
Hal Rav Chaim Shmulevitz teaches that clearly, the interference of Eisav caused an unacceptable delay in the funeral proceedings of Yaakov. We might wonder, though, why it was only Chushim ben Dan who responded with shock and dismay when he heard that the body of Yaakov would have to sit in disrespect while Naftali quickly ran back to Egypt to bring the deed to Me’aras HaMachpela. Why didn’t any of the other brothers react upon realizing that there was this disturbing delay? How could any one of them have tolerated their father being disgraced by waiting idly until Naftali was to return?

As they argued with Eisav, the brothers continued to exchange words with him. While the debate extended, the brothers felt confident that they might convince Eisav of their position. Time passed, slowly but surely, and they became accustomed to the situation. The nature of a person is that he becomes regulated to his condition, no matter how objectively repulsive it may actually be. The very fact that the brothers entered into a discussion with Eisav resulted in an eventual desensitizing of their judgment, and the disgrace to their father became a reality with which they existed. Chushim ben Dan, however, was hard-of-hearing, and he did not comprehend the progression of events from their inception. When he finally noticed the delay, it was presented to him in a sudden and shocking manner. To him, the situation immediately appeared exactly as it was – an intolerable and reprehensible disgrace. He reacted impulsively, and displayed an immediate and drastic reflex to settle the condition.

********************************************************************************

GREATER THAN A TZADDIK

Zohar HaKadosh tells the story of Rabbi Abba, who was walking on the road when he saw a man sleeping under a cliff of a mountain. From a distance, Rabbi Abba saw a snake suddenly appear, which was about to strike the sleeping man. Immediately, however, a stone broke loose and smashed the snake and killed it. When the man awoke, he saw the dead snake. The man gathered his belongings and set forth on his journey. Just as he stepped clear of the cliff, a large ledge of the mountain gave way and avalanched upon the spot where he had slept, burying it.

Had the man remained there for a moment longer, he would have been crushed.

Having witnessed these two incidents, Rabbi Abba ran to the man. He asked, “Excuse me, sir! Tell me, what wonderful deeds do you do that God has performed two miracles for you? These things certainly do not happen without cause.”

The man explained, “Whenever anyone quarrels with me, I always see to it that the issue is resolved that same day. I always forgive those who insult me or cause me harm, and I daven that God forgive them for anything that is related to misunderstandings directed my way. Furthermore, once some problem has occurred between me and someone else, I seek ways to help him or assist that person in the future. This assures that we can make amends and avoid any further hard feelings.”

Rabbi Abba cried and declared, “This man’s actions are greater than those of even Yosef, the tzaddik! Yosef acted in this manner toward his brothers, but this man acts in this way towards everyone! He is truly deserving of the miracles that God has performed on his behalf!”

********************************************************************************

Halachic Corner

Zmanim for Parashas Vayechi 5780

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Klal Shma • Sat.</th>
<th>Terilis • Sat.</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Sunrise</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:38</td>
<td>10:25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:02</td>
<td>10:01</td>
<td>4:39</td>
<td>7:17</td>
<td>4:40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When it comes to saving a life, Shabbos is no different from any other mitzvah of the Torah in that it is pushed aside when there is danger to life. For example, a woman who is giving birth is regarded as being in a life-threatening situation from the time she goes into labor until the end of three 24-hour periods – 72 hours after giving birth. Thus, all actions that would normally be performed for a woman giving birth may be performed on Shabbos, even if the woman herself states that she can manage without the melachah being performed. After this 72-hour period until the end of hard-of-hearing. So he asked them, “What is happening?” They said to him: “Eisav is preventing [the burial] until Naftali returns from the land of Egypt.” He answered: “Is my grandfather to lie there in disgrace until Naftali returns from the land of Egypt?” He took a club and struck Eisav on the head so that his eyes fell out and rolled to the feet of Yaakov. - Sotah 13a

The nature of a person is that he becomes regulated to his condition, no matter how objectively repulsive it may actually be.

I always forgive those who insult me or cause me harm.
How was Yissachar born due to a donkey scholarship funding for Chicago families ends January 31.

“Call before you buy!” We will help guide you. email Help@TAGChicago.org to book your appointment. 8150 Central Park, Skokie. Remember - offer free volunteer assistance to keep your devices safe. Visit tagchicago.org, Call 847-920-8245 or 847-982-2500 or jzisook@htc.edu.

***

YUTM Kollel- Rabbi Yossi Katz; Thurs.- Chabad- Rabbi Zelig Moscowitz. Info: 312-984-1041.


Yeshiva HTC/FYHS fathers who made a Siyum HaShas with Daf Yomi: Tomer Bitton, Randy Master teacher, outstanding instruction, scholarships available. Interested? Call Mrs. Mann 773-973-0241.


(See Ohr HaChaim 49:28, 50:8)

Questions for Thought and Study

1. Why are Yaakov’s years listed (47:28) as “seven” then “forty” then “one hundred”? Why aren’t the years listed with the largest number first, as is usually done in the Torah? See Ohr HaChaim 47:28

2. Which trait did Ephraim have that caused him to have a great descendant? Who was his famous descendant? See Ba’al HaTurim 48:14

3. What extra blessing was Yaaakov giving Yosef by saying that Yosef’s descendants would carry Yaakov’s “name” as well as the names of Avraham and Yitzchak? See Abarbanel 48:16

4. How was Yissachar born due to a donkey? See Ohr HaChaim 49:14

5. Why did Yaakov command his sons to bury him in Canaan if he had already made Yosef swear to do so earlier? See Ramban and Ibn Ezra to 49:29

6. Why does the Torah need to tell us that Bnei Yisrael left their children, flocks, and cattle in Goshen when they went to Canaan to bury Yaakov? See Me’am Lo’ez 50:8

This Week Likutei Peshatim is Sponsored

This Week Likutei Peshatim is sponsored by Hebrew Theological College in conjunction with Yeshiva Parents and Yeshiva Women, is excited to announce our 39th Annual Malave Malka, Motzaei Shabbos, February 1st, at 8:00 PM. Featured Guest Speaker: Rabbi Yona Reiss, presenting “Challenges of Legalized Marijuana – Nipping the Problem in the Bud”. There will be a sumptuous fleishig buffet served, as well as our exciting raffle. For info/RSVP on this enjoyable event: Cheryl Karesh, 847-982-2500 x1137 or www.htc.edu/mm.

Save the Date: Join Blitstein Institute for its Annual Winter Event on Saturday evening, February 29, at 9:00 PM, in the Sky Lounge of the State and Chestnut Building, 845 N. State. Rabbi Yonah Wenrib will present his beautiful Illuminated Original Manuscripts. Join us for an evening of music and great food. Catering by Shallots with Wines by Shulem. Complimentary valet parking.

Hebrew Theological College’s Gourmet Torah at Shalloits Bistro will take place this Thursday, January 16, 12:35-1:15. Rabbi Shmuel L. Schuman will speak on “Septuagint vs. Artscroll: Is it Significant?”, Complimentary appetizers as well as a discounted menu available for shiur participants. Men and women invited to attend. For more info: Rabbi Joshua Zisook at 847-982-2500 or jzisook@htc.edu.

Blitstein Institute is proud to offer Jewish Technology Bootcamp offered through a generous grant by JUF. Learn how to use coding, HTML, CSS and JavaScript to create useful & beautiful websites. You will learn how to set up your site for local development, how to purchase a web domain, and deploy your site to a live server so it can be accessed worldwide. The class will meet on Sundays, beginning Feb. 7th, for 10 sessions. Master teacher, outstanding instruction, scholarships 773-973-0241.

Hebrew Theological College and Fasman Yeshiva High School wish a hearty mazal tov to our Yeshiva HTC/FYHS fathers who made a Siyum HaShas with Daf Yomi: Tomer Bitton, Randy Cohen, Benzion Friedman, Dovid Friedman, Rabbi Shaanan Gelman, Sten Gertz, Jonathan Greenfield, Dr. David Grinblatt, Zachary Herman, Aharon Kaye, Josh Mishkin, Steve Meltzer, Efrem Popel, Rabbi Yona Reiss, Arthur Rubin, Steve Sichel, Gershon Vladimirskiy, David Warso.

Yeshivas Hakayitz 2020 enrollment is now open. Eligibility: Boys entering grades 6 through 11. Camp dates: June 30 - July 27. Join the 200 campers & counselors from coast to coast for the 41st year of summer camp experiences, offer exciting Torah Studies, competitive sports leagues, electives, bunk activities, awesome daily trips, & the most inspiring Shabbosos. For application, related camp media, and more info: please visit yhk.htc.edu.

Kayitz Adventure Trip 2020 for boys currently in grades 7 & up, Aug. 16-19. Whether you are enrolling your son in Yeshivas Hakayitz or not, this is a full day, jam-packed adventure of great fun. Beautiful Camp Ao-Wa-Kiya on Stony Lake & Michigan’s west coast is our home. Adventures include instructional sailing & skiing, tubing, canoeing, kayaking, SUP, zipline, target sports, high ropes course, lakefront inflatables, Silver Lake tubing, deep-water swimming, horseback riding, & more. See details: yhk.htc.edu.


TAG Chicago is here to help! Now selling kosher email, talk & text, and talk-only phones. 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.

"There is nothing I believe in more than the power of summer camp." -- Mrs. Liba Cohen, Head Counselor. Join Camp Maayan Midwest for a summer you don’t want to miss. To apply for camp or find out more information, please call us at 847-440-4940 or visit campmaayan.com. Priority scholarship funding for Chicago families ends January 31.
Yachad.org/Chicago, call 844-4-YACHAD, or email BakerD@ou.org. #BecauseEveryoneBelongs

Shabbaton, 2020, women. For information, please call 773-262-9400. We hope you will join us!

HaRav Yaakov Yehuda Salomon, Mashgiach, Yeshivas Tiferes Yaakov, Gateshead. For men and women. For information, please call 773-338-9222 ext. 11, email banquet@hsby.org, or go to hsby.org/banquet.

Toastmasters club for our first ever meeting! Tuesday, January 28th, at 7:00 PM, at the Bernard Mordy Schachat and Sons in concert. Kaleidoscope of Jewish Music. Tuesday, 24 Teves, January 21, 7:30 PM, at Field Middle School - 3131 Techny Road, Northbrook (next door to Chabad of Northbrook). For more information: www.ChabadNorthbrook.com.

Join Young Israel of Skokie for a cooking demonstration by Chicago’s own Sharon Matten, author of the new cook book, “Shabbos Under Pressure”. Sunday, January 19, 2020, at Young Israel of Skokie, 8745 Skokie Blvd. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Demo starts at 7:30. We will be raffling off 3 pressure cookers at the end of the evening. There is an admission fee that includes a cookbook and a raffle ticket. For more information contact morahtami1211@yahoo.com.

Yosef and Shira Malka Walder invite you to join the members of the Kehillah Fund for a community Melava Malka honoring Nesanel Siegal for his years of dedication, as we celebrate 15 years of investing in our children’s future with our support of Jewish education. Motzaei Shabbos, February 22, 2020, at Ziegler Auto Group of Lincolnwood.

The DeZimrah Institute seeks to train future Baalei Tefillah to lead Shabbos davening with mizgum that will inspire the entire kehillah to join in the Tefilla B’Shira experience. Join world-renowned Cantor Benny Juan, Sunday morning, February 23, 2020, at Congregation Or Torah, for a workshop on “How Your Tefillah Can Bring the Kahal to the Next Level”. If you are interested in this unique opportunity, please call Julie at 847-877-8000 or email Dezimrah@gmail.com.

Hillel Torah is seeking an Assistant Teacher for our Primary General Studies class to join our team this school year. This is a full-time position. The ideal candidate will be a warm, nurturing, team player, and have experience working with elementary students. Bachelor’s degree preferred. To apply, please email your résumé and cover letter to resumes@hilleltorah.org.

Want to increase your confidence and public speaking skills? Join the new Chicago Jewish Toastmasters club for our first ever meeting! Tuesday, January 28th, at 7:00 PM, at the Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 Touhy Avenue. Come see what Toastmasters can do for you. Light refreshments will be provided.

The Ner Foundation and Ohel Shalom Torah Center are pleased to announce the next lecture of Rabbi Daniel J. Raccas’s Personalities in the Bible series, titled: “Reuvein and the Bilha and Yosef Episodes”, to be held this Motza’ai Shabbat, January 11th, at 7:45 PM, at Ohel Shalom, 2949 W. Touhy. Note the time adjustment. Please join us. The next Shuir will be on January 18th.

Hanna Sacks Ba’is Yaakov looks forward to greeting their guests at the 57th Annual Dinner on Tuesday, January 14, at the Bryn Mawr Country Club, as we pay tribute to Mordy & Mindy Lebovics - The Ambassador Award, and to Chana Krohn - Lev V’Nefesh Award. An exquisite diamond solitaire necklace will be raffled off at the end of the program for all remaining attendees. For more info, please call 773-338-9222 ext. 11, email banquet@hsby.org, or go to hsby.org/banquet.

Attention ATT students in Grades 3-12! Only a few weeks left to participate in the ATT’s Pogrub Family Judaic Artwork and Essay Contest. Deadline for art/essay submission is Thursday, 1/30/2020, by 5:00 PM. Sponsored by the Pogrub Family, the contest provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity, ability to research Jewish topics, & express themselves through writing/art. For more info & for Judaic Artwork & Essay Contest Rules visit https://www.att.org/student-contests/ or call 773-973-2828.

Darchei Noam Glenbrook looks forward to our annual “Four Rabbis Walk into a Shul” program, Motzaei Shabbos, February 1st, featuring Rabbi Mondesic Becher along with Rabbis Daniel Fox, Yehoshua Karsh and Yehuda Meyers. Call 224-306-9364 for more information.

Congregation Ezras Israel is hosting a Scholar in Residence January 24-25. Speaker: Rabbi Dr. Daniel Sinclair, internationally renowned speaker on law and medical ethics. Friday night Oneg: “Tenderness Beneath One’s Honesty: Domestic Harmony vs. Halachic Obligations”, at 8:00 PM; and continuing with Shabbat Lunch: “Halachic Rulings Based upon Erroneous Science and the Case of Brain Death”. Reservations only. 11:45 AM. 7001 N. California Avenue. EzrasIsrael.com.

Save the Date! Chicago Community Kollel invites you to “Ruach v’Regesh – A Signature Event Celebrating 38 Years of Shabbos, Parashas Yisro. February 20, 2020, at Ziegler Cadillac Buick GMC, 6900 McCormick Blvd. in Lincolnwood. Our special guest will be HaRav Yaakov Yehuda Salomon, Mashgiach, Yeshivas Tiferes Yaakov, Gateshead. For men and women. For information, please call 773-262-9400. We hope you will join us!

Save the date! Join YU Torah Mitzvah Kollel at their 12th annual dinner celebration. February 23, 2020, honoring: Rabbi Hillel & Faye Meyers and Rabbi Gedalya & Tamar Shames. Pre-Dinner Shiur with Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University. 5:30 Shiur, 6:30 Dinner and Dessert.

From Burger Buddies & Torah Studies to the Wolves, Nickel City and a GO (Girls Only) b’Yachad Shabbaton, there’s loads of fun and learning with Yachad happening now! For more info/registration: Yachad.org/Chicago, call 844-4-YACHAD, or email BakerD@ou.org. #BecauseEveryoneBelongs
Yachad wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Ralla Klepak Performing Arts Trust and its trustees upon the awarding of a generous grant, funding Yachad’s Ralla Klepak Performing Arts Inclusion Initiative. In the coming months, we will build out this exciting and innovative program, taking Inclusion to new heights in Chicago!

Ralla Klepak רַלְלָה נְדֻדָה dedicated her life to advocating for the disadvantaged and for those whose rights were being violated. Yachad is honored to honor Ralla’s memory and legacy through this program.

Info: 844-4-YACHAD, ChicagoYachad@ou.org.

Congregation Or Torah is seeking to hire a dynamic couple to run our Youth Department beginning June 2020. For more information please contact Sarah Bernstein at exec@ortorah.org.

The Chicago Orthodox Student Union Winter Social Event - Flight Club Social Darts - Unique Sport, Spectacular Location! - Sunday, January 19, 7-9 PM, at 111 W. Wacker Drive. Inexpensive parking next door. Kosher refreshments. Details & information? chicagoorthodoxstudentunion@gmail.com.

Save the date! Sunday, March 22nd, 2020, Madairos Midwest Benefit Concert featuring Yishai Ribbo. More details to follow! Feel free to contact us at info@madairosmidwest.org if you would like to become a Concert sponsor!

Club J is a special club designed just for Jewish girls in 6th-8th grade to have an opportunity for fun and friendship! We are now hiring dynamic and engaging youth leaders to join our team in making an impact in the lives of Club J participants. Wednesday 6:00-9:00 PM. Learn more and apply at https://www.jccchicago.org/about/career-listings/.

JCC Chicago is now hiring a dynamic, engaging Yoga Instructor to provide high quality fitness classes to our members and promote fitness-related services offered by the J. Approximately 3-4 hours/week, Sunday-Friday between the hours of 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM. Learn more and apply online at https://www.jccchicago.org/about/career-listings/.

The Yeshiva University Torah Mitzion Kollel of Chicago is seeking an Executive Director who will ensure the financial health, administrative strength and growth of the Kollel and its efforts to enrich and engage the greater Chicago Jewish community. Do you have superior relationship-building, fund-raising and leadership skills? We want to hear from you! Please contact Howard Karesh (hnkaresh@gmail.com) for more information and to submit your résumé.

Join Young Israel of Skokie for a continuation of our ongoing series “Resources in our Community”, Monday, January 20th, at 7:00 PM, followed by davening, at 8746 East Prarie Road, Skokie, 60076. Rebecca Joy Fletcher, Educator from the Ark, will speak on “To Weather a Storm,” a compelling, in-depth and interactive look into the programs and services the Ark provides. We look forward to seeing you.

In just 2 weeks, a group of inspiring teens will embark on the journey of a lifetime to Israel as part of the 21st Annual Hartman Family Foundation Wish at the Wall trip. Save the date and join us for our annual Chai Lifeline Wish at the Wall Gala on Sunday, March 8th, 2020.

By the Levin, Zaret and Socol families in loving memory of our father, Seymour Socol, וּרְשֵׁת, on the occasion of his yahrtzeit on the 16th of Tevet. We miss you. May your memory be a blessing.

By Morton Stern and family, Dorothy Starr & Baruch Aplebaum and family, and Lillian & Howard Stern and family, in loving memory of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Leo Stern, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on the occasion of his yahrtzeit on 16 Teves.

In loving memory of “Bunny” (Roberta) Oberlander, וּרְשֵׁת, on the occasion of her second yahrtzeit, on הַסָּדוֹת. Dearly missed, more and more each day, by Dr. Mark Oberlander, her children and grandchildren, her DNG community, and so many friends. She lived a life of dedication, giving, and grace. May her memory be for a blessing.

By Eric & Gale Rothner, Melissa & David Levine, and Avi & Jennie Rothner, in loving memory of our mother and grandmother, Shirley Rothner, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on the occasion of her 12th yahrtzeit on 15 Tevet. May her memory be for a blessing.

By Ruth Wiik and family in loving memory of their mother and grandmother, Betty Deitz Dreizen, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on the occasion of her yahrtzeit on 14 Teves. May her memory be for a blessing.

In memory of Bradley Jacobs, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on his 14th yahrtzeit - 15 Tevet. A loving partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

In memory of Shoshana Lewin, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on the occasion of her 12th yahrtzeit on 15 Tevet. May her memory be for a blessing.

In memory of Bradley Jacobs, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on his 14th yahrtzeit - 15 Tevet. A loving partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

In memory of Bradley Jacobs, וַיִּשָּׁרֵץ, on his 14th yahrtzeit - 15 Tevet. A loving & wonderful son, brother, uncle, grandson, nephew, cousin & friend, he always made us proud. Founder & editor of “Israel News” & a tireless fighter for Eretz Yisrael, his actions & deeds & last communication, “We should have done more for Katif”, still inspire. May his memory be for a blessing for his family, friends & Klal Yisrael.

By Cheryl Jacobs Lewin & Paul Bosakowski, Shoshana Levin Fischer, Adam & Danielle Fischer.

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

Answers:
1. Ohr HaChaim gives two explanations. First, Yaakov’s last days were full of tranquility, so his last seven years are listed first to indicate this. Another explanation is that Yaakov’s only “complete” years were the forty-one years that he spent with Rachel and Yosef (or both) and his last seven years are listed first to indicate this. Another explanation is that Yaakov’s only years are listed first to indicate this. Another explanation is that Yaakov’s only years are listed first to indicate this.
2. Yehoshua descended from Ephraim. The words “yehe yosef einav” (393) (“and he was the younger”) are equivalent in gematria terms to “veyehe yosef einav” (394) (“he humbled himself”). This indicates that due to Ephraim’s humility, Yehoshua descended from him.
3. Yaakov was telling Yosef that his children will not be barren, as the other forefathers were initially.
4. Leah bought from Rachel the right to be with Yaakov the year that Yissacher was conceived. Leah knew to go out and greet Yaakov because she heard Yaakov’s donkey braying as he returned from the fields.
5. Ibn Ezra says that Yaakov was commanding his sons to go with Yosef, but it was Yosef’s primary responsibility. Ramban says that Yaakov was afraid that Pharaoh would not allow Yosef to keep his oath, so he told the brothers to go as well.
6. All of the tribes wanted to go to Canaan with everything and just stay there. The exile had begun.