



October 17, 2015 4 Cheshvan 5776
Parshat Noach

ZMANIM (YOUR MINHAG MAY VARY)

Shkiah: 6:51 PM
Shabbos Ends: 7:26 PM
Candle Lighting (next week – Lech Lecha): 6:28 PM

NEWS AND EVENTS

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Gray on getting engaged to Nechama Achizar.

Rabbi Salfer is now offering a weekly shiur (for men) on the topic of relationships, with a focus on those between men and women. The basis of the shiur is a discussion of the Biblical foundation of each of the gender characteristics of men and women. For those who want to know why men will be men and women will be women, this shiur is for you. Held every Thursday, 8:00 PM, at Beit David Highland Lakes Shul.



Finding Favor:

By Rabbi Avraham Bukspan

פני מעל בראתי אשר האדם את אמחה 'ה ויאמר
 'ה בעיני חן מצא ונח: עשיתם כי נחמתי כי האדמה

And Hashem said, “I will blot out man, whom I created, from upon the face of the earth...for I regret that I made them.” And Noach found favor in the eyes of Hashem (Bereishis 6:7–8).

The simple understanding of the last pasuk in Parashas Bereishis is that Hashem looked favorably at Noach; He was pleased with Noach and his actions. In truth, the pasuk never says that Hashem looked toward Noach with favor. Rather, it says, “And Noach found favor,” meaning that the one doing the looking and finding was Noach, not Hashem. The Midrash (Bereishis Rabbah 29) corroborates the idea that Noach found favor in the eyes of Hashem, and not that Hashem looked at Noach with favor: “Hu matza, HaKadosh Baruch Hu lo matza — He [Noach] found; Hashem did not find.” We have a similar expression in our vernacular. When a person speaks to a monarch, he says, “May I find favor in the eyes of your Majesty.” In this instance, too, the message is at odds with the actual words. The petitioner wants the person in authority to look favorably at him and to accede to his request, yet his words imply that he will be the one looking at the monarch and hoping to find favor in his eyes.

This brings us to a fundamental question: What does it mean to find favor in Hashem’s

eyes? What exactly does one look for or see?

According to the Ohr HaChaim on the pasuk, of all the mitzvos that Hashem commands, there are a chosen few that evoke a greater positive response — a great measure of chein, favor, from Hashem. In the Ohr HaChaim’s words, “Yeish mitzvos she’toaltam hi le’hamshich chein al ha’adam — There are mitzvos whose purpose is to increase man’s chein in Hashem’s eyes.”

Hashem does not identify these mitzvos, to prevent people from focusing on those and neglecting the other mitzvos. But Noach found chein in the eyes of Hashem and figured out which were the mitzvos that He looked at with special favor. By performing them, Noach became worthy of being saved from the flood.

My father, however, told me the following pshat on the pasuk, which gives a completely new meaning to the expression of finding favor in a king’s eyes. If one were to witness a father spanking his child, he may think that he is acting violent and harsh. Yet if there is a healthy relationship, and the father is hitting his child for a constructive purpose, if one looks closely, one can see the “twinkle” in the father’s eye — that he is disciplining his child for his welfare and out of love.

Hashem was about to destroy the world; the flood was seemingly the most cruel and malicious act conceivable. Yet Noach found the chein, favor, in the eyes of Hashem. He saw the “twinkle” in Hashem’s eyes. Noach was able to realize that the impending deluge — and destruction of all living things — was not a cruel act on the part of Hashem, but a necessary action to maintain humanity. Notwithstanding Hashem’s “regret” over having made man, Noach realized that the impending destruction was a case of stiras zekeinim binyan —the undoing of older and wiser people, which results in building; what appeared to be destructive was actually constructive.

When one says, “May I find favor in the eyes of your Majesty,” he is not asking that his request be granted — that the king should look at him with favor and do as he asks. Instead, he is saying, “Whatever you decide — whether you grant my request or turn it down — may I find favor in your eyes. May I see in your eyes a look of favor: that even if you do not grant my request, let it not be out of spite, but that your denial is in my best interests.”

Noach saw the chein and found that Hashem was doing the world a favor by bringing the mabul.

Water from the Stone

Ledoros Olam - To generations forever. What does that mean according to Rashi.

(Stone Chumash, Beraishis 9:12)



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Rosh Chodesh with Jimmy Costello

By Editorial Staff

This past Wednesday the Yeshiva had the honor of hosting the world famous Maggid Yaakov Yisrael "Jimmy" Costello come for the 3rd year in a row for Rosh Chodesh where we have a Carlebach style Hallel. We had a great time with everyone singing and dancing the entire time. Thank you to Jimmy for another great Hallel.



Meet: Aryeh Marder

By Editorial Staff

This year in Yeshivas Doresh we would like to show the diversity of interests and customs bochurim and faculty.

Aryeh is a 17 year old bochur from Lakewood, New Jersey, he is one of our seniors this year. Some of his favorite classes include Rabbi Salfers shiur, Ms. Oullettes math class and Fitness with Prof. Don. He also paints and sells artwork which some proceeds go to the Yeshiva. If you would like to place an order to have something painted please contact the Doresh office and they will put you in touch with Aryehs Fine Art.

Picture Perfect Moments



Elchonon Skolniks Birthday party



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