



## Thoughts on *Pesach*

### BACK TO THE BASICS

by Rabbi Avroham Goldman

Pesach is a time when we reflect on the fundamentals of Judaism. The *רמב"ן* at the end of *פרשת בא* tells us that the miracles of the *מכות* and *קריעת ים סוף* teach us so many critical messages. We learn about about Hashem's creation of the world and how He continues to control every aspect of the universe at all times. The concept of *אמת ותורתו משה* is so apparent from *משה's* role in being the conduit for many of the *ניסים* throughout the story of *יציאת מצרים*. The concept of *שכר ועונש* is taught from the *ניסים* happening to *כלל ישראל* and *עונש* happening to the *מצריים*.

The *ספורנו* tells us that there is another foundation that we can learn from the *מכות* and *קריעת ים סוף* - Hashem's unconditional love. He tells us through his commentary throughout the *פרשיות* that the function of Hashem turning over nature time and time again was to encourage the *מצריים* to do *תשובה*. Hashem

## MTI Recent *Happenings*

### NEWLY FORMED PRE-SHACHARIS SEDER

by Binyomin Hoffman  
9th Grade

Baruch Hashem we have had a great start to our pre-shacharis *"מה שליבו חפץ"* seder. The program has many bochurim getting an early start to their day, coming to the bais medrash one half hour before shacharis, to prepare for the day's shiurim or learn whatever they desire. "I believe the seder gives me an edge on my daily learning" says one student. Rabbi Wasser joins us for the seder and makes sure there is delicious coffee for everyone. The seder leads right into shacharis so there's an added advantage of being on time for davening. The original plan was for the seder to run from Monday through Thursday weekly, but everyone enjoyed the program so much that an

## Featured Torah *Message*

### HOW DID WE MERIT REDEMPTION?

by Shmuli Lefton  
9th Grade

*Based on a speech given in yeshiva by Rabbi Moshe Winter*

On Pesach we celebrate the going out of Egypt (*יציאת מצרים*). While in *מצרים*, the *בני ישראל* were doing things wrong and they were on the lowest level of *טומאה*. What gave them the merit to go out? Why did they deserve to go out if they were doing everything wrong?

The *תנא דבי אליהו כ"ג:ט* says that when *בני ישראל* were in *מצרים* they realized the work was just getting worse and they had no way of getting out. They gathered together to discuss what they could do to merit going out. They made a pact amongst themselves to start doing *חסד*

## Sparks of *Mussar*

*Reprinted with permission from "Sparks of Mussar" by Rabbi Chaim Ephraim Zaitchik, Feldheim Publishers*

### Rav Yitzchok Blazer - "Family and Friends"

Late in life, Rav Yitzchok Blazer (R' Itzele) married a young widow with four children of her own, and she subsequently bore him children.

R' Itzele made every effort to please her. At night when the baby cried, he would not allow her to get out of bed. Despite his age, he himself rose to take care of the baby. On *erev Shabbos* he would help her prepare for Shabbos, and he considered that a big *mitzvah*.

In Jerusalem, where the residents drew their water from a cistern near the house, a neighbor once spotted R' Itzele drawing the water himself to spare his wife the trouble. The neighbor hurried to help.

"What made you come to help me?" asked R' Itzele.

"I want to do a *mitzvah*," replied the neighbor.

R' Itzele responded, "I, too, want to do a *mitzvah*."

## Thoughts on Pesach cont.

wanted the מצריים, who were such רשעים, to recognize His greatness and His love for them and therefore do תשובה. Hashem didn't reject them after centuries of evil, rather He reached out to them in a most miraculous fashion to bring them close to Him. This פסח, may we merit to follow in Hashem's ways and have such care and patience for our family and friends.

## MTI Recent Happenings cont.

added optional Friday seder was added! This seder is a wonderful opportunity and we should be grateful for the ability to come together early in the morning. ה' בעזרתו we will have many more.



Rabbi Moshe Winter gives a pre-Pesach speech to the bochurim before bein hazmanim

## Featured Torah Message cont.

for each other. The Chofetz Chaim says that the reason why they earned this merit of going out of Egypt was because of the חסד that they started doing for each other. We learn from here that this is the way that we get out of גלות – start helping each other. We're in galus nowadays, too. If you see someone who is looking down, go over and offer your help. You have nothing to lose and plenty to gain.

## Upcoming & Ongoing MTI Community Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBOS
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TWO SAVE THE DATES!

COMING TO ST. LOUIS!  
**Rabbi Berel Wein**  
 Community Lecture May 13th

ANNUAL DINNER  
 & BUILDING  
 DEDICATION  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH**

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	MAY 1	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 2	3	4
Alumni Shiur - Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 5	6	7	8	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 9	10	11
Alumni Shiur - Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 12	Rabbi Berel Wein Community Lecture 13	Women's Mesilas Yesharim Chesterfield 14	15	Women's Mesilas Yesharim University City 16	17	18

### ATTENTION LADIES!

ADD SOME INSPIRATION TO YOUR WEEK - JOIN MRS. TOBY GOLDMAN FOR OUR

## Mesilas Yesharim Women's Series

THREE CLASS OPTIONS WEEKLY IN U.CITY & CHESTERFIELD

*This month's shiurim sponsored in loving memory of Mrs. Thelda Reiss, Toba Bas Reuven, a"h*

## Mazel Tov!

To the Mr. & Mrs. Graff on the engagement of their daughter!  
 Rabbi & Mrs. Pesach Eskenazi on the birth of a boy!

## JOIN US 5 minute Ahavas Chessed with Rabbi Shmuel Wasser

After shacharis, 4 days a week, Rabbi Wasser learns Ahavas Chessed with the talmidim of our yeshiva. To join a WhatsApp group to receive the recording immediately following the shiur, scan the QR code below!

