

MESIVTA'S MESSAGE

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THOUGHTS *on the* MEGILLA

RABBI MENACHEM WACHSMAN

The Gemara in Megilla (ט"ו) asks: "מה ראתה אסתר? אסתר שהזמינה את המן". Why did אסתר invite the המן to the banquet she prepared for אסתר? R' Shimon ben Menasia answers, "אולי ירגיש המקום ויעשה לנו נס". Esther thought, "Perhaps 'ה will feel... and He will perform for us a miracle." Rashi explains, "ירגיש שאני". צריכה להחניף רשע זה ולזלזל בכבודי". Inviting the wicked המן to the banquet to seemingly flatter him was an act that was beneath the dignity of a holy ישראל and painful for אסתר. אסתר's hope was that the distress that she experienced would move 'ה to perform a miracle and save the Jewish nation.

HaRav Dovid Leibowitz, zt"l, asks - this Gemara seems perplexing. The entire Jewish nation was in pain and anguish. There was a decree from the king "להשמיד להרוג ולאבד את כל היהודים" - "To destroy, to slay, and to exterminate all the Jewish people." There was great mourning and crying among the Jewish people, the

suffering was immeasurable as there was not much time left and seemingly no escape from their sentence. 'ה knew well all that the Jewish people were experiencing. Would the additional indignity that אסתר endured by having to flatter המן make a difference for 'ה to decide to save her nation?

אסתר recognized that every minute pain suffered by an individual is felt by 'ה הקב"ה and not lost, even amongst great suffering and affliction of an entire nation. 'ה feels for each and everyone's slightest pains and any amount of extra צער could actually effect a divine miracle and salvation.

We must strive to emulate 'ה and be sensitive to the pains of ישראל כל בית ישראל. Let us focus on the suffering of our Jewish brethren and feel for each individual's pain. We should arouse ourselves and strengthen our davening to 'ה הקב"ה, to evoke His mercy to bring the גאולה בקרוב.

SPARKS *of* MUSSAR

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Reb Yisroel Salanter

On Yom Kippur eve, after the last meal, when everyone else was hurrying to usher in the holy day and running to shul, R' Yisroel asked his attendant to summon a poor boy who had come from out of town. When the boy appeared, R' Yisroel took paper and pen and wrote a letter of recommendation that the boy had requested.

People wondered why R' Yisroel was wasting these precious moments on a matter that could safely be postponed until after Yom Kippur - since the letter of recommendation would not be used on that holy day in any case. R' Yisroel explained that just at that time he recalled that this unfortunate boy had already been waiting two days for the recommendation. So that the boy would not spend Yom Kippur in sorrow and worry, R' Yisroel wrote the recommendation immediately.

FEATURED TORAH *Message*

YITZY ZEHNWIRTH 11TH GRADE

RESPECT THAT BRINGS CLARITY

"And בצלאל ... did everything that 'ה commanded משה" (Shmos 38:22)

The pasuk does not state that בצלאל did all that משה commanded him, but rather that בצלאל complied with what 'ה commanded משה. Rashi explains that בצלאל followed 'ה's

intentions even when משה hadn't informed him of those intentions. משה told בצלאל to first construct the vessels and then the actual Mishkan. משה asked בצלאל, "Isn't it the normal custom to build the house first, and only then put in the utensils?" Rashi tells us that משה concurred and said, "Yes, as a

matter of fact, that is how 'ה originally instructed me." Even though בצלאל was correct in the end, how could he have questioned משה? משה was the greatest prophet ever and spoke "face to face" with 'ה. As a talmid of משה, shouldn't he have followed the instructions without question? This is the

correct methodology for a talmid: to not follow blindly, but to start with the assumption that the rebbe is correct. If the talmid doesn't understand his rebbe's teachings, he should not reject those teachings, but attribute the difficulty to his own shortcomings and limited understanding. The student must toil and concentrate his full mental capacity to comprehend and make sense

of the rebbe's thoughts. בצלאל, because of his sincere pursuit of the truth and, simultaneously, his overwhelming respect for his rebbe and his rebbe's teachings, merited to penetrate to the most profound depths of understanding his rebbe's תורה – in this unusual case, reaching a greater degree of clarity than his rebbe.

May we learn from בצלאל to have this awesome reverence for our rebbeim's teachings, and with that respect, focus our own critical thinking abilities on analyzing and probing the תורה until it shines in all its glory and clarity.

RECENT Happenings

DOVID ORRIN 11TH GRADE

This past מוצאי שבת we were fortunate to have Joey Newcomb come to lead an amazing concert! The whole yeshiva was involved and everyone was so excited to have him here. We sang our hearts out and danced until our feet felt like they would fall off. The music was astonishing! The band included a member of the local community and one of our own MTI bais medrash bochurim. Then the lights went down and we had an inspiring kumzitz. The whole evening uplifted us and brought us together.

Almost before we could catch our breath, it was time for our annual winter achdus trip. On Monday afternoon, we hopped on the coach bus and headed to Hidden Valley for some skiing! The snow was good and the spring-like temperatures were amazing. Everyone had a great time! The achdus of the trip was spectacular - talmidim helping each other out, sliding down together and hanging out! It was a really a lot of fun for everyone!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBOS
					ROSH CHODESH 5:39PM 4	5
6	Men's Basketball @ MTI Gym 7	Women's Orchos Tzaddikim Chesterfield 8	9	10	5:46PM 11	DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE THE CLOCKS! 12
Women's Orchos Tzaddikim University City 13	Men's Basketball @ MTI Gym 14	15	TAANIS ESTHER 16	PURIM 17	SHUSHAN PURIM 18	19
20	Men's Basketball @ MTI Gym 21	Women's Orchos Tzaddikim Chesterfield 22	23	24	7:00PM 25	26
27	7th & 8th grade boys learning & gym program 28	Women's Orchos Tzaddikim Chesterfield 29	30	31	7:06PM 1	ROSH CHODESH 2

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Mondays 7:30-8:40PM

Orchos Tzaddikim with Mrs. Toby Goldman
8:00 PM | Zoom: 525-786-3657



5 min
Ahavas Chessed
with Rabbi Shmuel Wasser

To receive recordings after each shiur, scan QR code

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Purim Mussar Message

TWO EVENING OPTIONS!
TUESDAY MARCH 8 @8PM OR SUNDAY MARCH 13 @8PM
(THE SAME CLASS WILL BE GIVEN BOTH NIGHTS.)

ZOOM ID 525 786 3657
PHONE CALL IN OPTION 646.558.8656 MEETING ID 5257863657

• For Women Only •

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
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~A
Freilechen
Purim~

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