# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

# Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg 273 Montgomery Ave. Bala Cynwyd, PA 19044



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## Parshas Bechukosai

פרשת בחקתי

May 23–24—י"ט אייר תשס"ת

## **Shabbos Davening Times**

Earliest candle lighting:	6:45pm
Candle lighting:	7:59pm
Mincha - Friday:	7:00pm
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:18am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishis:	7:45pm
Maariv:	9:03pm

### **Weekday Davening Times**

Shacharis Sunday:	8:00am
Shacharis Memorial Day:	8:00am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.):	6:50am
Shacharis (Thu.):	6:40am
Mincha/Maariv (SunThu.):	8:05pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

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Candle lighting:		8:04pm
Mincha - Friday:		7:00pm

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוני בן פלוני (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

### **Calendar of Shiurim**

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am– 8:15am	Parsha Chabura	R. C. Diamond	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Mishlei Shiur	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	7:00pm	Chabura	J. Weinberger	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
SunFri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

<sup>\*</sup>All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

### THIS SHABBOS

### **Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos:**

Kiddush is community sponsored.

Seudah Shlishis is sponsored by Eli Kott and Arthur Rosenthal in honor of their completion of the mesechta of Nazir.

### **Bnos and Pirchei:**

Both Bnos and Pirchei will אי'ה meet this week from 4:00pm to 5:00pm at LMS.

## Murray the Sockman:

Murray the Sockman is returning to Philadelphia!! He will be vending his fine selection of camp and non-camp dry goods at Torah Academy, from 11:00am—5:00pm, Sunday, May 25.

### SPECIAL EVENT

# Memorial Lecture for HaRav Henoch Leibowitz אצוק"ל

Featured speaker Rabbi Akiva Grunblatt, Rosh Yeshiva of the Central Chofetz Chaim Yeshiva in NY.

Speaker Rabbi Chaim Tropper, Rosh Yeshiva, Mesivta Beis Dovid.

Speaker Rabbi Zev Pam, Assistant Menahel, Mesivta Beis Dovid.

Time Monday, May 26, following Mincha at 8:05pm.

*Place* Young Israel of the Main Line.

Men and Women are both encouraged to attend this special event.

### **Rescheduling:**

Please note that THIS WEEK ONLY the Tuesday Morning Chovos haLevovos Shiur will meet at **10:30am**, not 9:30am.

### **ONGOING EVENTS**

### **Chevra Mishnavos:**

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Nezikin.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

## Women's Tehillim Group:

The Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

## Women's Chovos haLevovos Group:

The Chovos haLevovos Group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am at 8 Concord Circle.

### Are you on our e-mail list?

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to majordomo@chaseplanet.us with the following in the message body (all one line): subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL

### **Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information**

Shul: (610) 667-3255 E-mail: rabbi@yiml.org

**President Stan Sved Contact Information** 

Cell: (215) 219-9231

### CONDOLENCES

YIML extends heartfelt condolences to Mr. Barry Weiss on the passing of his son-in-law, Mr. Dan Natale 5"t.

Chana Leah Natale will observe shiva for her husband at her home, 1431 Greywall Ln., Wynnewood, daily until 7:30pm, through Thursday morning. *Hamakom yenachem oso b'soch she'ar availei Tzion v'Yerushalayim.* 

### D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

This week's parsha which concludes the book of Vayikra deals with the realities of Jewish national and personal life. On one hand it describes in rapturous terms the blessings of happiness, security and serenity that can happen to the Jewish people and to the individual Jew. But on the other hand it vividly and graphically describes death, exile, troubles and tragedy.

Jewish history bears out the accuracy of both visions. We have lived through both experiences. Jewish history seems to have contained much longer periods of darkness than of light, of more tragedy than of joy and serenity. Though the Torah assigns observance of the commandments as the prime cause of security in Jewish life and non-observance of the same as the cause of tragedy, history and the great commentators to Torah seem to modify this cut and dried axiom.

God's wisdom and judgments are inscrutable and are beyond even elementary comprehension by us mortals. As such we are left wondering as to the tragedies that descended upon the Jewish people and that continue to plague us today. Though there are those amongst us that are prepared to give and accept glib answers to the causes of tragedy, the wise men of Israel warned us against such an approach. Observance of commandments is enormously difficult to fulfill completely and accurately.

As such it is difficult to measure the "why" part of this week's parsha. It is sufficient to note the "how it happened" part to realize that its message of contrasting periods of serenity and tragedy has been painstakingly accurate and contains not one word of hyperbole. The destruction of the Temples, the Crusades and pogroms, the Inquisition and the Holocaust are all graphically described in this week's parsha. Such is the prophetic power of the Torah.

In personal life, the longer one lives the more likely tragedy will somehow visit them. The Torah makes provision for this eventuality in its laws of mourning. We all hope for lives of goodness, pleasantness and secure serenity. Yet almost inexorably problems, disappointments and even tragedy intrudes on our condition.

In Vayikra, the death of the sons of Aharon remains the prime example of tragedy suddenly destroying a scene of pride, satisfaction and seeming accomplishment. In this week's parsha the description of the punishment of Israel for its backsliding comes after a background of blessings and security. The past century presented the Jewish people with horrors of unimaginable intensity and of millennial accomplishments. The situation of extreme flux in our national life has continued throughout the sixty years of the existence of the State of Israel.

The unexpected and sudden, but apparently regular change of circumstances in national Jewish life mirrors the same situation so recognizable to us from our personal lives. We are constantly blindsided by untoward and tragic events. So, the jarring contrast that the two main subjects of the parsha present to us are really a candid description of life and its omnipresent contradictions, surprises and difficulties. Though we pray regularly for health and serenity, we must always be cognizant of how precarious situations truly are. Thus, as we rise to hear the conclusion of the book of Vayikra we recite the mantra of "chazak, chazak, v'nitchazek"—let us be doubly strong and strengthen others! So may it be.

From: http://www.rabbiwein.com/Weekly-Parsha/2008/05/260.html