

## Thought of the Week

The pasuk in Parshas Ha'azinu says, "Remember bygone days; understand the years of each generation; ask your father and he will tell you, your grandfather and he will say it over to you" [32:7]. Even on a very simple and basic level, this pasuk [verse] is teaching the importance of having an appreciation for history.

It is very important for us to have an appreciation for history. If a person has an appreciation of what was, of tradition, of what transpired over the years, then he is capable of dealing with the present. A person has an obligation to remember and understand and to try to see the Hand of G-d (Hashgocha) in history.

When Willaim Shirer wrote his book "Rise and Fall of the Third Reich" (1959), he used as an epigraph, a quote from U.S. philosopher George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." This is a truth. We must remember history (Zechor Yemos Olam).

On a simple level, the next words in the pasuk, which say, "Binu Shnos Dor V'Dor" [Understand each and every generation], seem redundant. It appears to be nothing more than a poetic restatement of the beginning of the pasuk. On a homiletic level however, the Menachem Zion offers a very nice interpretation of this expression. Yes, we must understand history and learn the lessons of history and apply them to our generation, but in addition to that, "Binu 'Shnos' dor v'dor". The Menachem Zion explains homiletically that the word 'Shnos' is not derived from the word 'Shana' [year] but from the word 'Shoneh' [different]. The meaning is that you must understand the changes from one generation to the next.

We can not blindly apply the same rules that worked in the past to present situations. If you try, you will fall short. Each generation is different. We can not glibly say "That's the way it was; therefore that's the way it has to be". Binu Shnos Dor V'dor -- learn the lesson of history, but bear in mind the changes from generation to generation. Times change, people change, and circumstances change. There are times when we must alter and redirect and not merely go with what was.

If someone today were to send a half million troops to the beaches of Normandy, he would rightly be called a "meshuganer" [crazy one]. While 60+ years ago there was indeed a need to fight a battle on the beaches of Normandy, that battle is now over; that battle has already been fought; and that battle has already been won. We cannot always continually fight the same battles again and again.

Understand the changes ('shnos') in each generation. Understand that each generation has its own set of problems and own set of rules and own set of circumstances. We must remember the days gone by, but couple that remembrance with an understanding of the changes that take place in each generation.

In the past, I have quoted the 'Chassideshe vort' of Reb Levi Yitzchak regarding why Eliyahu HaNavi (rather than Moshe Rabbenu or anyone else) was the one designated to resolve all of the Talmud's "Teykus" [acronym used by the Talmud to indicate a question remains unresolved until Tishbi (Elijah) will provide the resolution].

The reason, the Berditchever says, is because Eliyahu never died -- he has been around in all generations. We need someone who has an understanding of each generation to pasken the shaylos [issue Rabbinic rulings on Halachic questions] for that generation. Therefore, only Eliyahu, who was present during all generations, is qualified to resolve the "Teykus".

Adapted from "Menachem Tzion on 'Binu Shnos Dor V'Dor'" by Rabbi Yissocher Frand.  
<http://www.torah.org/learning/ravfrand/5770/haazinu.html>

Questions? Comments! Sponsorships\$ [weeklyupdate@yiml.org](mailto:weeklyupdate@yiml.org)

בס"ד

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Parshas Ha'azinu  
 September 10-11

פרשת האזינו  
 ג' תשרי



### Rosh HaShana Schedule



Wednesday, September 8 - Erev Rosh haShanah

Slichos 6:00am

Shacharis 6:50am

Eruv Tavshilin

Light 7:04pm

Mincha 7:04pm

Thursday, September 9 - Rosh haShanah

Shacharis 8:00am

Shofar Blowing 10:30am

Tashlich

Mincha 7:00pm

Maariv 8:05pm

Light after 8:05pm

Friday, September 10 - Rosh haShanah

Shacharis 8:00am

Shofar Blowing 10:30am

Light 7:00pm

Mincha 6:55pm



## Shabbos Davening Times



Shabbos, September 11 - Shabbos Shuvah

Shacharis 8:45am

Mincha 6:55pm

Shabbos Shuva Drosha after Mincha

Maariv 8:02pm

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd will not meet again until Parshas Noach. Girls 3 years through 6th grade welcome - yearly membership is \$36/girl. Call Meira Friedman 610-617-9529 for information.

## Weekday Davening Times

Sunday, September 12 - Tzom Gedaliah

Fast Begins 5:27am

Slichos 7:30am

Shacharis 8:00am

Mincha 6:45pm

Fast Ends 8:00pm

Monday, September 13 and Thursday, September 16

Slichos 6:00am

Shacharis 6:35am

Mincha 6:55pm

Tuesday, September 14 and Wednesday, September 15

Slichos 6:10am

Shacharis 6:45am

Mincha 6:55pm

Friday, September 17th, Erev Yom Kippur

Slichos 6:35am

Shacharis 6:50am

Mincha 3:30pm

Light 6:49pm

Kol Nidre 6:50pm

## Rosh Hashana Shiurim and Shabbos Shuva Drasha

On Rosh Hashana, between Mincha and Maariv, Sept 8th and 9th, Rabbi Steinberg will give a shiur entitled: What is Olam Habah? A Discussion of the Rambam's Hilchos Teshuvah - Chapter Eight. On Rosh Hashana, as we contemplate serious matters of ultimate reward and punishment, it behooves us to study about Gan Eden, Olam Habah, and Techiyas Hameisim. We will cite works of Rambam, Ramban, Sefer Halkkarim, Ramchal, Gesher HaChaim, Pachad Yitchak, etc. Shabbos, Sept 11th, following 6:55 Mincha, Shabbos Shuva Drasha: The Centrality of Bain Adam Lachavairo. The careful reading of a Mishna, according to many great Commentators, could leave us with a whole new perspective on the interpersonal side of Mitzvos...

**Kashrus Alert:** Please be advised that Glatt Delight (formerly Maccabeam), at 128 South 12th Street in Philadelphia, is no longer under the supervision of Community Kashrus of Greater Philadelphia.

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Taharos. See shul bulletin board to sign up or email [eisenber@pol.net](mailto:eisenber@pol.net) with your name and the masechta (and chapters) you intend to learn.

A Father-Son Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg (recommended age of 5th grade and up) studying Sefer Melachim Aleph (Kings I) Please note the scheduling change, the Sep 13th class has been cancelled. Shiur will meet Monday nights at 8:00pm, starting Oct 4th. E-mail Rabbi Steinberg to join.

The Halacha Shiur with Rabbi Steinberg will be learning "classic" Yoreh Deah (Hilchos Basar v'Chalav, Taaruvos, etc.) Tuesday nights at 8:30pm. Shiur will meet Sept 14th and resume weekly Oct 5th. Visit the yiml website for instructions to join the online group for mareh mekomos and other updates and to be part of the massa umattan between shiurim.