

And it was in the morning, and behold it was Leah!" (29:25)

According to the Talmud, Yaakov gave Rachel a secret message that would identify her on their marriage night. He did this in order to prevent Lavan from substituting Leah for Rachel. When Rachel realized that Leah would be publicly humiliated if she could not give Yaakov the message, Rachel revealed the secret words to her. The Daas Zekainim cites a Midrash which says that in the morning, when Yaakov realized that the woman with him was Leah and not Rachel, he asked her, "Why have you tricked me into believing that you were Rachel?" Leah responded, "It is from you that I learned to do so. Did you not pose as your brother in order to receive the blessings?" How do Yaakov's actions substantiate Leah's?

Later in the parsha, Reuvein, Leah's eldest son brings her Duda'im, a plant that, according to some commentaries, increases the chances of conception. Rachel asks Leah to give her the Duda'im, to which Leah retorts, "Is it not enough that you took my husband? Now you want to take my son's Duda'im?" How could Leah make such a statement when the only reason that she was married to Yaakov was Rachel's kindness toward her?

To begin answering the aforementioned questions, we must first answer another question: Why are there four Matriarchs and only three Patriarchs? The answer is that there were supposed to be four Patriarchs. Eisav had the potential to become an Av, but since he made the wrong choices he lost this right. Yaakov filled the void created by Eisav, functioning as two Avos. He was therefore given a second name, Yisroel.

Rashi teaches that Leah was originally destined to marry Eisav, and Rachel, Yaakov. When Leah saw that Yaakov took over the mantle of Eisav, Leah realized that Yaakov became her soul mate. This is what she alluded to when she told Yaakov, "It is from you I learned"; since you substituted for Eisav, taking his blessings and birthright, you have become my soul mate. Leah argued that her marriage to Yaakov was not due to Rachel's kindness; it was Leah's right. Therefore, Leah felt justified in criticizing Rachel for having taken away her husband.

It is interesting to note that the children who issued forth from Leah possessed many of Eisav's characteristics and propensities. Dovid Hamelech, a descendant of Yehuda, is described as "Admoni" - "of ruddy complexion". This is the same description given for Eisav. Shimon and Levi were involved in shedding blood, and were admonished by Yaakov for having used Eisav's craft. Leah praised Reuvein for perfecting character flaws which his uncle Eisav displayed. A perusal of the verses with Rashi's commentary shows many examples of this nature. The reason for this is that Leah was initially Eisav's soul mate. Therefore, she possessed of the same traits found within Eisav. Whereas Eisav was not able to channel these propensities correctly, it was left up to Leah's offspring to do so.

Adapted from <http://www.torah.org/learning/rabbizweig/5772/vayeitzei.html> by Rabbi Zweig.

בס"ד

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Parshas Vayetzei

פרשת ויצא

Stone Chumash page 144; Haftarah, page 1139.

December 2-3, 2011

ז' כסלו תשע"ב



Shabbos Schedule



Light Candles, Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos: 4:18pm

Parsha Chaburah by Richie Fine: 7:55am

Rabbi's Mishlei Shiur: 8:15am

Shacharis: 8:45am

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:27am

Shabbos Groups, upstairs, for ages 2 and up. Children under 2 must be supervised by a parent. 9:45am

Kiddush is sponsored by Mendel and Shira Kupfer in honor of the birth of their daughter, Rivka Reena; and by Sherman and Susan Frager in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Malka Zinberg. Mazel Tov to the Kupfer/Miller families and the Frager/Zinberg families.

Mincha: 4:05pm

Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr Daniel Eisenberg.

Shalosh Seudos is community sponsored.

Maariv: 5:20pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis:	Sunday:	8:00am
	Monday and Thursday:	6:40am
	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:	6:50am
Mincha/Maariv:	Sunday:	4:25pm
Maariv:	Monday through Thursday:	7:45pm
Begin "ותן טל ומטר" at Maariv on Monday.		
Candle Lighting, Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos:		4:17pm

Weekday Shiurim

Daily Mussar Shiur:	15 minutes before Shacharis
Mishna Brura:	Mon and Wed after Maariv
Gemora Bekius Shiur:	Tues, Wed, Thurs at 8pm.
Sefer Bereishis Shiur:	Monday at 8pm.
Nefesh HaChaim:	Thursday at 10:10pm

Women's Learning Experience – Winter Schedule

Monday 9:00am: Tehillim for Cholim.
Monday 9:30am: Rabbi Steinberg - Geshet HaChaim.
Monday 10:45am: Rabbi Brisman - Shabbos Kitchen Halachas.
Tuesday 9:30am: Rabbi Shmidman - Sefer Tehillim, at LMS.
Tuesday 8:00pm: Stacey Goldman - Women in Tanach, at 161 Highland Circle.
Wednesday 9:30am: Steve Goldman - Sefer Devarim.
Wednesday 2:50pm: Rabbi Greenspan - Parsha Va'eschanan.
Thursday 9:30am: Rabbi Gold - Parsha HaShavua.
Classes at 8 Concord Circle, unless otherwise noted.
Suggested donation of \$5 per class. Babysitting is available, reservations must be made in advance. For information or babysitting, call Janis Fine 610-888-0477 jfine@comcast.net.

To subscribe to the YIML email list, visit
<http://mail.chaseplanet.us/mailman/listinfo/yiml>



- Mazel Tov to Sherman and Susan Frager and Family on the birth of a granddaughter, Malka, to Avi and Caroline Zinberg.
- Mazel Tov to Ariella and David Braun on the bris of Yosef Zev.
- Mazel Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Lichtenstein on the birth of a granddaughter, Sara Bleema, to Mordy and Vicky Lichtenstein.
- Mazel Tov to Evan and Ayala Aidman on the birth of a baby boy. Shalom Zachor Friday night, beginning at 8:00 PM, at the Aidman home, 6 Concord Circle.
- Mazel Tov to Marguerite and Ronald Werrin on the birth of a granddaughter and to the parents, Dorothy and Jason Greene.

Bnos and Pirchei

Bnos will meet from 2:45 to 3:45pm at LMS. Please pay yearly membership (\$36/girl). Contact Meira Friedman: 610-617-9529.
Bnos Pre-Chanukah Carnival on Dec 4, 2 to 3:30pm. Members \$3, non-members \$10. Spin art, moonbounce, prizes and more!
Pirchei will meet from 2:45 to 3:45pm at LMS. Contact Rabbi Ari Silver at 610-668-6833 or SilverDollar@verizon.net

YIML Cookbook

The Young Israel of the Main Line announces that its cookbook, At the End of the Fork, is now back in stock. The cost is \$15 per book (payable to YIML Women's League). Buy one for yourself and one for a friend. They make wonderful hostess gifts. To preview or purchase, please contact Janet Eisenberg (eisenber@pol.net or 610- 664- 8554).

Chevra Mishnayos

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

Questions? Comments! Sponsorships\$ weeklyupdate@yiml.org