



Ohr Yerushalayim News

כ"א תמוז תש"ע – פרשת פינחס – 3rd July 2010 - Volume 3 - Issue 1

F NEWS ... LATEST NEWS ... LATEST

Welcome to Volume 3!

This week marks the start of the third year of the Ohr Yerushalayim News - our weekly newsletter. It's at this time that we ask for new ideas for the year ahead. What would you like to see added or removed? Answers on a postcard ...

Siyum Mishnayos

Members are invited to a Seuda Shlishis and Siyum this Shabbos in honour of the completion of Shas Mishnayos through Misha Yomis.

The Seuda Shlishis takes place at 6.30pm, after the first Minyan for Mincha, in the Shul hall.

New Parshas HaShavua Shiur

OJ Beis HaMedrash is delighted to announce the launch of a weekly Parashas HaShavua shiur for men by R' Yehuda Pearlman.

The shiur takes place after the first Minyan for Maariv, from 8.15pm-9.00pm on Thursday evenings.

F NEWS ... LATEST NEWS ... LATEST

Moshe's Last Stand

Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky (Torah.org)

This week the most illustrious career in Biblical history begins its final chapters. Moshe is officially informed that he will pass on and is told who his successor would be. But in informing Moshe of the transition, Hashem repeats both here in the Book of Bamidbar (27:12) and again in the Book of Devorim (32:51) the reason that Moshe will not lead the B'nai Yisrael into the Land of Israel. It is because he hit the water producing rock instead of speaking to it.

Why does Hashem seem to stress Moshe's sin? Rashi, the classic medieval commentator, explains that Moshe asked Hashem to publicly declare his sin in order to declare that this sin was his only flaw. He was afraid lest some would say that he, too, was amongst those who were destroyed for rebellion in the desert. He was afraid that he would be equated with the rebels and sinners. Thus, he asked Hashem to emphasize that the only flaw he committed was that of the rock.

It is very difficult to understand. How could Moshe even suspect that anyone would place him on that level? How could one even imagine that he was excluded from entering Israel for an act of treason that led to the demise of others? Why was it so important to Moshe that the Torah reiterates that the incident at the rock was his only transgression?

Radio commentator Paul Harvey once presented a piece of American history in the following manner:

George Armstrong was appointed to the United States Military Academy in 1857. After graduating and commissioned in the cavalry, he quickly established a reputation for daring and brilliance in battle. His reputation was so well acclaimed that at the age of

twenty-three, he was made the youngest brigadier general in United States history. George's energy and cunning paralleled the other great Georges who left their mark on military history -- Generals George Washington and George S. Patton. In fact, George Armstrong was so successful, that by the end of the Civil War he became one of the most celebrated commanders.

His pursuit of Lee's army from Richmond in April 1865 destroyed the confederate lines of defense and captured prisoners, wagons, and guns - until, on the morning of April 9 he had totally defeated the enemy. It was to no one other than General George Armstrong that the Confederate flag of defeat was first presented.

After the Civil War, his career continued to flourish. He was assigned to the newly formed seventh Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kansas, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In the fall of 1868 he won a brilliant victory over Black Kettle's band of Cheyenne Indians in the battle of the Washita and took part in many successful engagements over the next eight years.

But history has almost no recollection of the illustrious career of General George Armstrong. On June 22, 1876, General George Armstrong and his regiment, a force of about 655 men, set out for Little Bighorn. He encountered an overwhelming force of at least 4,000 well-armed Sioux warriors and was killed together with his entire regiment.

No longer were the Civil War successes the hallmark of General George Armstrong's career. Only remembered is the great defeat at Little Bighorn led by General George Armstrong - did I mention his last name -- Custer - General George Armstrong Custer at his last stand.

The Week Ahead

שבת פרשת פינחס

Candle Lighting and Shabbos	Between 7.55 and 8.00pm
Mincha	7.30pm
Seder Halimud	8.40am
Shacharis	9.00am
סוף זמן ק"ש	8.58am
Mincha 1st Minyan / 2nd Minyan	6.00pm / 9.51pm
Rov's Mishnayos Shiur	10.31pm
Maariv & Motzei Shabbos	10.56pm
Sunday 1st/2nd Minyan	7.20am/8.20am
Monday / Thursday	7.10am
Tuesday / Wednesday / Friday	7.20am
Mincha & Maariv All Week	7.45pm
Maariv 2nd Minyan	9.40pm
Mincha & Maariv Next Shabbos	7.30pm (Shabbos 9.05pm)

People often tend to forget the illustrious careers of great people because of a flaw that ended it. Moshe was punished for an infraction that is difficult to comprehend in mortal terms. He hit a rock, and produced water -- one of history's greatest miracles -- for a thirsting nation. Yet something was wrong. He was supposed to speak to the rock and instead he hit it. And between him and his Creator, there was a price to pay. We however must realize that a mistake, as great as its consequences were, cannot mar the illustrious career of the man who led us out of Egypt and developed us into the nation that we are today. In no way can that punishment diminish any regard that we have for Moshe. At Moshe's departure, that point was to be reiterated repeatedly. It is only because of the rock that he did not enter.

How often does a man who works tirelessly for years and who errs in his last stand, go down in disgrace for the act that terminated his career? How many people's last stand becomes their most notorious if not their only stand? Perhaps Hashem's reiteration vis-a-vis Moshe are a lesson to all of us. There are no first stands and there are no last stands. If we stand for something worthy, then we stand forever!

DID YOU KNOW?

Rosh Chodesh - Maariv

Someone who forgot "יעלה ויבא" in Maariv can say it as long as he has not said HaShem's name in the brocho "המחזיר" Once he has said the brocho he does not have to go back (even on the second night and not like during the day).

Source: Mishnah Berurah 422 (1) [2,3]

We want our tefillos to be accepted so it's best to perform them correctly.
For details please ask the Rov רב

Parsha Snapshots



Pinchas has brought an end to the plague.



As a reward, Pinchas receives the priesthood.



G-d tells Moshe and Aharon to take a census of every man over twenty years old.



The count comes to 600,730.



G-d tells Moshe that he should divide Eretz Yisrael among the tribes according to their number -- the larger tribes get more territory.



The daughters of Tzelofchad go to Moshe and Elazar to make a claim...



They say that their father died in the desert and left no sons to inherit his portion in the land.



They say: "Why should the name of our father be lost? Give us the inheritance instead!"



G-d tells Moshe to give the inheritance to Tzelofchad's daughters.



G-d tells Moshe to ascend Mount Avarim to see the Land.



Once Moshe sees the land, he will be "gathered in" like his brother Aharon -- he will die.



Moshe appoints Yehoshua to replace him as leader of the Jewish people.

7+H

פרשת פינחס

1. From which tribe did זמרי come?
2. Who were נמואל?
3. How many males were counted in the tribe of לוי?
4. What service would אלעזר have to do for יהושע?
5. Which animals were used for a קרבן מוסף on שבת?
6. Which animals were used for a קרבן מוסף on שבועות?
7. Which animals were used for a קרבן מוסף on שמיני עצרת?
- H. Which two visions did ירמיהו הנביא see?

