



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Toldot

November 22, 2014 29 Cheshvan,

<p>TORAH ARTSCROLL, 124 HERTZ, 93</p> <p>HAFTARAH ARTSCROLL, 1207 HERTZ, 948</p>	<h2>Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Parshat Toldot</h2>																																										
<p>MEVORCHIM CHODESH MOLAD KISLEV SAT. NOV 22 9:46:17 AM ROSH CHODESH SUNDAY NOV. 23</p>	<p>In an earlier Covenant and Conversation I quoted the Netziv (Naftali Zvi Yehudah Berlin, 1816-1893, dean of the yeshiva in Volozhin), who made the sharp observation that Isaac and Rebecca seem not to have communicated closely. Rebecca's "relationship with Isaac was not the same as that between Sarah and Abraham or Rachel and Jacob. When they had a problem they were not afraid to speak about it. Not so with Rebecca" (Commentary to Gen. 24: 65). The Netziv senses this distance from the very first moment when Rebecca saw Isaac "meditating in the field" at which point she "covered herself with a veil." He comments, "She covered herself out of awe and a sense of inadequacy as if she felt she was unworthy to be his wife, and from then on this trepidation was fixed in her mind." Their relationship, suggests Netziv, was never casual, intimate. The result was, at a series of critical moments, a failure of communication. It seems likely that Rebecca never informed Isaac of the oracle she had before the twins, Esau and Jacob, were born, in which God told her "the elder will serve the younger." That apparently is one reason she loved Jacob rather than Esau, knowing that he was the one chosen by God. If Isaac knew this, why did he favor Esau? Therefore he probably did not know, because Rebecca had not told him. That is why, many years later, when she heard that Isaac was</p>	<p>about to bless Esau she was forced into a plan of deception: she told Jacob to pretend he was Esau. Why did she not simply tell Isaac that it was Jacob who was to be blessed? Because that would have forced her to admit that she had kept her husband in ignorance about the prophecy all the years the children were growing up.</p> <p>Had she spoken to Isaac on the day of the blessing, Isaac might have said something that would have changed the entire course of their, and their children's, lives. I imagine Isaac saying this: 'Of course I know that it will be Jacob not Esau who will continue the covenant. But I have two quite different blessings in mind, one for each of our sons. I will give Esau a blessing of wealth and power: "May God give you the dew of heaven and the richness of the earth ... May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you" (Gen. 27: 28-29). I will give Jacob the blessing God gave Abraham and me, the blessing of children and the promised land: "May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples. May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now reside as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham" (Gen. 28: 3-4)'</p> <p>Isaac never did intend to give the blessing of the covenant to Esau. He intended to give each child the blessing that suited them. The entire deceit planned by Rebecca and carried out by Jacob was never necessary in the first place. Why did Rebecca not understand this? Because she and her husband did not communicate.</p> <p>Now let us count the consequences.</p>	<p>Isaac, old and blind, felt betrayed by Jacob. He "trembled violently" when he realized what had happened, and said to Esau, "Your brother came deceitfully." Esau likewise felt betrayed and felt such violent hatred toward Jacob that he vowed to kill him. Rebecca was forced to send Jacob into exile, thus depriving herself for more than two decades of the company of the son she loved. As for Jacob, the consequences of the deceit lasted a lifetime, resulting in strife between his wives, and between his children. "Few and evil have been the days of my life," he said as an old man to Pharaoh. Four lives scarred by one act which was not even necessary in the first place since Isaac did in fact give Jacob "the blessing of Abraham" without any deception, knowing him to be Jacob not Esau.</p> <p>Such is us the human price we pay for a failure to communicate. The Torah is exceptionally candid about such matters, which is what makes it so powerful a guide to life: real life, among real people with real problems. communication matters. In the beginning God created the natural world with words: "And God said: Let there be." We create the social world with words. The Targum translated the phrase in Genesis 2, "And man became a living soul" as "and man became a speaking soul." For us, speech is life. Life is relationship. And human relationships only exist because we can speak. We can tell other people our hopes, our fears, our feelings and thoughts.</p> <p>That is why any leader – from a parent to a CEO – must set as</p>																																								
<p>BAR MITZVAH ARYEH DYNKIN ARIEL COBY SHARIFIAN</p>																																											
<p style="text-align: center;">Times</p>																																											
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<p>Rabbi Polakoff's Shabbat Drasha, through 5775, is sponsored in memory of Pinchas ben Yosef z"l</p>																																											

his or her task good, strong, honest, open communication. That is what makes families, teams and corporate cultures healthy. Everyone must know what their overall aims are as a team, what their specific role is, what responsibilities they carry, and what values and behaviors they are expected to exemplify. There must be praise for those who do well, as well as constructive criticism when people do badly – criticism of the act not the person, who must feel respected whatever his or her failures. This last is one of the fundamental differences between a "guilt morality" of which Judaism is the supreme example, and a "shame morality" like that of ancient Greece (guilt makes a clear distinction between the act and the person, which shame does not).

There are times when much depends on clear communication. It is not too much to say that there was a moment at which the fate of the world depended on it. It happened during the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 when the United States and the Soviet Union were on the brink of nuclear war. At the height of the crisis, as described by Robert McNamara in his film, The Fog of War, John F. Kennedy received two messages from the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev. One was conciliatory, the other far more hawkish. Most of Kennedy's advisers believed that the second represented Khrushchev's real views and should be taken seriously.

However one man, Llewellyn Thompson Jr., had been American ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1957 to 1962 and had come to know the Russian president well. He had even spent a period of time living with Khrushchev and his wife. He told Kennedy that the conciliatory message sounded like Khrushchev's own personal view while the hawkish letter, which did not sound like him, had probably been written to appease the Russian generals. Kennedy listened to Thompson, gave Khrushchev a way of backing down without losing face, and the result was that war was averted. It is fearful to imagine what might have happened had Thompson not been there to establish which was and which wasn't the real act of communication.

Parents and leaders must establish a culture in which honest, open, respectful communication takes place, and that involves not just speaking but also listening. Without it, tragedy is waiting in the wings.



GNS Yoetzet Halacha Dena Block welcomes your questions about mikvah, observance of taharat mishpacha (halacha relating to married life) and women's health, as it connects to Jewish law. Reach out to her at:
Phone: (516) 320-9818
Email: gnsyoetzet@gmail.com All conversations/ emails are strictly confidential.



Great Neck Synagogue
Shabbat Activities Program
26 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023
516-487-6100

Dale Polakoff, Rabbi
Ian Lichter, Assistant Rabbi
Dr. Ephraim Wolf, z"l, Rabbi Emeritus
Zeev Kron, Cantor
Eleazer Schulman, z"l, Cantor Emeritus
Rabbi Sholom Jensen, Youth Director
Zehava & Dr. Michael Atlas, Youth Directors
Mark Twersky, Executive Director
James Frisch, Assistant Director
Rabbi Avraham Bronstein, Program Director
Ari Lipsky, Rabbinic Intern
Dr. Hal Chadow, President
Harold Domnitch, Chairman of the Board
Dena Block, Yoetzet Halacha 516-320-9818

HELP OUR SHUL GROW

As the Jewish community in Great Neck continues to grow, we ask our members to help us identify and reach out to new people and families that move into the community. If you know of people new to Great Neck please contact Mark Twersky or the chairs of the New Members Committee, **Debbie Chadow, Katie Lichter and Nadine Shatzkes**

- *Ronen and Tali Abergel
- *Joy and Joseph Allens
- Ravit and Eli Azulay
- Deborah and Bobby Balakhaneh
- *Irene Dicker
- Jennifer Dienstag
- *Adam & Dahlia Dressler
- *Ben & Rachel Feintuch
- *Kathy and Josh Gold
- *Karen and Jason Hammerman
- *Sharonal and Aaron Hanasab
- *Dr. Barbara Kapelman
- Aliza and Aryeh Karkowsky
- Jacqueline and Mark Kaufman
- Barrie and Josh Lev
- *Harriet and Harry Lumerman
- *Zarina and Edward Mehrfar
- Erica and Steven Parilis
- Melissa and Baruch Pelcovitz
- Dr. Jackie and Michael Rudick
- Esther and Shahriar Samady
- *Elanna and Gregory Stashower
- *Jessica and Noah Steinberg

***Members of GNS**

Death to Burial: Spiritual and Practical

RABBI DALE POLAKOFF &

JERRY WEINSTEIN,

HEAD OF THE CHEVRA KADISHA OF GREAT NECK

Presented by the GNS Men's Club

Starting Tuesday evening November 4 at 7:30 pm

This class will meet on 4 consecutive Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm beginning on November 4. Classes will be held on the 11th, 18th and 25th.

ARE YOU A MASTER CHEF?

GNS HIGH SCHOOL MASTER CHEF COMPETITION 2.0

Saturday Night November 22
8:30pm

Braun Youth Center

RAFFLE PRIZES TO BE WON!!



Get your chefs together (6 max)

\$10 entrance fee per group

You will be given ingredients

Panel will judge based on taste, texture & presentation

To sign up respond "masterchef" with your name to mjatl@gnshoa.com

Shabbat Prayer Workshop

**YOU ASKED FOR IT,
NOW WE HAVE IT!!!**

Open to parents and children of all ages and backgrounds wishing to gain practical knowledge of how to approach the Shabbat Prayer Service(s), and deepen your understanding of the meaning behind the prayers.

WHEN: Twice monthly on Shabbat morning from 10:30-11:30 AM

WHERE: Room 209: Second Floor: NSHA

The classes will be led by Ariella & Rachel Lunzer
THE FIRST CLASS WILL BE NOVEMBER 29, 2014



63rd Annual Dinner

Saturday Night, December 13, 2014
7:30 pm

Honoring



Father & Daughter
Leslie Kahn & Michelle Berman



Rabbi Ian & Katie Licher



Boneh Habayit
Nadine Shatzkes

Reservations: www.gns.org or 516-487-6100

"Dinner With a New Attitude"

Top Shelf Scotch Table Exciting New Band Fabulous Dessert Buffet

Great Neck Synagogue

presents Guest Speaker

**YOSSI KLEIN
HALEVI**



Contributing Editor, The New Republic & Senior Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute

Author of the 2013 Jewish Book of the Year:

"Like Dreamers:

The Israeli Paratroopers Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation"

at a Shabbat Dinner, Friday, November 21, 2014

\$36/PERSON | \$25/TEEN | \$15/CHILD \$125 FAMILY MAX

Signed copies of "Like Dreamers" available for pre-order

RSVP: [516.487.6100](tel:516.487.6100) or online at: www.gns.org

[Scholars Dinner: Featuring Yossi Klein Halevi](#)

Name _____

Adults _____ Teens _____ Children _____

Amt enclosed _____

Seating requests _____

This year for Thanksgiving
You can really give thanks and be giving!

Buy a Thanksgiving Dinner for a
resident at Arrandale Senior Housing
and make your parents proud of you.

\$18 can sponsor a dinner
in honor of/in memory of your parents

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Meals purchased in memory/ in honor of: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

We are also looking for a limited number of volunteers (ALL AGES) to help serve the dinner, clean up, play music, sing & talk to the residents.

I would like to volunteer on Thursday, Nov 27th 11:30 -2 pm.

Food Server: _____

Other Talent: _____

Volunteer Names & Kids' Ages: _____

Co-Sponsored by: GNS Hunger Initiative, Sisterhood & Women's Tefila.

For more info: call Nechama at 516-773-3572 or email lisslev@verizon.net

Please return to: GNS 26 Old Mill Rd. Great Neck, NY 11023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Breakfast is sponsored by **Albert Kalimi** in memory of his father **Rachamim ben Agababa**.

MEN'S CLUB

SUN. NOV. 23, 10:00 am: A breakfast and Talk by **Prof. William Helmreich** on the Jewish aspects of his highly successful new book, "*The New York Nobody Knows: Walking 6,000 Miles in the City*". You will be enlightened and entertained. All welcome.

SUN. DEC. 7, 10:00 am: We are thrilled that **Hank Scheinkopf**, noted political, public affairs and corporate media consultant, will be speaking on, *The mid-term elections are over: what's new?* Mr. Scheinkopf has managed many political campaigns, including those of President Clinton and Mayor Bloomberg. All welcome.

WOMEN'S TEFILA

PARENTS who would like to schedule a Women's Tefila Bat Mitzvah for their daughter can contact **Annie Mendelson**, annieemm@optonline.net.

RAFFLE PRIZES WANTED

We are now collecting raffle prizes for the GNS Annual Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, December 13th. We strongly encourage you to donate credit card points for prizes that can include airline tickets and hotel accommodations. We are also looking for prizes such as timeshare vacation places, beautiful jewelry, fur, electronics, judaica, gift certificates, internship opportunities, theatre and sports tickets, camp discounts, as well as other prize donations that you might have that will make our dinner extra special! Please contact us at rafflechairs@gmail.com or Michael & Pia Shlomo - (917)371-8013 Mark & Amy Kalter - (516)857-1719

GNS NOVEMBER CHESED COLLECTION

We are collecting Toys and Games for Chai Lifeline. Please drop off new and unwrapped toys and games at the Lichter residence, 76 Berkshire Rd, until Sunday November 30th. (There will be boxes inside the garage located on Marlot Ave).

THANKSGIVING CHESED OPPORTUNITY

This year for Thanksgiving, you can really give thanks and be giving! Buy a Thanksgiving Dinner for a resident at Arrandale Senior Housing and make your parents proud of you. We are also looking for a limited number of volunteers (ALL AGES) to help serve the dinner, clean up, play music, sing & talk to the residents. Co-Sponsored by: GNS Hunger Initiative, Sisterhood & Women's Tefila. For more info: call **Nechama** at 516-773-3572 or email lisslev@verizon.net.

BI-ANNUAL OHEL SHABBATON

The bi-annual OHEL Shabbaton is scheduled for **Dec.5-6**. The schedule will include a dinner at GNS for all hosts as well as an Oneg after dinner on Friday night. If you would like to sign up to be a host (3-4 people). We are also looking for sponsors for the Friday night dinner and Oneg, Please contact Rabbi Lichter for opportunities at ilichter@gns.org.

ANNUAL CHANUKAH BOUTIQUE

Be sure to come to the Shul lobby on **Tues., Dec 9th from 3-8 PM** - We've got Optical Insight, Pampered Chef, Arbonne, Makeup Artists, clothes, Judaica and more!!! We need volunteers for that day, so if you can help just a little bit, we'll really appreciate it! Please tell all our friends-Shul members or not-to come! Contact farlaftrumkin@gmail.com

Please note that dues can be paid by credit cards with NO SERVICE CHARGE through November 30th. Reservations and credit card payments for all events can be done quickly and conveniently on line.

SNOW BIRDS

Please let the synagogue know when you are leaving asap.

COMMUNITY NEWS

COOKING DEMONSTRATION

By Gourmetkoshercooking.com's Elizabeth Kurtz - Nov., 18, 2014 at 7:30PM at the home of Jessica Shusterman, 2 Chestnut Drive - \$54/person RSVP online www.emunah.org/gncookingevent or contact Jessica Shusterman [516-641-3187](tel:516-641-3187).

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Mazal Tov to **Alina & Lev Dynkin** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Aryeh**.

Mazal Tov to **Dina & Mehran Sharifian** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Ariel Coby**.

Mazal Tov to **Sarita & Ben Greszes** on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson **Akiva Aryeh**, son of **Mindy & Doni Aryeh** in Woodmere. **Mazal Tov** also to siblings **Eytan, Chani, Zahava** and **Moshe**.

Mazal Tov to **Ellen & Gershon Bodner** on the marriage of their daughter **Erika**, to **Dr. Adam Auerbach** son of **Elaine & Edward Auerbach** of Hillsborough, NJ.

Mazal Tov to **Yaffa & Ebrahim Gabbazadeh** on the engagement of their son **Egal** to **Mona Souferian**.

Mazal Tov to **Marcy & Murray Rabinowitz** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Jennifer**. **Mazal Tov** to grandfather **Stephen Rabinowitz** and great grandparents **Marion & Milton Rabinowitz**.

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MAGEN DAVID ADOM

American Friends of Magen David Adom's Annual NY Benefit Dinner will take place on **Tues. Dec., 2** at Chelsea Piers and **Barbara Walters** will be the honoree. For more info please contact Chelsea piers, **Carol Buckmann** (Siegel301@yahoo.com) or **Karen Stein** at 212-757-1627.

SPECIAL CHESED OPPORTUNITY

Fire completely destroyed apt where 6 girls were living. Thank G-d no one was injured but all contents lost. Need new or gently used household items, furniture / furnishings, winter wear, etc. Please contact the Lunzers (hindilunzer@gmail.com or at [516 829 4034](tel:516-829-4034)). Thank you.

PIES FOR PREVENTION

Do you like to BAKE OR Do you prefer to EAT CAKE? Either way, you can help others. Pies for prevention is offering delicious pies for your Thanksgiving meal. You can volunteer to bake them in your kosher home for us to sell, or you can buy them from us for your Thanksgiving meal. All sales will support Sharsheret's unique program helping young Jewish women and their families dealing with ovarian cancer. If you would like to VOL-UNTEER to be a baker, call TOVAH at 516-314-7135 or email at twerber@gmail.com. Info for buying pies coming soon!

NSHA PTA CHANUKAH BOUTIQUE SALE

Will be held **Sun., Dec. 14, 2014** from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at 16 Cherry Lane in Kings Point. The sale will feature a large variety of vendors including jewelry, children's clothing, toys, exercise wear, tablecloths, housewares, monogrammed gifts, Bella's hats, faux flower arrangements, and much more!

The Dynkin family would like to thank Rabbis Polakoff, Lichter and the Great Neck Synagogue community for the outpouring of support and sympathy following the loss of their beloved mother Tsivya Dynkin z'l.

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Saturday, 29 Cheshvan

Melvin Breite for David Block
Stephen Karbowitz for Ben Karbowitz
Judy Hoffman for Benjamin Karbowitz
Jeffrey Kaufman for David Lawson Kaufman
Gilbert Aronowitz for Betty Luchansky
Gerald Nathel for Fannie Nathel
Evelyn Henis for Fannie Noah
Marvin Rotman for Edith Solomon Rotman

Sunday, 1 Kislev

Jeffrey Bilfeld for Murray Bilfeld
Joseph Hecht for Pinchas Hecht
Gilbert Louzoun for Henriette Louzoun
Elizabeth Ort for Lawrence Suss

Monday, 2 Kislev

Cindy Ludwig for Florence Gelber

Tuesday, 3 Kislev

Anthony Berkowitz for Barney Berkowitz
Cindy Ludwig for Frank Gelber

Thursday, 5 Kislev

Lili Weiss for David Buch
Benjamin Lunzer for Lulius Peter Lunzer

Friday, 6 Kislev

Asher Davoudpour for Aharon David Davoudpour
Evelyn Henis for Albert Noah
Elliot Diamond for Molly Diamond Shalm