



# Shabbat Announcements

Pesach

April 4, 2015 15 Nissan, 5775

		<b>Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Pesach</b>	
<p><b>PESACH I TORAH</b> ARTSCROLL 354 HERTZ 257</p> <p><b>MAFTIR BOTH DAYS</b> ARTSCROLL 892 HERTZ 695</p> <p><b>HAFTORAH I</b> ARTSCROLL 1221 HERTZ 1009</p> <p><b>PESACH II TORAH</b> ARTSCROLL 680 HERTZ 518</p> <p><b>HAFTORAH II</b> ARTSCROLL 1222 HERTZ 1012</p>		<p>Many commentators, among them the Vilna Gaon, have drawn attention to the influence of the number four in connection with the Haggadah. There are four fours:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The four questions</li> <li>2. The four sons</li> <li>3. The four cups of wine</li> <li>4. The four expressions of redemption: 'I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians and free you from their slavery. I will deliver you with a demonstration of My power and with great acts of judgment. I will take you to Me as a nation.' (Ex.6: 6-7).</li> </ol> <p>It may be, though, that just as an X-ray can reveal an earlier painting beneath the surface of a later one, so beneath the surface of the Haggadah there is another pattern to be discerned. That is what I want to suggest in this chapter. The first thing to note is that there is, in fact, another 'four' on the seder night, namely the four biblical verses whose exposition forms an important part of the Haggadah:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 'An Aramean tried to destroy my father...'</li> <li>2. 'And the Egyptians ill-treated us and afflicted us...'</li> <li>3. 'And we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers...'</li> <li>4. 'And the Lord brought us out of Egypt...'</li> </ol> <p>(Deut. 26:5-8)</p> <p>There are, then, not four fours, but five.</p> <p>In early editions of the Talmud tractate Pesachim (118a) there is a passage that perplexed the medieval commentators. It reads: 'Rabbi Tarfon says: over the fifth cup we recite the great Hallel.' The medieval commentators were puzzled by this because elsewhere the rabbinic literature speaks about four cups, not five. The Mishnah, for example, states that a poor person must be</p>	
<b>Times</b>		<p>supplied with enough money to be able to buy four cups of wine. In both the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds the discussion revolves around the assumption that there are four cups on seder night. How then are we to understand the statement of Rabbi Tarfon that there is a fifth cup?</p> <p>Among the commentators three views emerged. The first was that of Rashi and the Tosafists. According to them, there are only four cups on the seder night, and it is forbidden to drink a fifth. The statement of Rabbi Tarfon must therefore be a misprint, and the texts of the Talmud should be amended accordingly.</p> <p>The second was that of Maimonides. He holds that there is a fifth cup, but unlike the other four, it is optional rather than obligatory. The Mishnah which teaches that a poor person must be given enough money to buy four cupfuls of wine means that we must ensure that he has the opportunity to fulfill his obligation. It does not extend to the fifth cup which is permitted but not compulsory. Rabbi Tarfon's statement is to be understood to mean that those who wish to drink a fifth cup should do so during the recitation of the great Hallel.</p> <p>The third view, that of Ravad of Posquières, a contemporary of Maimonides, is that one should drink a fifth cup. There is a difference in Jewish law between an obligation, <i>hovah</i>, and a religiously significant good deed, <i>mitzvah</i>. The first four cups are obligatory. The fifth is a <i>mitzvah</i>, meaning, not obligatory but still praiseworthy and not merely, as Maimonides taught, optional.</p> <p>Thus there was a controversy over the fifth cup. Rashi said that we should not drink it; Maimonides that we may; Ravad that we should. What does one do, faced with this kind of disagreement? Jewish law tries wherever possible to propose a solution that pays respect to all views, especially when they are held by great halakhic authorities. The solution in the present case was simple. A fifth cup is poured (out of respect for Ravad and Maimonides) but not drunk (out of respect for Rashi).</p> <p>When a disagreement occurs in the</p>	
		<p>Talmud which is not resolved, the sages often used the word <i>Teyku</i>, 'Let it stand'. We believe that such disagreements will be resolved in the time to come when Elijah arrives to announce the coming of the Messiah. One of his roles will be to rule on unresolved halakhic controversies. An allusion to this is to be found in the word <i>Teyku</i> itself, which was read as an abbreviation of <i>Tishbi Yetaretz Kushyot Ve'ibbayot</i>, 'The Tishbite, Elijah, will answer questions and difficulties.' This therefore is the history behind 'the cup of Elijah' – the cup we fill after the meal but do not drink. It represents the 'fifth cup' mentioned in the Talmud.</p> <p>According to the Jerusalem Talmud, the reason we have four cups of wine is because of the four expressions of redemption in God's promise to Moses. How then could Rabbi Tarfon suggest that there are not four cups but five? The fascinating fact is that if we look at the biblical passage there are not four expressions of redemption but five. The passage continues: 'And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.' (Exodus 6: 8)</p> <p>There is a further missing fifth. As mentioned above, during the course of reciting the Haggadah we expound four biblical verses, beginning with, 'An Aramean tried to destroy my father.' In biblical times, this was the declaration made by someone bringing first-fruits to Jerusalem. However, if we turn to the source we discover that there is a fifth verse to this passage: 'He brought us to this place [the land of Israel] and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey' (Deuteronomy. 26: 9). We do not recite or expound this verse at the seder table. But this strange since the Mishnah states explicitly, 'And one must expound the passage beginning, "An Aramean tried to destroy my father" until one has completed the whole passage.' In fact we do not complete the whole passage, despite the Mishnah's instruction.</p> <p>So there are three 'missing fifths' – the fifth cup, the fifth expression of redemption, and the fifth verse. It</p>	
Candle Lighting	7:03 pm		
Friday Mincha	7:05 pm		
Hashkama	8:00 am		
Main Shul	9:00 am		
Beit Midrash	9:15 am		
Youth Minyan	8:30 am		
Shiur	5:55 pm		
Mincha	6:55 pm		
2nd nt. Yom Tov	after		
Candle Lighting	8:05 pm		
Sun., Pesach II	8:00-9:00-9:15 am		
Mon.– Thurs.	6:30/7:45 am		
Chol HaMoed			
Fri. Pesach VII	8:00-9:00-9:15 am		
Mincha	7:10 pm		
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei			
April 4	9:47/10:51 am		
April 11	9:40/10:46 am		
Next Shabbat Pesach II			
Candle Lighting	7:11 pm		
Mincha	7:10 pm		

is also clear why. All three refer to God not merely bringing the Jewish people out of Egypt but also bringing them into the land of Israel. The Haggadah as we now have it and as it evolved in rabbinic times is, in Maimonides words, 'the Haggadah as practiced in the time of exile,' meaning, during the period of the Dispersion. The missing fifth represented the missing element in redemption. How could Jews celebrate arriving in the land of Israel when they were in exile? How could they drink the last cup of redemption when they had said at the beginning of the seder, 'This year slaves, next year free; this year here, next year in the land of Israel?'

The fifth cup – poured but not drunk – was like the cup broken at Jewish weddings. It was a symbol of incompleteness. It meant that as long as Jews were dispersed throughout the world, facing persecution and danger, they could not yet celebrate to the full. One great sage of the twentieth century, the late Rabbi Menahem Kasher, argued that now that there is a State of Israel, many exiles have been ingathered and Jews have recovered their sovereignty and land, the fifth cup should be re-instated. That remains for the halakhic authorities to decide.

What, though, of the four questions and the four sons? There was a fifth question. The Mishnah states that a child should ask: 'On all other nights we eat meat that is cooked, boiled or roasted; but this night only roasted meat.' This text can still be found in the early manuscripts of the Haggadah discovered in the Cairo genizah. It refers to the time when the Temple stood and the food eaten at the seder night included the paschal offering, which was roasted. After the Temple was destroyed and the practice of eating a paschal lamb was discontinued, this question was dropped and another (about reclining) substituted.

Was there a fifth child? The late Lubavitcher Rebbe suggested that there is a fifth child on Pesach. The four children of the Haggadah are all present, sitting round the table. The fifth child is the one who is not there, the child lost through outmarriage and assimilation. Rabbinic tradition tells us that in Egypt, many Jews assimilated and did not want to leave. The Torah uses a phrase to describe the Israelites' departure from Egypt, Vachamushim alu bnei Yisrael miMitzrayim (Exodus 13: 18). This is normally translated as 'The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle.' However Rashi, citing earlier authorities, suggests that hamush may not mean 'armed.' Instead it may be related to the word hamesh, 'five'. The sentence could therefore be translated as, 'Only a fifth of the Israelites left Egypt.'

The rest, he explains, perished in the plague of darkness. The plague itself was less an affliction of the Egyptians than a way of covering the shame of the Israelites, that so many of their number did not want to

leave. The loss of Jews through assimilation has been an ongoing tragedy of Jewish history. How do we allude to it on seder night? By silence: the fifth child – the one who is not there.

So the beneath the surface of the Haggadah we find, not four fours, but five fives. In each case there is a missing fifth – a cup, an expression of deliverance, a verse, a question and a child. Each points to something incomplete in our present situation. In the half-century since the Holocaust the Jewish people has emerged from darkness to light. The State of Israel has come into being. The Hebrew language has been reborn. Jews have been brought to safety from the countries where they faced persecution. In the liberal democracies of the West Jews have gained freedom, and even prominence and affluence.

But Israel is not yet at peace. In the Diaspora assimilation continues apace. Many Jews are estranged from their people and their faith. Something is missing from our celebration – the fifth cup, the fifth deliverance, the fifth verse, the fifth question and the fifth child. That is a measure of what is still to be achieved. We have not yet reached our destination. The missing fifths remind us of work still to be done, a journey not yet complete.



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



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Rabbi Dale Polakoff, Rabbi  
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  
Dr. 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

**Thursday, April 2**  
*Bedikat Chometz this evening after 8:02 pm*

**EREV PESACH**

**Friday, April 3**

Shacharit with Siyum for first born **6:30 am**  
**7:45 am**

*Chometz may not be eaten after:*

Magen Avraham **10:23 am**

Vilna Gaon **10:50 am**

*Chometz must be destroyed by:*

Magen Avraham **11:40 am**

Vilna Gaon **11:54 am**

**PESACH I**

**Friday night, April 3**

Candle Lighting **7:03 pm**

Mincha **7:05 pm**

*Kiddush after (first Seder) 8:03 pm*

**Saturday, April 4**

Hashkama **8:00 am**

Main Shul **9:00 am**

Beit Midrash **9:15 am**

Shiur **5:55 pm**

Mincha **6:55 pm**

**PESACH II**

**Saturday night, April 4**

Candle Lighting after **8:05 pm**

*Preparations for the second Seder*

*should not begin before 8:05 pm*

**Sunday, April 5**

Hashkama **8:00 am**

Main Shul **9:00 am**

Beit Midrash **9:15 am**

Mincha **7:05 pm**

Yom Tov Ends after **8:06 pm**

**CHOL HAMOED**

**Mon. - Thurs. 6:30 am & 7:45 am**

Mincha

**7:10 pm**

GREAT NECK  
BIKUR CHOLIM

1ST ANNUAL YIGN & GNS  
BIKUR CHOLIM EVENT

There and Back:  
Perspectives on Recovery  
From Serious Illness

PANELISTS  
DR. FARLA FRUMKIN  
RABBI SHMUEL ISMACH  
RABBI YAACOV LERNER  
ERIC ROSEN  
RABBI DALE POLAKOFF

MODERATOR  
ROBYN BLUMNER

Tuesday April 21, 2015  
8:00 PM at  
Great Neck Synagogue

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 22

YOM HAZIKARON

YOM HAATZMAUT

An Inspiring Guest Speaker:

**STEPHEN FLATOW**



**Ambassador  
John  
Bolton**

**Sunday Evening, May 3**

**Sponsored by**

**The GNS Men's Club**

**&**

**The Long Island Chapter of ZOA**

SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!

**REMEMBER**

**YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION**

70 YEARS AFTER AUSCHWITZ-WHY WE STILL REMEMBER

COME HEAR THE CHILLING TALE OF

**MARTIN GREENFIELD**

FROM AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR TO PRESIDENTS' TAILOR

WEDNESDAY APRIL 15, 2015

7:45 PM

SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5775, IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF **PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH** FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT **HOWARD WOLF** [212-686-9800](tel:212-686-9800) EXT 220

## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

### SELLING CHAMETZ

**Rabbi Polakoff** will be available for Sale of Chametz during his regular office hours Tuesday and Thursday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 8-9:30pm. **Rabbi Lichter** will be available during his office hours as well.

**Mazal Tov** to **Cheryl Sneag** on the birth of a grandson born to her children **Darryl & Jennifer Sneag** and to siblings **Lilly** and **Avery**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Carol & Stephan Karbowitz** on the birth of a granddaughter, born to their children **Rachel & Josh Spindel**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Ester & Eliezer Noy** on the birth of a grandson, born to their children **Eran & Nina Noy**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Keren & Nadav Glucklich** on the birth of a son.

### SIYUM BECHORIM

The Siyum's on Friday morning will be sponsored by the following:

**Matt Gartenhaus** in memory of his father Stanley, z"l

**Howie Lorber** in memory of his parents,

**Myles Mittleman** in memory of his parents,

**Joseph Hyman** in memory of his father Leon, z"l,

**Steve Blumner** in memory of his aunt Chaya bat Chaim,

**Jeff Bilfeld** in memory of his parents and

**Ed & Peter Weiss** in memory of their parents.

### SHALOM CHAVERIM!

Our new GNS Committee wants to know if you have everything you need this stormy winter. Do you need food or other essentials because you can't get out in the storm, or can't drive? Do you need help with your computer, or would you just like a visit during these cold, dark days? — Pesach is not that far away, please let us know if you would like to host guests for Seder this year or if you would like to attend a Seder in the Community. In either case let us know and give us your address so we can pair you appropriately. If you wish to join our Committee or communicate with us, please contact: **Cindy Hodkin** [koshercookinggn@gmail.com](mailto:koshercookinggn@gmail.com), 516.482.7771; **Ellen Polakoff** [espp40@gmail.com](mailto:espp40@gmail.com); or **Katie Lichter** at [katielichter@gmail.com](mailto:katielichter@gmail.com)

### CHAMETZ BURNING

On **Fri., Apr., 3rd**, at Kings Point Park, Steamboat Road, there will be a community burning of chametz (8am to 11am). Volunteers needed for 1-2 hrs to help direct people to parking and to the burning. Please e-mail [drsiegel32@aol.com](mailto:drsiegel32@aol.com) or call 487-6278 to help. We are also collecting donations for the volunteers of the Alert Fire Company who give of their time to monitor the fire.

### NORTH SHORE MIKVAH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Please save the date - **Tues, May 5th at 7:30 PM** - NSHA Cherry Lane Auditorium A "Health and Halacha Evening" featuring an informative panel discussion for women on the topic of "self-awareness". Details to follow.

### MEN'S CLUB

**TUES MAY 12 & MAY 13**, The Men's Club annual **Defensive Driving** Course will be presented by AAA. Take the course every 3 years to save on your car insurance, premiums and reduce any points you may have. The cost is \$30.00. Please make checks payable to GNS Men's Club. Please contact Jerry Siegelman 516-712-7538. [jerrysiegelman@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrysiegelman@hotmail.com).

*The family of Lillian Leiderman wishes to express its deepest appreciation to the GNS community for the outpouring of condolences and contributions in honor of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. The family is deeply touched by your stories and memories. We wish to express a special Hakarat Hatov to Rabbi Polakoff, Jerrald Weinstein and the Chevra Kadisha, Sharon Goldwyn, our dear family friend and coordinator for Shiva Chesed, and all of whom provided tremendous comfort, strength and respect during this difficult time.*

**SUN JUNE 7, 9:00AM** Annual Fishing Trip, \$50 adults, \$40 children 6-11 (no children under 6). Breakfast and Lunch included. Details to follow. **Mark Friedman 448-4890, Hilly Milun 482-1062.**

### SAVE THE DATE

Ambassador **John Bolton**, nationally known TV foreign affairs analyst and author, will speak at GNS **Sun. evening May 3rd**. The event is sponsored by Zionist Organization Of America (ZOA) Long Island Chapter and Men's Club of Great Neck Synagogue. There is no charge for admission.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

April 3: Siyum Bechorim

April 15: Yom Hashoa: Martin Greenfield guest

April 21: Bikur Cholim Event

April 22: Yom Hazikaron/Yom Haatzmaut: Stephen Flatow guest

April 26: Blood Drive

May 3: Ambassador John Bolton guest

May 5: Health & Halacha Evening at NSHA Cherry Lane

May 9: Mother & Daughter Shabbaton

May 12 & 13: Men's Club Defensive Driving Course

May 14: GNS Annual Congregation Meeting

May 27: Israel Bonds: Malcolm Hoenlein guest

May 30: Sokol Heisler Lunch: Yoram Hazoni guest

May 30: Annual Youth End Of Year Bash

June 7: Men's Club Fishing Trip

June 9: Mets Vs Giants:CitiField

June 20: Graduation kiddush

## Y A H R Z E I T

### Saturday, 15 Nissan

Mark Gold for Regina Gold

Leonard Kahn for Rachel Kahn

Mina Kotler for Pearl Rodzynek

Joan Braun for Phyllis Shapiro

### Sunday, 16 Nissan

Marc Gottlieb for Sarah Schwartzman

### Monday, 17 Nissan

Paul Brody for Minnie Brody

Judith Traub for Usher Hechtkopf

### Tuesday, 18 Nissan

Marvin Greenwald for Matilda Greewald

### Wednesday, 19 Nissan

Paul Brody for Marion Brown

Sigalit Katz for Tiberiu Eliyahu Czesler

Hindi Lunzer for Isidore Mermelstein

David Sedgh for Ghodrat Yazhghal

### Thursday, 20 Nissan

Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Binaho ben Yehuda Gabbazadeh

Theodore Perlman for Elsie Perlman

### Friday, 21 Nissan

Mel Fox for Celia Fox Blumenfeld

Hadassah Wachstock for Abraham Kessler

Alex Novogrudsky for Fanya Novogrudsky