



# Menucha v'Simcha



A PARSHA WEEKLY BY THE PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY KOLLEL

Candle Lighting: 4:17p.m.

**Parshas Vayeishev 5775**

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## DVAR TORAH

### Don't Stop Talking

By Rabbi Yosef Prupas

When Potifar, a courtier of Pharaoh, purchased Yosef, his fortune changed. Everything that Yosef got involved in was successful, thus drastically impacting his master's riches. This did not go unnoticed by Potiphar, as the verse states, "His master saw that G-d is with him, and all that he would do G-d would make successful in his hand." Rashi, on the words "that G-d is with him," explains that the name of G-d was constantly on Yosef's lips. This is understood to mean that Yosef would regularly refer to G-d in his everyday conversation. However the Ramban and the Maharal disagree with Rashi based on the following Medrash:

*"Rav Huna in the name of Rav Acha said, [Yosef] would whisper when he would leave the room, and when he would enter. If his master requested hot water, behold [Yosef] would have hot water. If his master requested lukewarm water, suddenly [Yosef] had lukewarm water. [Potiphar] said, 'Yosef, why are attempting to bring witchcraft to a country that is already full with witchcraft?' At that moment he perceived the Divine presence resting upon Yosef. This is what the verse was referring to when it states, 'And the master of Yosef saw that G-d is with him.'"*

So while Rashi believes that Yosef simply referred to G-d in his everyday conversation, the Ramban and the Maharal look deeper. The Maharal explains that this highly unusual revelation of G-d's Divine presence to an undeserving man was because of his mistaken observation that Yosef was muttering incantations to instantly fulfill his requests. Therefore G-d felt it necessary to reveal the source of Yosef's unbelievable abilities, in order to correct that perception. What were Yosef's mutterings? They were silent requests to G-d to help him properly fulfill his master's demands. However we can ask, what was the reason for Yosef's instantaneous miraculous success?

The Nesivos Shalom addresses this issue by quoting a famous passage written by the Rambam in his *sefer Moreh Nevuchim*

(Guide to the Perplexed). In it the Rambam teaches us that one who attaches himself to G-d will merit success in all that he does. But the moment this individual disconnects himself, G-d will remove His Divine presence and the opposite will occur. He will begin to fail in every possible way. Yosef lived constantly with this concept of "*Shivisi Hashem l'negdi tamid*," that one should continually place G-d before him. Hence, Yosef revealed this lesson of the Rambam.

Based on the above, perhaps we can suggest that Rashi is not arguing with the opinions of the Ramban and the Maharal. We learn from the saga of Yosef in Egypt the measures one must take to safeguard one's self during the perilous situation of exile. Technically the concept "*Shivisi Hashem l'negdi tamid*," is fulfilled with a subconscious constant realization of the "Six Constant Mitzvoths": 1) Know there is a G-d. 2) Don't believe in other gods. 3) G-d is one. 4) Love G-d. 5) Fear G-d. 6) Don't be misled by your heart and eyes. Yet, Yosef's difficult situation demanded that he constantly verbalize his connection to G-d. Dropped into a world that was the antithesis of the G-d-fearing home he grew up in, he needed to verbalize his realization of G-d in order to internalize those lofty concepts. Whether it was in regular conversation or carrying out his master's orders, G-d was on his lips. Therefore it would be possible to say that Rashi's explanation takes into account the above medrash.

The lesson learned from Yosef is timeless. As then, we are in no better a situation spiritually as the world around tries to distract us from our relationship with G-d. We can protect ourselves in the manner of Yosef, by constantly mentioning G-d, talking to Him and seeking His help. May we merit, with G-d's help, to see success in all our endeavors, spiritual and physical.

## DVAR HALACHA

### Halachos of Chanuka part 5

By Rabbi Yochanan Eskenazi

If one is lighting inside, the main *parsumei neisa* (publicizing the miracle) is for the people inside the



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house. Therefore, one may *l'chatchila* light [even with a *brachah*] inside as long as at least one person is awake (Rama 672:2). It is important to note, that even when lighting inside, it is still preferable to light within the time period that people are still found outside (Rama 672:2). The reason is, that even while lighting inside, we are still displaying the *menorah* for the people outside and we try to be *mifarseim haneis* (Be'ur Halachah 672:2 s.v. u'mikol makom). Therefore, if one did not light within the time of "*ad shetichla regel min hashuk*", one may light until *alos hashachar* [without a *brachah*] (Mishneh Berurah 672:11). However, if one is lighting inside, as long as someone else is awake and present he may recite the *brachah*. If one returns home in close proximity of this time, it is proper to wake someone up in order to be able to light with a *brachah* (Mishneh Berurah 672:11).

It is important to note, if one is lighting inside, in a situation where one's wife is not home, it is preferable to wait for her return rather than light at the preferred time ["*shalom bayis*" comes first] (Emes L'Yaakov 678:ftnt. 592 & Koveitz Halachos 3:7).

On Friday afternoon, one may light as early as *plag hamincha*. However, one should be careful to have enough oil that it will be able to last until after 30 minutes after *tzais hakochavim* (Mishneh Berurah 677:2).

It is preferable to *daven Mincha* before lighting the *menorah* (Mishneh Berurah 677:2). The reason is it appears as *tartee d'sasri* (contradictory behavior) to light the *neiros Chanuka* [of *Shabbos*] and then *daven Mincha* of Friday (Shaar Hatziyon 677:7). There is a *machlokes haposkim*, if one is in a place that does not have an early *Mincha minyan*, if it is better to *daven* individually without a *minyan* and then light or light and then *daven b'tzibbur* (Shloshim Yom Kodem Hachag pg. 283 ftnt. 126). If one is lighting both *neiros Shabbos* and *neiros Shabbos*, it is preferable to light *neiros Chanukah* first (Shulchan Aruch 677:1).

On *Motzei Shabbos* there is a *machlokes* if one lights *menorah* before *havdalah* or not. Either way a person chooses to do is fine (Mishneh Berurah 682:3). One who is careful throughout the entire year not to end *Shabbos* before the *tzais hakochavim* of "*Rabbeinu Tam*", if one is lighting inside, should wait until *Rabbeinu Tam* has ended to light (Igros Moshe OC 4:62 s.v. v'chain).

## Kollel News

### Friday, December 12:

4:17 p.m.: Candle Lighting

4:35 p.m.: Shkiya/sunset

### Shabbos, December 13:

8:15 a.m.: *Shacharis*

8:58/ 9:34 a.m.: Latest Krias Shema

3:56 p.m.: Mincha

4:36 p.m.: Shkiya/ Sunset

5:31 p.m.: Ma'ariv.

5:48 p.m.: 72 minutes

6:30 p.m.: MASMID

7:30 p.m.: Rabbi Reisman's Navi

Shiur

**Chanukah Mesiba with Rabbi Yerachmiel Milstein:** We are pleased to welcome men and women to a special Chanukah lecture by the renowned Rabbi Yerachmiel Milstein. Come and enjoy a dessert reception by the famous Kollel Kitchen! Wednesday Evening, December 17– 8:15 PM, at the Kollel. Sponsorships Available!

### Submit Online Today! Kollel's Fourteenth Annual Dinner:

Please join us on Sunday, January 11, 2015, at our new and spacious

venue, The Hilton Philadelphia. Honoring **Barry and Miriam Gesserman** and **Andrew and Chava Paris**. Please visit the Dinner webpage on our website to register or place an ad online!

### Community News

**Bnos of Bala Cynwyd** will iy"H meet this shabbos, Parshas Vayeshveh, Dec. 13th from 2:45pm - 3:45pm at LMS.

**Torah Youth** will meet this Shabbos from 2:45– 3:45 pm in the social hall.

### Mazel Tov To:

**Michael and Ellen Braffman** upon the birth of a grandson, born to Jacob and Shoshana Braffman!

**Mrs. Shira Press and R' Dovid and Ettie Wachs** on the birth of their grandson, Chaim Meir, to **Avi and Tovi Wachs**.

If you would like to receive Menucha Vesimcha by weekly email or to sponsor an issue of Menucha Vesimcha in someone's honor / memory, please contact the editor at:

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