

THE CHABAD WEEKLY

Vol 6, # 24

Chabad of North Beverly Hills, 409 Foothill Rd. Beverly Hills, 90210

beverlyhillschabad.com

Rabbi Yosef Shusterman 310-271-9063

The Hebrew letters of the Torah are written in three sizes: the standard letters with which most of the Torah is written, a smaller size and a larger size. The first word of the Book of Vayikra (Leviticus) is written with an alef that is of the smaller size, both in a Torah scroll and in a printed Chumash (Five Books of Moses).

When the Tzemach Tzedek (the third Chabad Rebbe) was a young boy his grandfather, Rabbi Shneur Zalman (founder of Chabad Chasidism), sent him to learn in cheder. Rabbi Shneur Zalman instructed the teacher to begin with the first chapter of the Book of Leviticus.

When the Tzemach Tzedek returned from school he asked his grandfather why the alef of Vayikra was so little. Rabbi Shneur Zalman pondered the question deeply for some time and then replied:

"In the beginning of Divrei HaYamim (the Book of Chronicles, one of the 24 books of the Bible), Adam's name is written with a large alef. The big letter alludes to the fact that Adam considered himself to be very important. After all, none other than G-d Himself had created him! Adam was aware of his own significance, which was a contributing factor in the sin of the Tree of Knowledge.

"By contrast, in the verse 'And [G-d] called to Moses' ['Vayikra'], the alef is small, which alludes to Moses' humility. Even though Moses was aware of his many extraordinary talents, he did not perceive himself as great, nor did he take pride in his abilities. It states in the Torah, 'And the man Moses was very humble.' Moses was modest and unassuming. He felt that if someone else had been blessed with the same abilities as he, the other person would have utilized them better.

"The Torah is written in intermediate-sized letters, for a Jew must always strive to be a beinoni [a Chasidic term meaning a person with complete mastery over his Evil Inclination]. By means of the Torah, every Jew can attain that level."

With this answer the Alter Rebbe taught his grandson, and by extension all of us, an important lesson in the service of G-d:

On the one hand, we must learn from Adam and correctly perceive our own qualities: We possess a G-dly soul, and have inherited many positive character traits from our forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

On the other hand, we must emulate Moses and not be overly proud of ourselves. For if someone else were blessed with the very same qualities it is possible that he would make use of them to an even greater degree.

Thus we must always have a sense of our own significance, yet temper our pride with humility.

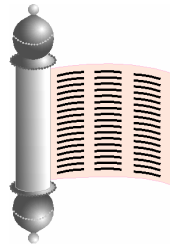
(Adapted from Likutei Sichot, Volume 17, From: LChaim 5760, #611) - lchaimweekly.org

Parshat Zachor: When the Torah commands us to "Remember what Amalek did to you," you is in the singular form. From this we learn that Amalek, symbolic of the Evil Inclination, attacks a person who holds himself apart from the Jewish community. By contrast, a person who is active in communal affairs and identifies with his brethren will be impervious to Amalek's assault. (Shmuot VeSipurim)

The numerical equivalent of Amalek is 240, the same as the Hebrew word "safeik," meaning doubt. Amalek dampens a Jew's enthusiasm for Torah and mitzvot by injecting doubt about matters of holiness. There is no "cure" for Amalek's "coldness"; the only way to deal with him is by crushing him completely. This is why it is a mitzva to "erase" Amalek, rather than engaging him in arguments. (Sefer HaMaamarim Kuntreisim) From: LChaim 5760, #611) - lchaimweekly.org

THE WORLD FAMOUS STORY OF PURIM

by Meish Goldish



The story of Purim is an international tale.

King Achashverosh was Finnish with his disobedient wife Vashti. "You Congo now!" he ordered her. After she had Ghana way, the king's messengers went Roman the land to find a new queen. And India end, the beautiful Esther won the crown.

Meanwhile, Mordechai sat outside the palace, where the Chile Haman would Czech up on him daily. I Haiti you because you refuse to bow to me!" Haman scolded Mordechai. "USA very stubborn man. You Jews are such Bahamas! If you keep this up, Denmark my words! I will have all your people killed! Just Kuwait and see, you Turkey! "

Mordechai went into mourning and tore his dothes-a custom known as Korea. He urged Esther to plead with the king. The Jews fasted for three days and grew very Hungary.

Esther approached the king and asked, 'Kenya Belize come to a banquet I've prepared for you and Haman?' At the feast, she invited her guests to a second banquet to eat Samoa.

The king asked, "Esther, why Jamaica big meal like this? Just tell me what you want. Unto half my United Kingdom will I give you." Esther replied, "Spain full for me to say this, but Haman is Russian to kill my people."

Haman's loud Wales could be heard as he carried Honduran this scene. "Oman!" Haman cried bitterly. "Iraq my brains in an effort to destroy the Jews. But that sneaky Mordechai - Egypt me! "

Haman and his ten sons were hanged and went immediately to the Netherlands. And to Sweden the deal, the Jews were allowed to Polish off the rest of their foes as well. "You lost your enemies and Uganda friend," the king smiled.

And that is why the Purim story Israeli a miracle. God decided to China light on His chosen people. So now, let's celebrate! Forget all your Syria's business and just be happy! Serb up some wine and Taiwan on?

Happy Purim!!!

Chassidus contains two fundamental principles:

- (a) Understanding every halacha (Torah Law) on its spiritual plane, in its root and ultimate source, namely in the Sefirot and planes in every World according to that World's character, as explained in Chassidus.
- (b) Comprehending the subject of every halacha in avoda; meaning, although the halacha is an expression of G-dly wisdom and intelligence and is a law in Torah, nevertheless one must discover in it an avoda-concept to guide man's conduct in his life here in This World. (From Rebbe's Hayom yom 11 Adar II).

G-d's Question

Before He brought forth the cosmos out of nothingness, He structured in His thought how all things would be. Even then, He struggled with it, pondering, "Should it be? Or should it not?"

Then He created all things according to that thought, and out of all things of that creation He formed Adam. And within Adam He placed this struggle, and Adam became a living being.

Since then, it is in our hands: Should there be a world? Or a desolate chaos? Is G-d's creation worth His making it?

From the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe; rendered by Tzvi Freeman.

PURIM SCHEDULE - 5763

Monday Evening, March 17

Maariv.....6:35 pm

Followed by ...

Megilla Reading, Music, Dancing, Food, Children's Program

Tuesday, March 18

First Shacharis.....6:00 am
 First Megilla.....6:25 am
 Second Shacharis...7:00 am
 Second Megilla... 7:30 am
 Third Megilla..... 9:00 am
 Mincha..... 4:00 pm
 Maariv... 8:30 pm

EVERYONE IS INVITED!



SHABBOS PARSHAS VAYIKRA

*Shabbos Zachor
 March 14, 2003*

**Candlelighting:(Los Angeles) 5:42 PM
 Friday Mincha: 6:00 PM**

LATEST TIME FOR SHEMA: 9:03 AM

SHABBAT MORNING

- **Tanya** 8:45 AM
- **Shacharit** 9:30 AM followed by Kiddush & Cholent
- **Megilas Esther** 4:45 PM
- **Mincha** 5:30 PM followed by Seuda Shlishit
- **Shabbat ends** 6:42 PM

MONDAY- TANIS ESTHER

**FAST BEGINS: 4:49 AM
 MINCHA: 5:45 PM
 MACHATZIS HASHEKEL**

There will be no classes Monday - Tuesday, March 17-18.

DAILY MINYONIM:

Shacharit: Mon-Fri 6:00 AM and 7:30 AM

Sunday 9:00 AM

Mincha/Maariv: 6:00 PM

PURIM SEUDA

The shul will be having a communal Purim Seuda on Tuesday, March 18 at



**The Shul
 5:00 PM**



For reservations please call (310) 271-9063

Seuda Shlishit is being sponsored by Eliyahu Hazany in memory of his father's yartzheit.

Yartzheit: Emanuel Hazany 13 Adar II

Happy Birthday to Dr. Alan Dauer

Mazal Tov to Mikhla Dauer on receiving her PhD in psychology.

**GOOD SHABBOS AND
 HAVE A FRELICHEN PURIM!**