



The sorts of **tidbits**

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt"l, made sure his family was up to date on *from the mundane, to the profound, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'*



In Memory of Rav Meir Zlotowitz zt"l

Parshas Shemini 5783
April 14th • 23 Nisan
8 Ba'omer

Shabbos Mevorchim

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Iyar. Rosh Chodesh is on Friday and Shabbos, April 21st-22nd. The *molad* is Thursday afternoon 2:08 PM and 13 *chalakim*.

Reminders

Tachanun is not recited until after Rosh Chodesh Iyar; the *Yehi Ratzons* following *Kerias Hatorah* are also omitted during this time. In spite of *Mevorchim HaChodesh*, *Av Harachamim* is recited in most Shuls, due to the sefirah mourning period. *Tzidkascha* is omitted at Minchah on Shabbos.

For this Shabbos, the Shabbos following Pesach, some have the custom to bake a *Shlissel* Challah, a challah in the shape of a key or with an actual key baked within it.

Daf Yomi - Erev Shabbos: Bavli: Sotah 16. Daf Yerushalmi: Pe'ah 58. Mishnah Yomis: Pesachim 7:13-8:1.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!

Next on the Calendar

The series of fasts days of *BeHaB* begin on Monday, May 1st.

Pesach Sheini is on Friday, May 5th.

Lag Baomer is on Tuesday, May 9th

Parshah in a Paragraph

Shemini: The offerings on the eighth day, after the Seven Days of Inauguration • Moshe and Aharon bless the people • Hashem's glory is revealed • Nadav and Avihu offer unauthorized incense; their *neshamos* leave them as Hashem's fire enters their nostrils • Moshe comforts Aharon, Aharon remains silent • Aharon and his surviving sons are instructed not to show signs of mourning • Kohanim may not serve - and no Jew may render a halachic decision - after drinking wine • Moshe instructs Aharon and his sons to eat of the day's offerings • The *Chatas* of

Rosh Chodesh is completely burned, Moshe is angered that it was not eaten • Aharon explains his rationale for burning that Korban; Moshe admits that Aharon is correct • Laws of kosher and non-kosher animals, fish, birds and insects • Various forms of *tumah*

Haftarah: The *parashah* and *haftarah* (Shmuel II 6:1-7:17) discuss the holiness of the Beis Hamikdash and its vessels, and the reverence warranted for its sanctity. The sons of Aharon Hakohen, as well as Uza in this *haftarah*, erred in their interactions with holiness and passed away immediately.

613 Taryag Weekly

Shemini: 91 Pesukim • 6 Obligations • 11 Prohibitions

- 1) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* with long hair.
- 2) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* with torn clothes.
- 3) A Kohen may not leave the *Mikdash* while in the midst of *avodah*.
- 4) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* after drinking wine.
- 5) Do not eat non-kosher animals.
- 6) Check animals for signs of kashrus.
- 7) Check fish for signs of kashrus.
- 8) Do not eat non-kosher fish.
- 9) Do not eat non-kosher birds.
- 10) Check for the signs of kashrus of creeping creatures.
- 11) *Tumah* of the eight dead *sheratzim*.
- 12) *Tumah* regarding foods.
- 13) *Tumah* of a *neveilah* (dead animal).
- 14) Do not eat crawling *sheratzim*.
- 15) Do not eat *sheratzim* that originate from plants.
- 16) Do not eat amphibious *sheratzim*.
- 17) Do not eat maggots.

Mitzvah Highlight: The Sefer HaChinuch explains that the Torah forbids certain foods due to their harmful effects on the nefesh. Just as we would never second-guess a doctor's advice without fully understanding the workings of the human body, so too we cannot doubt the negative impact of forbidden foods, as we cannot comprehend the lofty nature and holiness of the Jewish nefesh.

For the Shabbos Table

וְאֵת-אֵלֶּה תִּשְׂקֹצוּ מִן-הַבְּהֵמָה... וְאֵת הַחַסִּידָה”

“These shall you abominate from among the fowl...the *chasidah*” (Vayikra 11:19)

The Sefer Hachinuch explains that non-kosher birds are forbidden because they engage in negative behavior, and these instincts can influence the person who consumes them. Among the forbidden species is a bird called *chasidah*. Rashi explains that the *chasidah* earned its name from its characteristic of doing chessed by sharing its food with friends. This seems to be a praiseworthy characteristic; if so, why is the *chasidah* forbidden?

The Chiddushei HaRim explains that while the *chasidah* engages in chessed, it does so only for its friends, and only those in its own circle benefit from the kindness. This discriminatory behavior makes the *chasidah* unfit for Jewish consumption, as the Torah wants us to give freely without discrimination against “outsiders”. A Jew is responsible for a fellow Jew's needs - even for those far from himself, whether literally or figuratively. Additionally, a Jew must do chessed simply because he is commanded to do so by Hashem, and not only when he is sympathetic to the cause or the recipient.

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זמנים לשבת



Parashas Shemini | April 14

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פג מנחה עש"ק
Atlanta	9:20	8:08	10:22	+43	8:07	7:49	6:46
Baltimore	8:55	7:43	9:48	9:06	7:42	7:24	6:20
Boston	8:37	7:25	9:24	*39	7:24	7:06	6:01
Catskills	8:51	7:39	9:38	8:54	7:37),19	(,14
Chicago	8:43	7:31	9:30	8:46	7:30	7:10	6:07
Cleveland	+19	8:07	10:07	9:23	8:05	7:47	6:42
Detroit	9:25	8:13	10:12	9:27	8:12	7:54	6:49
Lakewood	8:47	7:35	9:38	8:55	7:34),16	(,11
Los Angeles	8:36	7:24	9:37	8:58	7:23	7:05	6:02
Miami	8:55	7:43	10:09	9:34	7:43	7:25	6:23
Monsey	8:47	7:35	9:37	8:53	7:34	7:16	6:12
Montreal	8:52	7:40	9:32	8:44	7:39	7:21	6:14
New York	8:47	7:35	9:37	8:53	7:34	7:16	6:11
Orlando	9:03	7:51	10:13	9:36	7:50	7:32	6:30
Passaic	8:47	7:35	9:37	8:54	7:34	7:16	6:12
Philadelphia	8:50	7:38	9:42	8:59	7:37	7:19	6:15
Toronto	9:12	8:00	9:56	9:10	7:59	7:41	6:36
Yerushalayim	8:24	7:07	9:25	8:47	7:06	6:31	5:46

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