THOUGHTS AND NEWS FROM OHR SHLOMO

A Short and Insightful Newsletter From Ohr Shlomo Yeshiva High School

Mazel Toy!

Mazel Tov to **Rabbi and Mrs. Berman**, and **Nachman** (11th), on the marriage of their son **Yaakov**!
May they be zoche to build a Bayis Ne'eman B'Yisrael.

Mazel Tov the **Mr. and Mrs. Zavurov**, and to **Meir** (11th), on the birth of grandson! תזכו להכניסו בבריתו של אברהם אבינו בעתו בעתו

Mazel Tov to **Shalom Reid** (12th) and **Oren Sharon** (12th) on completing the entire Maseches Nazir! A tremendous Mazel Tov to their parents! May you merit finishing many more Masechtos!

כוס תנחומין

The entire Ohr Shlomo family mourns the passing of Rabbi

Yitzchok Rosenberg 't', the father of Mrs. Devora Rovt, and grandfather of Dovi ('22). Rabbi Rosenberg was a tremendous trailblazer in the field of Kiruv as National Director of NCSY, and continued teaching and learning Torah until the day of his final illness. His memory lives on in his family, students, and Klal Yisrael.

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ירושלים.



AThought on Parshas Shoftim

ְוְלֹא־תִּקָּח שֹׁחַד You may not take a bribe (16:19)

Among the many laws discussed in this week's Parsha is the law restricting a judge from the impropriety of taking a bribe. The stain of bribery or of any attempt to influence the judicial system is recognized by all ethical and moral societies as causing its immediate and certain downfall. In fact the Torah takes the sin a step further and notes, "יַבָּ הַיִּ עִינֵי חֲבָמִים וְיִּםֻלֶּףְ דְּבְרֵי צַדִּיקִם , For bribery blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous." In short, it entirely extinguishes the light of purity and holiness from a self-respecting Torah scholar.

Rabbeinu Yosef Chaim in Ben Ish Chai takes an alternative approach to our passuk in the form of a hinted lesson contained in the word שׁתֵּד.

In the first Perek of **Pirkei Avos** we find two seemingly conflicting statements. In one Mishna we learn, "שָׁמְעוֹן הַצַּדִּיק...הוּא הָיָה אוֹמֵר, עֵל הַתּוֹרָה וְעַל הְעֲבוֹדָה וְעַל גְּמִילוּת חֲסָדִים שִׁמְדִּים הְעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד, עַל הַתּוֹרָה וְעַל הְעֲבוֹדָה וְעַל גְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים אָלשָׁה דְבָרִים הְעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד, עֵל הַתּוֹרָה וְעַל הְעֲבוֹדָה וְעַל גְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים אַלּשָׁה דְבָרִים הָעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד, עַל שְׁלשָׁה דְבָרִים. Shimon HaTzaddik...would always say that the world stands upon 3 things: Torah, Divine Service, and Bestowing Kindnesses." Later we learn something similar, "בְּבָּרִים, עֵל שְׁלשָׁה דְבָּרִים, אוֹמֶר, עֵל שְׁלשָׁה דְבָּרִים, עוֹמֵד, עֵל הַאֶּמֶת וְעַל הָאֱמֶת וְעַל הַשְּׁלוֹם בַּבָּן שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּן גַּמְלִיאֵל אוֹמֵר, עֵל שְׁלשָׁה דְבָרִים הְעוֹלֶם, R. Shimon b. Gamliel said that the world stands upon 3 things: Judgement, Truth, and Peace." How could both be true? Does the world stand upon the 3 things listed by Shimon HaTzaddik or the 3 listed by R. Shimon b. Gamliel? Additionally, in Shimon HaTzaddik's list we find the term גְּמִילוּת גְּמִילוּת בְּצִּיִים, Bestowing Kindnesses. Why is it stated in the plural - kindnesses, and not simply 'kindness'?

The **Ben Ish Chai** explains that the term חְּלַדִּים actually refers to 2 different forms of kindness: אות סלד of the body and אות סלד of one's money. Thus in the first list there are actually 4 things that the world

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Brooklyn - 7:00

Lakewood - 7:01

Monsey - 7:01

Woodmere - 6:59

Ramat Beit Shemesh - 6:19

Yerushalayim - 6:20

Ohr Shlomo Media

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Ohr Shlomo Yeshiva High School is a 501(c)3 Tax Deductible Organization stands upon, Torah, Divine Service, and the 2 forms of kindness. The later list of R. Shimon b. Gamliel only contains 3 things, Judgement, Truth, and Peace.

Why the discrepancy? In truth, there is the world and **the** world. In the first Mishna we are referring the Heavenly Realm, שמים. This world requires 4 legs, like a solid table, signifying its import and value. The material world, ארא, that we live in can be sustained by 3 legs, stable but temporary.

When we wear Tefillin on our heads, the Tefillin have the letter Ψ on each side, one with 3 sides and one - uniquely - with 4 sides. The 3-sided Ψ hints to the 3-legged material world. The 4-sided Ψ hints to the 4-legged spiritual world.

We must remember - especially at this precious moment of the Month of Elul - to commit ourselves to our double service, of the 3 and the 4. This is the hint of our passuk, אַרְקָּח שֹׁחַד. Do not take אַחַל. What is דּוֹלא־תִּקָּח שׁי חָד, one ש, only one side of the Tefillin. One who focuses only on אַ חַד יָעוּר עִינֵי חַכְּמִים וְיִשַּלֶּף דְּבְרֶי צַדִּיקִם.

The Year begins!

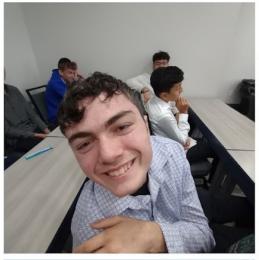
With joy, excitement, warmth, and wonder, this week brought the first steps of Ohr Shlomo '24-'25. Our students walked in with a lightness in their step, with huge smiles - surprising to see on a first day of school.

Orientation began with some words from **Rabbi Zakheim** about אַדק צדק תרדף, looking towards a future when we can say, "Yes! I was great on September 4th, 2024. But now, one year later, I am even better." Our Menahel, **Rabbi Milstein** spoke about starting out on the right foot, recognizing the Brachos and joy every day brings. Our General Studies Principal, **Rabbi Dr. Engelberg** illustrated the surprising benefits of Academic Excellence, pushing our students to always work hard and achieve greatness. With that our students ran to class, and the year began!

With eyes filled with joy and tears, we wish a צאתכם שלום to our students who have gone to Eretz Yisroel. Some going for the first time, and others returning for their 2nd, 3rd, and even 4th years. We miss you all and are SO PROUD OF YOU! Baruch Hashem, our Alumni in the United States have been visiting us at Yeshiva, and continue to be a constant source of joy and NACHAS.

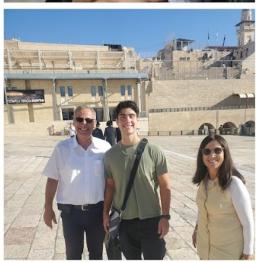
As always we continue to pray for our brothers and sisters around the world and specifically in Eretz Yisrael. Wishing everyone a beautiful Shabbos! Good Shabbos!

This week at Ohr Shlomo...

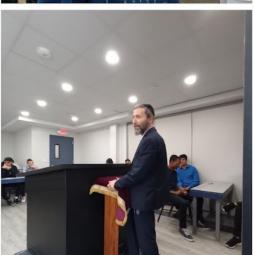




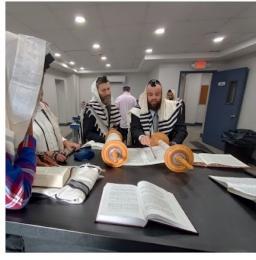














...and a bit more...











