

HAVE A NAGEELA SHABBOS

KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE
 A PROJECT OF NAGEELA WEST COAST,
 JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

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SEASON 10, EPISODE 20

**PARSHAS TZAV-
 HAGADOL
 5786**

Torat Scene-A-Eye

*This features an AI generated picture that has numerous hints to the weekly parsha.
 This week's is about Shabbos Hagadol*



Disclaimer: These AI generated images are NOT meant to portray actual people or events from the Torah. They are simply hints to get you thinking.
 LIST OF THINGS TO FIND ON PAGE 5

WHAT'S UP

WE MAY PASS

.....
 Time for me to start talking again. Typing? I guess I'm not really talking. Sigh of relief.

It's hard to imagine that it's almost Passover! When I started putting together this week's Nageela Shabbos, it was with the expectation there would be another full episode coming out before the holiday, which is why today's episode is more Parsha than Passover. That's looking a little less likely at the moment, considering I haven't remotely started cleaning my house yet. On the other hand, we've got lots of clean cars in my driveway (on any given day).

Here are a few updates on what's going on in our world! We have officially announced details for our first Tucson Shabbaton. There are limited spots for Arizona middle schoolers, so if you fit both of those categories, reach out for details!

Many of our programs are off for Passover, but we're still on for Hebrew School this Sunday, as well as Tween/ Teen night in Las Vegas this Monday. Later in April, stay tuned for Los Angeles, Northern California and Phoenix/ Scottsdale programs!

Here's another reminder that local scholarships for summer programs are closing soon, so it's a great time to sign up at nageelawest.org.

We'll soon be announcing details and opening registration for Nageela West's incredible Adventure Week! Both trips for boys and for girls will take place in July and will feature exciting stops between Las Vegas and Chicago, along with the famous CNW hype!

We wish you all a wonderfully uplifting and fun Passover!

*You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.
 Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!*



Deep Thoughts

.....
We have no proof what day of the week it really is. We all just kind of trust that someone's been keeping count.



JOIN US!

.....
We have programs for Middle School kids from all over the West Coast. Please contact us for details!



LEADERSHIP

.....
Information: A leadership cohort of committed, responsible 7-8 graders who want to help Jewish kids their age. Please contact us!



LOLZ

.....
 How much does a smartphone weight?

an instagram.

DVAR TORAH

ASHAMNU...

Now featuring the Koheinwear spring collection! Timeless fashion, pure linen bliss, available in the 4 garment and 8 garment collections! Many different styles of plain white linen are available.

I feel like this ad could have run in an ancient biblical magazine for Kohanim, enticing them to purchase their set of canonicles. It doesn't sound like there's much variety, at least for the ordinary kohein, who wore 4, plain white garments. True, there wasn't a whole lot of wiggle room when it came to creative expression (tie dyed kohein clothes were not a thing), yet there were certain times when it was still necessary to change clothes.

We are introduced to the service called *terumas hadeshen*, which was the clearing of the ashes from the altar. To put things simply, there was a large bonfire burning atop the altar (it burned continuously for about 116 years, which is kind of cool) day and night. Naturally there was a whole lot of ash and dust to remove. It was considered a great honor to remove these ashes, and it wasn't done by the janitorial staff. It was actually a Temple service that the Kohanim sometimes fought over the privilege to perform! The Torah tells us that after performing this service, it was necessary to change clothes before doing other Temple services.

The Talmud takes a life lesson from this: *Don't pour drinks for the boss while wearing your cooking clothes.*

OK. Good lesson, it's respectful to wear clean, respectable clothes to do the butlering, rather than your greasy apron.

But I think it goes deeper. Because the Torah isn't in the business of telling us really obvious things. "Don't smash yourself in the face with a hammer." Gee, thanks. Why would the Torah tell us not to do the temple service in

KOHEINWEAR

SPRING COLLECTION



Now featuring the Koheinwear spring collection!

Timeless fashion, pure linen bliss, available in the 4 garment and 8 garment collections!

Many different styles of plain white linen are available.

ash-covered, grubby, wrinkled and smelly garbage removal clothing?

The Torah is telling us that even if the clothing does not get dirty, it's still appropriate to change clothes. It's not just the cleanliness of the clothing, or the cleanliness of the clothing. There's also the intention of the clothing. If the only Shabbos clothing you have is identical to the clothing you wore on Friday, change into the new clothing anyway. If you've cleansed the ashes from the altar and your tunic is spotless, there's still an element of respect to change into something new.

I think our lesson here (one of them at least) is how much *your thinking can affect your thinking*. Yeah, I said your thinking can affect your thinking. Bear with me,

We wear special clothes for the service, because it elevates your intention and concentration while serving God. However, these clothes aren't any more special than the other ones. It's only our minds, and our intentions in wearing a new set of clothes



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DVAR TORAH

CONTINUED

that create the specialness. So it's our mind creating a reality that then can affect our minds to connect better to God. I love this kind of logic stacking, because it speaks to how we can use psychology to effectuate real change. Was that too much of a mouthfill? Let's simplify it:

We can fool ourselves into being better. That's a lot of what the commandments do for us, at times. They help us get in the zone, in the mood, in the flow so that we end up acting happier, more responsibly, more kind; just better.

BTW, if you make a mistake with terumas hadeshen, you should bring a korban asham...



ANSWER ON PAGE 6

Question of the Week

.....

I began life as a vegetarian, but then after six hundred years started eating meat. Who am I?

NOPE

Wrong answers only

We asked some people...

What would be one exception you'd create to the laws or observances of Passover?

.....

- No potatoes!
- As long as your kitchen is covered in foil, you can eat anything.
 - Equal redistribution fo Afikoman presents.
- Dip the karpas into chocolate sauce.
- Make it 4 cups of Coke Zero.
- Add a third seder, I love it!
- Allow pizza, just once.

PICKLE JEWS

I'm so glad you've recovered from your illness! You should bring a Korban Todah- an offering of thanksgiving.

Here's my thanksgiving offering!



STUMP THE RABBI

StumptheRabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to stump@nageelawest.org

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

FAST BUT NOT SAD

A BRAND NEW STUMP THE RABBI EPISODE #287

Hi Rabbi,

You keep telling me that every commandment is there for our benefit, to make us better or happier people. Can you please give examples of how that is true? To me, it seems more like the commandments are rules meant to control us.

Thanks,

Tikvah S. Keep

.....

Dear S.Kepp, Tik

In previous weeks, we've spoken about how the commandments help us become better people. For the next few minutes, let's take a look at practical positive effects that the commandments can have on a person. First, this disclaimer: [I don't know anything](#). Really. None of us do. Sure, we do our best to work with the tools we have, but the universe, people, everything is so deep and complex, it would be ridiculous for a person to claim understanding of any of it (sorry, Sheldon). Choosing whether or not to accept the commandments based on our own understanding of them would be very similar to choosing which method of brain surgery to undergo based on info we read on the back of a cereal box. We've got to understand that a greater and wiser being has provided this guidance. It seems fairly certain that God did not give us the commandments as a method of control. Quite the opposite. He could have made us do anything He wanted us to, but instead, we are given the flexibility to make our own choices, so it's not for HIM. It's for our benefit. All we can do is try our best to understand. So that's what we're gonna do now.



Here are some examples of actual biblical commandments and some benefits we might gain from following them:

Commandment: Peah- Leaving a corner of the field for the poor.

Benefit 1: Generosity- Giving to those in need helps us develop compassion for others. By thinking of others, we become less selfish people.

Benefit 2: Trust- You worked hard for your harvest. By giving some of it to others, we affirm our trust that everything comes from God.

Commandment: Neveilah- Kosher slaughter

Benefit 1: Compassion- By ensuring animals are slaughtered in the most humane way possible, we change our attitude toward all creatures, becoming more caring and compassionate.

Benefit 2: Intentionality- Instead of just stuffing our face, we pay attention to how the food was prepared, and decide to eat or not eat it based on our moral decision, not just our gut or our glut.

Commandment: Birchat Hamazon- Grace after meals

Benefit 1: Gratitude- Giving a formal declaration of thanks after every satisfying meal helps us recognize the good that we're given and prevents us from being freeloading, selfish people.



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DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



110

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

STUMP THE RABBI

CONTINUED...

Benefit 2: Communal growth- the public nature of blessing in a group (zimun) leads us to work together toward a spiritual upgrade. That can have far reaching benefits.

Commandment: Shemita- The Sabbatical year

Benefit 1: Torah education- When farmers would leave their land untended for an entire year, it would tremendously grow their free time for Torah study. This system enabled an entire nation to be more connected to the intellectual side of Judaism.

Benefit 2: Spiritual connection to the land- Having the Land of Israel itself 'keep Shabbat' helped develop the understanding that it's not just like other lands. It's a uniquely spiritual land that helps connect the Jewish people to God.

Benefit 3: Disruptive refocus- Even well balanced people get caught up in their everyday lives. Sometimes we need disruption of our routines to start thinking about life in an intentional way.

Commandment: Tefillin- wrapping phylacteries on arms and head

Benefit 1: Focus- We understand that God is awesome. We often SAY that God is awesome. In tefillin, we enclose parchment with verses from the Torah talking about God's awesomeness. By physically tying them to our bodies we send ourselves a visceral message that makes it easier to focus on that.

Benefit 2: Using the word phylacteries.

Commandment: Maakkah- Placing a fence

around your roof

Benefit 1: Value for life- By requiring safety protocols, the Torah instills into us a value for life.

Benefit 2: Responsibility- We learn that we are responsible for ourselves and our property. We need to make sure our property doesn't harm anyone or anything.

Commandment: Lo Sisa- Don't use God's name in vain

Benefit 1: Respect of the respectable- We live in a culture where people don't distinguish the distinguished or differentiate the deferential. That was fun to say. What I mean is that it's truly important to recognize what things, people and ideas are important and which are ordinary. By legislating reverence for God's name, we learn that not all things are of equal value, and some must be treated more deferentially.

Benefit 2: Divine respect- This helps us maintain respect specifically for God.

This is, of course, a really small sample size. We can write a book (hey, maybe we should! Anybody want to sponsor?) about this. Each commandment has many reasons we can't fully understand, and we can propose reasons for all the commandments. As we mentioned earlier, these are not THE reasons we listen to the commandments. They are simply ideas to help motivate us. The commandments are an AMAZING SYSTEM that will make us great if we take them seriously.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

Torat Scene-A-Eye Challenges

This week is Shabbos Hagadol- the BIG Shabbos, so here are some extra sized items:

- Giant braided challah being carried by multiple people
- Enormous Kiddush cup on the right side
- Oversized candle towering above the buildings
- Very large open sefer displayed on a wooden stand
- Rabbi delivering a drasha from a tall wooden platform (Rabbis traditionally do that on this week)
- Large Shabbos table set with multiple

wine cups and seder plate foods It's also the day when in Egypt, the Jews miraculously gathered sheep and kept them for Pesach. Thus...

- Multiple sheep being led by families
- Adults and children calmly holding lambs
- Group gathered around sheep in center-left area.

Additional Passover themes:

- Broken chain for freedom from slavery.
- Magnifying glass showing the search for chametz.



Answer of the Week

The answer is Noah. Humans were forbidden from eating meat until after the flood, which was when Noah was 600 years old.

FYI
The Korban Todah (thanksgiving offering) contained 40 loaves of bread, because gratitude is not meant to stay private.



QUESTION ON PAGE 3



CAMP NAGEELA WEST

LAS VEGAS

JEWNIOR NCSY CALENDAR

2025-2026

- Sep 02** Skating Kickoff
City National Arena
- Oct 11** HUT DOG
Campout under the stars & s'mores
- Oct 19** Summer Jump Session
Learn about all our amazing summer opportunities
- Nov 7-9** ADVENTURE SHABBATON
Alamo, NV
- Dec 11-14** SKI Weekend
Utah
- Feb 13-16** Jewnior Regional
California Extended Shabbat experience with Jewniors from six states
- April 17-19** AZ District Shabbaton
Tucson
- May 24** Summer Sendoff
End the year with a bang!

Director Info -
Rabbi Dani Locker

- FUNLY FIRSTLY**
Fun Days, the first Sunday or Monday of the Month:
- Monday Nov 3- Laser Tag
 - Monday Dec 1- Bowling
 - Monday Jan 5- Flipn Out
 - Sunday Feb 1- Ski Day
 - Sunday March 1- Glow Party
 - Monday April 13- Roller Skating
 - Monday May 4- Sports Day
 - Monday June 1- Ice Cream Party

- Weekly Programs:
- Sunday 10am Hebrew School
 - Monday 5pm Tween Night (grades 4-6)
 - Monday 6pm Teen Night (grades 7-8)
 - Thursday 8:15pm Scholars Study (boys)

- Look out for...
- Giving Days- Fundraising Drive March 8-9
 - Our Board run Instagram account @lv.jewniors
 - Sticker Drop Days
 - ZOOM classes
 - Monthly Challenges and other info at westcoastnasy.org/jewniors.

WANT NAGEELA SHABBOS IN YOUR

INBOX EVERY FRIDAY?

How much do you love being Jewish?
NA-NA-NA-NA-NA...
EMAIL US AND SUBSCRIBE... TOTALLY FREE!

BOYS MAIN SESSION
JULY 15 - AUG 6

BOYS ADVENTURE WEEK
JULY 8 - JULY 15



Join us at Wooster Lake, IL!

In partnership with Camp Nageela Midwest

A summer of exciting activities, personal growth, exploration, Jewish pride and lifelong friendships

- ✓ 180 acres campus
- ✓ Sports & Games
- ✓ Great Lake & Pool
- ✓ Top Staff
- ✓ Ropes & Ninja Course
- ✓ Club Choices

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Happy Birthdays!

Aaron Kleiman
Lia Bitton
Esther Nachmani
Matthew Werblud

Mordy Foxbruner
Liam Hershko
Haddar Ben- Shimon



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication of Nageela West Coast, Joyfully Jewish Experiences.



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