## DVAR TORAH

GARGLE

-MEL

MINT

The Jewish people had some dark times and have been to some dark places. This

summer, we had the privilege of going to an extremely dark place. Moab. I'm not referring to the biblical land of Moab, though. Moab, Utah is rated one of the darkest places around. It has a few designated international dark sky places, which are excellent places to view the Milky Way and other chocolate bars. As a Jew, walking into a town called Moab should be almost like, I dunno, a Smurf using a mouthwash called Garglemel. Or Harry Potter shopping at a store called Vold-Mart. You might not know this, but

Moab holds a special place in the Jewish nation's book of enemies. A book that isn't very short, by the way.

Why is Moab so reviled? What did they do that was so nefarious? Only two nations, Ammon and Moab, are permanently excluded from ever marrying in to the Jewish people, even if they convert. Not the Germans, the Romans or the ancient Egyptians. Ammon and Moab. Their sin? Improper use of the apostrophe.

No, n'ot r'eally. Ap'ostrphes are ov'er rate'd.

## Little Big Deals by Rabbi Dani Locker

The Torah
tells us two reasons that these nations are canceled. 1. They attempted
to destroy us by hiring a fellow named
Bilam to curse us. That sounds pretty bad.

2. They didn't kindly meet us with bread and water while we were traveling. That honestly doesn't sound too bad.

Personally, I've never hired an evil prophet to curse anyone. I have, on several occasions, not brought bread and water to people passing by my house. Why just today, we got an Amazon delivery and nobody in my family even thought of chasing down that electric truck to serve some Gatorade and Oreos (the modern version of bread and water, I think). What I'm trying to get at here is that it's hard to understand why the Torah would mention them both together. As if there's some moral equivalency. As if a lack of hospitality is just as bad as genocidal malediction. It's not. So why does the Torah list these two things together?

Evil doesn't start as evil. Not usually. Osama Bin Laden wasn't born Osama Bin Laden. Well, technically, I suppose he was Osama Bin Laden, but being Osama Bin Laden didn't make him actually Osama Bin Laden. You know what I mean.

Did Jew know that you can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos? Would you consider sponsoring an episode?

right? NO? People (or in this case, nations) do not suddenly become the types of people who are ready to harm or even wipe out a nation.

There's a path to get there. That's right! If you've ever wanted to become truly evil, it takes work... maybe not much work, but there is a path. That path starts with ignoring simple kindness. That doesn't turn a person evil immediately, but it might lead to a callous word, an insult, or something dishon-

From there it gets gradually worse. Moab may have actually been banned from the Jewish nation because of their truly horrific crimes, but it's worth mentioning their lack of hospitality

because that was their gateway to becoming such terrible people.

> I think the lesson is obvious. No. I don't mean to start throwing food at neighbors walking their dogs down the block. Don't overlook the small stuff. Don't say, "What's the big deal

if I do or if I don't do ? It's not the end of the world. You're right it's not; not yet, at least. But small problems can become bigger ones unless we us'e prop'er punctuati'on.

## **OUESTION** OF THE **WEEK**

WHAT BODYPART IS MENTIONED IN THIS WEEK'S PORTION. **BUT NOWHERE ELSE IN THE TORAH?** NO CHEATING **ANSWER ON PAGE 4** 



est.

See all 170 Selfie Torah videos on YouTube! Visit youtube. com/@rabbilocker

Evil does not start as evil

COMING SOON:
AZ KICKOFF EVENT, SEPT 6
LA KICKOFF EVENT, SEPT 20





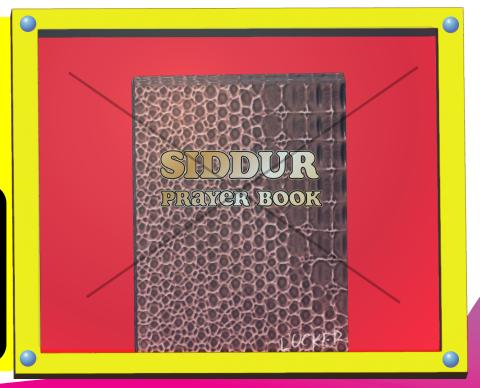
# PICKLE JEWS

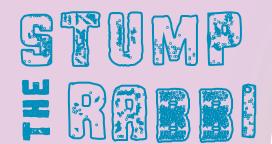
## GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2023

## IN CASE OF **EMERGENCY**

BREAK **GLASS** 





Stump the Rabbi 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.

Note & Disclaimer: We call this 'Stump The Rabbi' for fun, but that's not really the point. The goal is to learn something important in an interesting way.

The answers here should not be taken as halachic decisions. You should always ask a competent Rabbi personally.

#### Hi Rabbi,

#245

Do all Jews have a portion in the world to come? I've heard a quote that says something like that. Why is that fair? If a Jew is bad, shouldn't he lose it?

#### Moneyback Guarantee

Thanks

**Rochelle E Ward** 

in.

Ma

Redvines

Allowed

Dear RE Ward,

Nah. Fake news. Really.

Firstly, not all Jews get reward in the world to come. Secondly, people who are not Jews can get a portion in the world to come.

You might be thinking about the Talmudic quote that says, "All of Israel has a portion in the world to come." You might say to yourself, "Well, that sure sounds like all Jews get reward in the world to come."

Have you ever been to a store with a

'WELCOME' sign? Or a "Come we're open!" Yet some of those same stores also have signs that say something like "No shirt, No Shoes, No Service." or "No Radioactive Spiders allowed beyond this point." or "No Jews." I think we all understand that those signs mean that everyone is welcome EXCEPT those who are specifically excluded. While the Talmud does state that all Jews have a portion in the world to come, the VERY NEXT phrase is

the continuation which says, "The following DO NOT have a portion." It then goes on to list a few examples, such as someone who denies God or one who denies the truth of the Torah. Each person's portion in the next world is specific to them, and they can earn or lose it based on their actions.

The first part of the mishna is telling us that Jews who sin and get the death penalty are cleansed by that death and can get their portion in the world to come. All Jews also have fantastic potential for reward in the next world. But it ain't guaranteed. More than that, there's nobody who can earn it for you but yourself.

Some other religions believe that nobody can earn their own reward. That

you have to somehow buy in to some national or communal, heavenly bank account. Our mishna is raising a fundamental part of Judaism. You can earn (or lose) your own reward ON YOUR OWN. You don't need anyone's help.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi

???

DAYS UNTIL CNW GIRLS 2024



DAYS UNTIL CNW BOYS 2024

## ETHOU WENTS

## MICROWAVE OVENS SHOULD COME WITH A SILENT MODE



HEBREW SCHOOL

Schedule your enrollment meeting today! office@lasvegaskollel.org 702-487-3133

#### Kollel's Hebrew School is the right choice!

Dedicated to engaging our students in a positive Jewish learning experience!

Our students are instilled with Jewish pride. They are given the opportunity to explore and identify with the practices and traditions of Judaism and Jewish values.

#### Your child belongs at Kollel's Hebrew School!

- ✓ No temple membership required
  ✓ Meets 9:45 11:15 Sunday mornings at
- Kollel
- √ K through 8th grade
- √Warm and knowledgable staff
- √ Tuition \$700

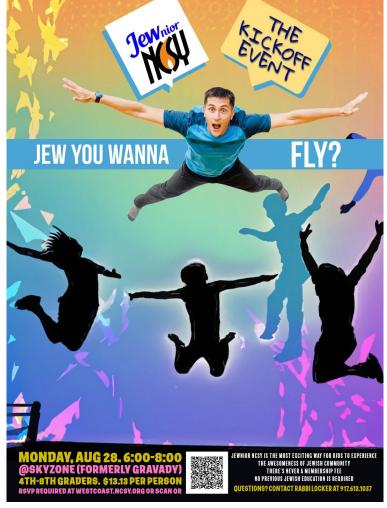
## Kollel's Hebrew School is for:

- Jewish children who need beginner-level
- Jewish culture and Hebrew reading skills
  Advanced day-school students looking for Jewish enrichment
- Students looking to get a head start on a meaningful Bat or Bar Mitzvah

#### What your child will learn and experience:

- Hebrew reading
- Prayer
- Torah (Bible) & Jewish history
- · Holidays and Shabbat
- Mitzvot & ethics
- Musical activities, crafts, and games

Community Kollel of Greater Las Vegas 1755 Village Center Circle / Las Vegas NV 89134 / 702.487.3133 / www.lasvegaskollel.org





Gaylie Kaplowitz Brody Beery Naamah Rose Julian Weiss Sasha Weiss Noah Elgerabli Tehilla Ben Shimon Yaniv Ben-Shimon Nochi Locker Royce Rozea Yoni Stein **Yosef Cassell** Jesse Eng Benaya Atias Justin Kalb Shai Malka Yitzchak Rambod

We're finally caught up! Happy Birthday wishes to the following:

Sponsored by the Streiter family, may their children merit to grow up as Torah learning Jews!

READ OVER 250 EPISODES IN OUR AR-CHIVES BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW



## **ANSWER OF THE WEEK**

**OUESTION ON PAGE 2** 

HEY! STOP! THINK FIRST. NO PEEKING!

THE WOMAN WAR- CAPTIVE GROWS HER FINGERNAILS LONG. I Wonder If she got to airbrush them.



WHY DOES WALDO ONLY WEAR STRIPED SHIRTS?

HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE SPOTTED!

THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER? YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. SEND YOUR JOKES IN TO DLOCKER®NAGEELAWEST.ORG



www.nageelawest.org

801-613-1539