

nageela

Shabbos

SEASON 1, EPISODE 39

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

DVAR TORAH

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'ostrophes 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,

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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 dishonest. 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

Evil does not start as evil

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 use proper punctuation.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

WHAT BODYPART IS MENTIONED IN THIS WEEK'S PORTION, BUT NOWHERE ELSE IN THE TORAH?

NO CHEATING
ANSWER ON PAGE 4



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OUR LAS VEGAS MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SIGNING THEIR NAMES AFTER SUCCESSFULLY ESCAPING THE ROOM!



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

SIDDUR
PRAYER BOOK

LOCKER

STUMP THE RABBI

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

**Moneyback
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Thanks
Rochelle E Ward

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 Radio-active 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

in,



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

WHEN WILL THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN?

DEEPTHOUGHTS

MICROWAVE OVENS SHOULD COME WITH A SILENT MODE



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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 ARCHIVES BY SCANNING
THE CODE BELOW



ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

HEY! STOP! THINK FIRST. NO PEEKING!

THE ANSWER IS FINGERNAILS!
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!

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