

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

SEASON 9, EPISODE 5

PARSHAS TOLDOS 5785



Important News

It was a week of making stuff:



Making caps in Simi Valley, making smoothies in Las Vegas, making sand art

in Los Angeles, and making trouble all over the world.

It's getting into the winter Shabbaton season, so stay tuned for info on our Park

City Ski Shabbaton, our January Jr. Re-

gional and our February Brian Head ski retreat!



We hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving!

COMING UP SOON

- DEC 1st- Camp Discount Ends
- DEC 4- Scottsdale Latte N Learn
 - DEC 6-7- Las Vegas Girls Shabbaton

Dec 20-23- Park City Ski Shabbaton

- Dec 11- Los Angeles Pizza Night

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!



Beep Thoughts

Whatever you're doing, give it 100%. Unless you're donating blood.



Join US!

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



FIRST TIME CAMPERS CAN GET THREE
WEEKS OF CAMP FOR
JUST SPAND

IDENTICAL IDENTIFICATION

LMK if this is the picture you have in your mind: Jacob was a sweet kindly boy, unable to speak roughly. Esav was a big hairy brute who was rude and crude, and who your mother wouldn't want you to hang out with.

That's at least partially true, but let's take a closer look, because Isaac was not a fool. Yet Isaac loved Esav, and perhaps even thought him righteous.

In case you missed part of the story, Esav, as the firstborn brother, was eligible for special 'firstborn' blessings from his father. In truth, he was no longer entitled to these blessings, as he'd legally sold his birthright to his younger brother Jacob. Isaac didn't know this, and he prepared to impart these wonderful gifts upon his beloved son Esav. Jacob, acting under instructions of his mother, performed the world's first case of identity theft and tricked his blind father into believing he was Esav. How did Jacob manage to fool his astute father? He used Esav's unique clothing, and lined parts of his body with goat fur, simulating Esav's hairy skin. What about his voice? Most commentators agree that as twins, their voices were similar. However their way of speaking was different.

Isaac detects the difference, commenting, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, and the hands are the hands of Esav." However, according to Rashi, he didn't mean the actual voice difference. Esav spoke in an aggressive way, and Jacob was more soft spoken. Rashi's words are that Esav spoke "in a way of fighting." This brings up a number of questions. For one, if Esav couldn't even keep a civil tongue, how could Isaac



Question of the Week

Esav is described as being 'Admoni', having a reddish complexion. Who else in iblical literature is described this way?



What do you call a band that plays on the patio?

A Porchestra.

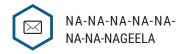


Nageela Fun Fact

At the original Nageela West campus in Randolph, UT, once per summer was their sheep drive. About 3,000 sheep would pass through the camp in a noisy (but cute) mess. They once destroyed a volleyball net.



How much do you love being Jewish?



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possibly think he was a good person? I understand that as a blind parent, Isaac could have missed certain things. But if Esav was rude and uncouth, how could there even be a doubt?

I think we have to reexamine what a good person looks like (or sounds like, I guess), and also what Isaac thought of his eldest son.

We are programmed to think of all 'tzadikim' as gentle softspoken souls. As teddy bears, sweetly and meekly modeling patience and generosity. Truth is, many are like that. We learn from Hillel that these are beautiful traits to emulate. But it isn't the only way. People are different. It's possible for someone to be a bit 'rough around the edges' and still be a righteous person. It's unlikely that Isaac thought Esav would be the master of kindness. That wasn't Esav's strength, yet Esav could have filled in his mission in life and performed admirably, acting as a leader, a protector and a



Answer of the Week

King David! Many sources point out that Esav and David had similar attributes, but differed greatly in how they were used.

strong advocate for those who needed it. There isn't one way to be good. So the good news is that no matter what abilities or propensities God has preloaded into you, you can be a truly great you.

WHAT INCENTIVES ARE AVAILABLE?

WHAT ARE The Dates?



SUMMER '25 INFO SESSION

for prospective parents and campers

SUNDAY, DEC 1ST 6:00pm PACIFIC TIME ON ZOOM

Torat Scene-Eye Explained

Here are some of the hints in this picture: The epic struggles between Jacob and Esav are respresented here. Esav has a beard, because he was hairy, and he's wearing a ring to represent his marriages mentioned in the parsha. There's a red stew, that Jacob used to buy Esav's birthright, and a

goat, which Jacob used to serve his father a delicious meal. Jacob is known in the Torah as 'Ish Tom,' a simple man. He's holding Mountain "dew, representing Isaac's blessings of 'the dew of the heavens."



PARSHA L PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly torah porshon

PARSHAS TOLDOS- Double Trouble.

- ISAAC MARRIES REBECCA WHEN HE'S 40. REMEMBER THAT. IT MAY BE ON THE TEST LATER.
- AT FIRST REBECCA HAS TROUBLE HAVING CHILDREN, SO THEY PRAY.
- REBECCA BECOMES PREGNANT WITH TWINS. HOWEVER, HER INSURANCE DOESN'T ALLOW ULTRASOUND, SO DOESN'T KNOW IT'S TWINS AND SHE IS CONFUSED THAT HER KID SEEMS TO HAVE A SPLIT PERSONALITY.
- SHE GOES TO SEEK DIVINE ADVICE, AND IS TOLD THAT SHE DOESN'T JUST HAVE TWO KIDS INSIDE, BUT TWO WHOLE NATIONS THAT WILL ALWAYS BE IN COMPETITION, YET THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER. AS THE YOUNGEST CHILD IN MY FAMILY, THAT MAKES ME HAPPY.
- AS SOON AS THE BOYS ARE BORN IT'S CLEAR HOW DIFFERENT THEY ARE. ESAU COMES OUT FIRST. HE'S HAIRY. THE YOUNGER ONE IS CALLED JACOB BECAUSE HE'S GRABBING HIS BROTHER'S HEEL, TRYING TO GET AHEAD.
- THE KIDS GROW UP, AND ESAU BECOMES AN OUTDOORSMAN WHO ENJOYS HUNTING, SKIING, MOUNTAIN BIKING AND THE OCCASIONAL MURDER. JACOB IS A SCHOLAR WHO STAYS INDOORS, STUDIES AND PROBABLY DOESN'T HAVE MUCH OF A TAN.
- SAAC DEVELOPS A SPECIAL AFFECTION FOR ESAU, EITHER BECAUSE HE'S A GOOD COOK, OR BECAUSE HE PRETENDS HE'S RIGHTEOUS. REBECCA UNDERSTANDS THAT JACOB IS THE ONE.
- WHEN THEIR GRANDFATHER ABRAHAM DIES, ESAU FINALLY GOES OFF ON A TRULY EVIL RAMPAGE. WHEN HE RETURNS FROM HIS DAY OF DEBAUCHERY, HE'S HUNGRY (AND TIRED) AND TRADES HIS RIGHTS AS FIRST BORN TO GET JACOB'S CHOLENT (AND BREAD- PEOPLE ALWAYS FORGET TO MENTION THE BREAD).
- THERE'S NO FOOD, SO GUESS WHERE ISAAC AND FAMILY GOES? TO THE PHILISTINES! NO RELATION TO ANY OTHER GROUPS WITH SIMILAR NAMES. ISAAC IS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL IN THE PHILISTINE LAND, BUT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE WAS THE PITS. LITERALLY, THEY KEPT FIGHTING OVER PITS. IT DIDN'T GO WELL. THEY KEPT

FIGHTING
O V E R
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DUNNO, LIKE PEOPLE WHO FILL IN WELLS.

- WHEN ESAU TURNS 40, HE DECIDES TO GET MARRIED TO A BUNCH OF WOMEN WHO WERE THE PITS.
- ISAAC'S VISION FADES, AND THE SAME INSURANCE COMPANY WON'T ALLOW HIM TO GET LASIK.
- NOT KNOWING HOW LONG HE HAS TO LIVE, HE DECIDES IT'S TIME TO IMPART HIS FINAL LIFE BLESSING ON HIS CHILDREN. HE ASKS ESAU, THE ELDEST TO PREPARE HIM A DELICIOUS MEAL SO HE'LL BE IN A GOOD MOOD TO GIVE THE BLESSING.
- WHILE ISAAC IS OUT HUNTING, REBECCA AND JACOB COOK UP A PLAN AND SOME GOATS. JACOB IMPERSONATES ESAU TO HIS BLIND FATHER AND GETS AWAY WITH THE BLESSINGS THAT WILL DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.
- ESAU VOWS TO KILL JACOB WHO THEN FLEES THE COUNTRY. BEFORE HE GOES, ISAAC AND REBECCA INSTRUCT JACOB TO LOOK FOR A WIFE IN THE SAME PLACE ISAAC HAD FOUND REBECCA, AT HER ANCESTRAL HOME IN PADAN ARAM.
- OH YEAH, ESAU GETS MARRIED. AGAIN.





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DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



231DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

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.

ARE YOU LOST?

HI Rabbi,

I have heard that all Jews come from only 3 of the original 12 tribes, and that the rest of the tribes somehow got lost. I've heard some weird legends about them, too. Also, it's supposed to be 10 lost tribes, so wouldn't that be 13? Maybe I'm one of the lost tribes, because I'm not sure what's going on.

Samuel Batyon

Dear Sam Batyon,

We addressed this topic in season 4, and I'll mostly share what we discussed then, but I'll add a few new details.

For a period of time, Israel was split into two king-

The Northern Kingdom had 10 tribes.

The Southern Kingdom had 3 tribes.

There were a total of twelve tribes.

Tribes can only be considered LOST before GPS was invented. Now they're just 'redirecting' for the



half thousand years.

Makes sense, right? I'm actually not going to go into that today. If you'd like more info on how the twelve tribes work, you can look at Season 4, Episode 33, or Season 5, Episode 30.

If you want to know what happened, it's a looong story, and you can read the Book of Kings for more info. [WHAT? More reading? I only ask you questions so I can take the easy way out!] Once the wise and powerful King Solomon died, his kingdom splintered and the tribe of Efraim led a large rebellion, taking 9 of the other tribes with them. Anyway, our nation was divided, and each group fought a number of its own wars. Finally, some time around 2,700 years ago, the Assyrians conquered the Northern kingdom and exiled them all over the world. This is why we find groups in many places (like Ethiopia, for example) with ancient Jewish customs and roots. It's likely that many of these groups are descended from the exiled 10 tribes.

Buuuuut, it's still not quite true to say that ALL Jews come from only Judah, Ben-



CAMP SUMMER



DATES & RATES AT elawest.org/summer25

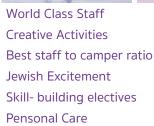














Lake w/ boating Awesome pool **Paintball** Ropes & Ninja course **Sports** Crafts



GONTINUED FROM jamin and Levi. Even when the Assyrians exiled the northern tribes, they didn't kick ALL of them out. A decent sized percentage (probably around 10%) stayed in Israel, and many of them reintegrated with the Kingdom of Judah. So it may be accurate to say that MOST Jews come from 3 tribes, but certainly nothing close to ALL.

Jacob, my son; you must put these goat skins on your hands so when your father feels you he'll think you are Esav! How did you manage to finish your hunt so quickly? And your hands feel like the hands of Esav... Who are you really? Erm, I'm... You're the GOAT!

There are lots of legends about the 10 lost tribes, where they are, what they're like, and whether their baseball teams use a DH or not. For a Jewish nation who has always felt alone among the nations, these stories are fascinating, hopeful and popular. It's likely that many of these stories are made up (especially the ones that mention Red Vines- any tribes who eat Red Vines are no kin of mine), but the core is true. There were huge numbers (possibly millions) of Jews who were split up and thrown into the big bad world thousands of years ago. Perhaps they will return with the coming of Mashiach. Perhaps many of them already have.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi



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.





Happy Birthdays!

Lucas Hoffman Ori Roth Michaella Gazala Hillel Nissim

Yaakov Polonsky Josh Leyton Babbi Locker



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



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