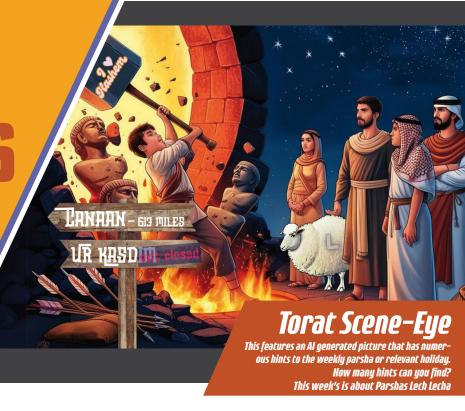
HAVE A

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

SEASON 9, EPISODE 3

PARSHAS LECH LECHA 5785





COMING UP SOON

NOV 2- HAVDALLAH GAME NIGHT Local in Las Vegas, and also broadcast on ZOOM. NOV 11- Las Vegas Laser Tag event NOV 13- ARIZONA Roller Skating NOV 13- Park City Jewish Heroes You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special



Beep Thoughts

Age doesn't matter. Unless you're a container of milk.



JOIN US!

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



Poll of the Week

Please take the time to vote on which new features you'd like to keep!



occasion or in memory of a loved one. Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!

DVAR TORAH

BODY BUILDING

Want to hear an inspirational line?

"Each man will help his friend, and to his brother, say, "Be strong!""

Sounds supportive, helpful and uplifting, right?

You might be surprised to find that this quote is referring to people who are encouraging each other toward idol worship and other serious badness. Well, then, why are we quoting it? Why does the book of Isaiah (this quote is taken from chapter 40 of Isaiah and is read in this week's Haftorah) using the inspirational words of sinners.

"Yo! Let's go beat some people up, then rob an old lady!"

"I hate puppies!"

"Wanna steal a car?"

"I enjoy pulling doors labeled PUSH and pushing doors labeled PULL."

"Hey, man, let's go graffiti someone's wall."

"Red vines are delicious, and Root Beer is better than pickle juice!"

"I'm voting for a different candidate than you."

These lines are among the most evil and cruel I could possibly imagine. Indeed, my proofreaders tried to get me to take these out to protect young eyes from the horrors. But you need to know about this cruel world, my friends. Yes, you need to know.









Nageela Fun Fact

Camp Nageela has three overnight camps: East, Midwest and West. There are also a couple of Nageela Day Camps!

DYAR TURAH

CONTINUED

Aaannnnyway, the question stands. Why is the prophet Isaiah quoting words from idolaters? Shouldn't we be learning from good people?

The great biblical scholar Radak (French Rabbi from about 800 years ago, well before the corrupting influence of Red Vines was invented) explains that these idol worshippers were encouraging each other because they had competition. Our ancestor Abraham had been so successful in spreading morality, monotheism and Godly goodness, that the side of evil had to work really hard to up their game. When you play against a bad team, you might not have to work hard. Pre- Abraham, it was super easy to be a pagan priest. People would believe ANYTHING! Once Abraham began to influence the world, their job got harder and they had to work more.

What does this teach us?

Well, for one thing, that our challenges grow with us. Sometimes we're faced with a challenging decision, and we feel really good about getting it right (as we should!).



Answer of the Week

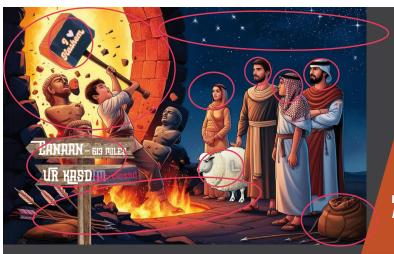
A shoelace.

After Abraham saves the king of Sodom, the latter offers rewards. Abraham insists that he would not take a thread or a shoelace (meaning nothing at all) from the wicked king.

Then we think it's happily ever after. But that would be a bit pointless. The reason for challenges is to strengthen us and make us much greater.

In Jewish thought, there's a force called the 'yetzer hara' which is usually translated as 'evil inclination.' What on earth is an evil inclination? It's muscle building for our souls. When it's easy to do the right thing, then it doesn't change us much. When it's hard to do the right thing and we do it anyway, WOW, that changes us into awesome people! We get so much stronger. The yetzer hara is the way we get challenged. When we step up our game, the yetzer hara steps up its game, too. It's not like, "Oh, Sammie did a mitzvah, so I'll go tame a nap." Nooo. It's all, "Sammie did a mitzvah, so I'm gonna work even harder to make sure it doesn't happen again!"

It's also pretty validating. Do you ever feel like you have a particularly difficult challenge? Yeah! That means the yetzer hara feels threatened by you! That's an indication that you're on the path to true strength. So I will say to you, "Be strong!"



Torat Scene-Eye Explained

Here are some of the hints in this picture:
The scene combines the story of young Abram destroying his father's
(the unhappy looking guy with a T on his arm) statues with his surviving a fire pit. Above are the stars his descendants are compared to, bottom right is a bag of sand (we're also compared to sand) and that sand is turning into arrows, as happened when Abram fought the 4 kings. His wife Sarai is there, as well as his nephew Lot, who is a shepherd (hence the L on the sheep). Abraham, of course isn't being destructive- he truly Loves God! Also, see the self explanatory road signs.



221DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



249

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

PARSHA L PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly torah porshon

PARSHAS LECH LECHA- Oh the Places You'll Go

- ABRAM LEAVES HIS HOMETOWN
- ◆ AS SOON AS ABRAM GETS TO ISRAEL, HE FINDS OUT THERE'S NO FOOD, SO HE NEEDS TO GO TO EGYPT.
- IN EGYPT, SARAI GETS 'RECRUITED' AGAINST HER WILL, TO THE KING'S PALACE.
- ◆ ABRAM AND HIS NEPHEW, LOT HAVE SOME PROBLEMS. OK. A LOT OF PROBLEMS. THEY DECIDE TO SPLIT UP, AND LOT CHOOSES TO LIVE IN SIN CITY.
- THERE'S A WAR AND LOT IS TAKEN CAPTIVE. BAD GUYS ALWAYS TAKE HOSTAGES. ABRAM BASICALLY BEATS DOWN THE ENEMY ARMIES ON HIS OWN, POSSIBLY WITH A FEW HUNDRED HELPERS. HE DOESN'T TAKE ANY SPOILS OF WAR. MAYBE HE DOESN'T WANT TO GET SPOILED.
- GOD PROMISES ABRAM ALL KINDS OF GOOD STUFF.
- SINCE SARAI HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO HAVE ANY CHILDREN, ABRAM MARRIES HAGAR, AND THEY HAVE A SON WHO LIKES TO SAY, "CALL ME ISHMAEL."
- ◆ ABRAM GETS HIS NAME CHANGED TO ABRAHAM, BUTTHE BARISTA STILL WRITES ABRAM.
- ABRAHAM ENTERS A DEAL WITH GOD, SEALED WITH ABRAHAM AND ALL HIS MALE DESCENDANTS GETTING CIRCUMCISED.





Making it Personal

What do you call a really cool scribe? Scribidi.
Let's talk about a man who was famous for being a scribe, but was also one of the most important figures in Jewish history, ever:
Ezra the Scribe.

Around 2 and a half thousand years ago, our people were exiled by the Babylonians, and our Temple destroyed. It was eventually rebuilt, and one of the people responsible for the return of the Jews to Israel, with organizing tribes and families, and with establishing Torah and practices, was Ezra. He was also a Kohen, a descendant of Aaron.



Jewish Mythbuster

Today's topic in Jewish mythbusters is the Kosher status of girafes.

There's a common mistake that the reason girafes aren't kosher is because we don't know where to slaughter them on their long necks.

Untrue. In fact, the proper slaughtering place on a girafe is mcuh larger and therefore easier to find than om any other animal!

So what's the problem?

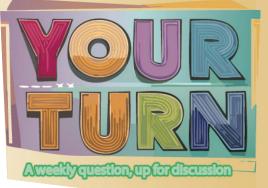
Some halachic opinions believe that in order to be able to eat an animal it's not enough for the kosher signs to be there, but we need to have am ancient tradition permitting it. Since Moses didn't have girafe meat at his July 4th BBQ, we don't either.



221L NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



249



We asked this question and asked for your ideas:

Why didn't Abraham want to take from the king of sodom?

Rashi says it would minimize the honor given to God by him getting rich from someone else.

The followup question is, if God promised Abraham he'd become wealthy, perhaps this is the way on which his wealth would come!

In fact, Abraham seemed to have no problem taking gifts from Pharaoh. So why wouldn't he let the king of Sodom be the agent by which he received God's blessings?

Some of your answers, not mine:

"Perhaps it's because with Egypt it was a diplomatic effort to eventually see through Hashem's plan for the future Pharaoh... and to differentiate a better Pharaoh from a terrible one"

"Because if it comes through or because of Sarah, it's not as credible for another person to claim that they caused Avraham to be rich—it would be more indirect."

"The Maharal writes that when God promises successs, it does not come through bad things happening."

PICKLE

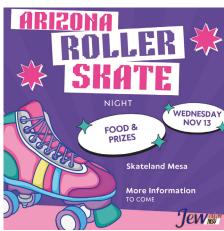
NEWS













Happy Birthdays!

Aaron Leiter Ivonne Cohen Matan Stockman Renee Kenwood







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

