

NAGEELA SHABBOS

Have-a

Passover 5781
April 2nd, 2021

SEASON 5 EPISODE 23

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Nearsighted Regret

by Rabbi Dani Locker

How did the Egyptians feel after the sea split?

Wet.

How did they feel when all their slaves were gone?

Help-less

Did you know some Egyptians tried to swim after the Jews in the sea. But they didn't get very Phar...o, you know how it was.

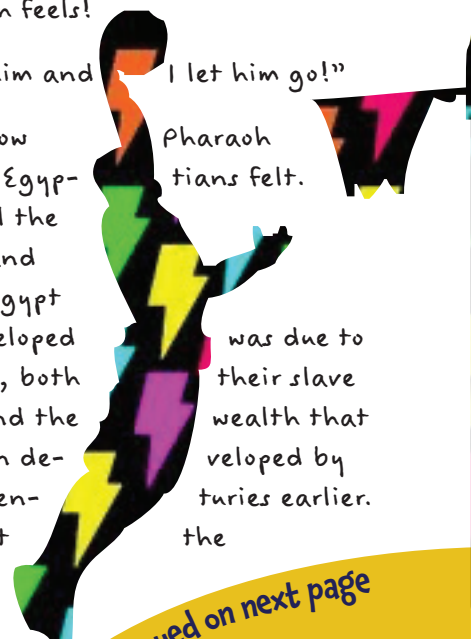
relieved to be rid of such a burden. Then things change. The player gets picked up by his cross town rival team. The coach works with this player, develops his skills and in a short time, he's playing at an MVP level. When this formerly cut player beats the coach's team in the championship game, you can imagine how the coach feels!

"I had him and I let him go!"

This is how and the Egypt- Truly, all the wealth and success Egypt had developed the Jews, both labor, and the had been de- Joseph cen- Now that Jews were

Pharaoh tians felt.

was due to their slave wealth that veloped by turies earlier. the



continued on next page



Candle lighting

Honolulu	6:28
Scottsdale	6:31
Henderson	6:43
Las Vegas	6:43
San Diego	6:51
Irvine	6:54
Los Angeles	6:56
Reno	7:06
Oakland	7:15
Park City	7:34

Seriously, though... How did the Egyptians feel when the Jews left their country? Relieved? Angry? According to the Midrash, they felt a sense of loss. The Midrash gives an example of a basketball coach (well, I may be slightly paraphrasing) who has a player on his team whom he thinks just isn't good enough. He cuts the player from his team,

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leaving, and God had performed so many miracles, their former masters were distraught that they had 'let them' go, realizing how important the Jews had been to their success. Now their country was ruined and they wanted the Jews back! I don't know what their plan was. Did they think they could enslave the Jews again? Were they planning on inviting them back as citizens?

Either way, these feelings and this behavior of the Egyptians is a great example of a pretty typical mistake people make. We tend to look only at the surface and don't think things through to their logical

conclusion. Had Pharaoh looked at things logically, he might have realized that treating the Jews well would mean years of success and prosperity. Yet he and his people saw only the gain of slavery, and the fear of rebellion.

As had so many before, and even more after them, they suffered the consequences of nearsightedness. And they suffered the consequences of mistreating God's beloved people.

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PICKLE JEWS

GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STRIP



Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

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

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

Note: 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.

Stump the Rabbi

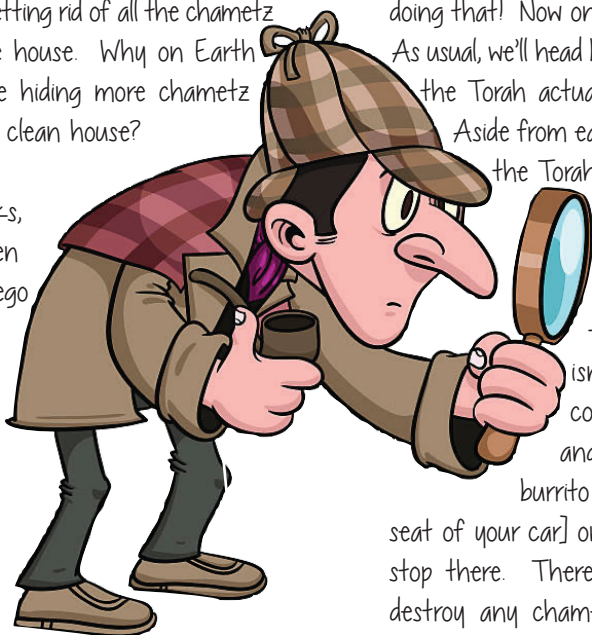


#165 Pointless Searching?

Hi Rabbi,

Each year, just before Passover our family does the search for Chametz. We hide ten pieces of bread and then look for them with a candle. We usually find them all. But something just occurred to me. We just spent a week cleaning and getting rid of all the chametz in the house. Why on Earth are we hiding more chametz in our clean house?

Thanks,
Sarmen
Candiego



Dear Sarmen,

You 'usually' find the bread? Uh oh! I hope your bread pieces are all equipped with GPS trackers. That's what I do...

Your question is very thoughtful. It's not often people who have been doing something for years start to think deeply about it. Keep doing that! Now on to answer your question:

As usual, we'll head back in time and see what the Torah actually says about the topic.

Aside from eating matzah on Passover, the Torah tells us not to own any chametz [in case you're just tuning in, chametz is pretty much any food that contains flour and isn't matzah, like bread, cookies, pretzels, Cheerios and the three-week-old burrito you found in the back seat of your car] on Passover. But it doesn't stop there. There's a mitzvah to actually destroy any chametz we own (hooray for

positive destruction), either by burning it, flushing it down the toilet or scattering it to the wind. It is possible, as you may have heard, to sell your chametz to someone who isn't Jewish and then buy it back after Passover. Yet, we still need to destroy chametz that belongs to us, so we don't sell everything. In order to make sure we have found all the chametz, and none is left in our possession, the sages long ago instituted the practice of searching by candlelight in case we missed something with our cleaning. But let's be real for a minute. If your house is really clean, you probably won't search very well. So we hide some bread (the common custom is to hide ten pieces), and then we need to really search every corner of our homes really well. Also, we make a blessing over the mitzvah of searching for chametz, and if there's no chametz, our blessing is empty and meaningless. We don't want that. Hiding chametz allows us to make the blessing in good conscience. It's a good idea to have the person hiding the bread NOT be the same person searching, because that

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8

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DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST
GIRLS SESSION

1

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7

DAYS TO CAMP NAGEELA WEST
BOYS SESSION

Find out about our summer 2021 and see photos from 2020 at nageelawest.org

Stump the Rabbi

continued

kind of defeats the purpose. It's also a really good idea to write down all the hiding spots. You know, in case you can't find them all. The bread that you find in the hunt gets burned the next day. So to clarify again, we are NOT trying to put more chametz in the house. We're using bread as little chametz spies to help us find chametz sleeper cells. I will illustrate with a story:

About 8 years ago, our family was spending Passover on the East coast. We had been staying in Jersey for a few days and were

planning on driving to Pennsylvania on time for the search for chametz, which happens on the night before the seder. We borrowed a beat-up minivan from my parents, and were on our way. Because it was the day before Passover, we didn't have any chametz with us. Well, big shocker, the chariot choked, the van was vanquished, the car collapsed, the passenger car perished. We were stuck in the middle of PA, hours from anywhere, and all the mechanics were closed. We got a couple of hotel rooms, and made ourselves as comfortable as possible. Then it was time to search for chametz, but we had none! What to do? What to do? We bought a danish from the vending

machine, cut it up into ten pieces, and voila, we had ourselves a chametz hunt! Unable to make a bonfire in the middle of our hotel room (I wanted to but luckily for us, there was a responsible adult around), we flushed the remnants down the toilet. The van may have been toast... (OH! I'm sorry, toasted matzah!) but we were still able to do things right!

Have a Nageela Shabbat,

the Rabbi



Best wishes to our friends and family members celebrating this week...

Liam Hershko	Sara Sfadia
Haddar Ben-Shimon	Ian T Wise
Myles Glick	Abby Eichner
Aaron Goldklang	Rabbi Derek Gormin

summer info session

Tuesday night, April 6th, 7:00-7:45pm pacific
on zoom
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DID JEW KNOW?

On the second night of Passover, we commemorate the death of... Haman! According to some he died on the third night of Passover, though. Since we're unsure, I'll leave you hanging...



CELLPHONES HAVE BROUGHT US BACK TO THE ERA OF POCKET WATCHES



Which number can fly?

Toucan!

hey, don't blame me! Dovid Locker is responsible for this one.
 Have a better joke and want a shoutout in Nageela Shabbos? Just email it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

Nageela West Coast

breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the West Coast. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience. Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.



www.nageelawest.org
info@nageelawest.org
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