

The Shul
at the Lubavitch Center
6701 Old Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD 21209
410-486-2666
www.chabadshul.org



December 29, 2018

Shemot

21 Tevet, 5779

Ancient Computers

This was back in the early sixties, when big mainframe computers were first being introduced into business. There was a professor in Argentina who became fascinated with these machines. At the same time, he was becoming fascinated with Judaism. He came up with a question that bothered him very much, so he went to visit the Rebbe and posed it to him.

"I know," stated the professor, "that everything that exists in the world, even something that we discover later in the path of history, has its source somewhere in the Torah. If so, where are computers in the Torah?"

The Rebbe answered immediately, as though he had the reply prepared, "Tefilin."

The professor groped to understand, but helplessly. Small black leather boxes that Jews wrap on their arms and heads have little apparent connection with anything of the twentieth century, never mind computers.

"What's new about a computer?" the Rebbe continued, after a short pause.

Remember that this was in the days of the mainframe monster. Machines that took up whole floors of buildings. Desktop computing wasn't even in science fiction.

"You walk in a room, you see many familiar machines. A typewriter, a large tape recorder, a television set, a hole puncher, a calculator. What is new?"

Another pause. The professor was thinking hard.

"But under the floor," the Rebbe went on, "unseen, cables connect all these machines so that they work as one."

The professor nodded, enthusiastically. He himself hadn't realized before, but, yes, this is all that a computer is: A synthesis of media and processing devices.

"Now look at your own self. You have a brain. It is in one world. Your heart is in another. And your hands often end up involved in something completely foreign to both of them. Three diverse machines."

"Furthermore, your whole day could go along the same path: You brush your teeth, you pray to G-d, you go to work, you eat your kosher food - each act yet another sundry, unrelated fragment."

"And so the entire Jewish people could go the same way. Each does his mitzva (commandment), follows his path-but what one does has no relation to the other."

"So you put on tefilin. First thing in the day you connect your head with your heart with your hand with these leather cables - all to work as one with one intent. And then when you go out to meet the world, all your actions find a harmony in a single coordinated purpose."

"And, whether you understand it or not," the Rebbe concluded, "when a Jew puts on tefilin in Argentina, it affects another Jew who may be fighting in a war in Israel."

(by Tzvi Freeman from <http://www.lchaimweekly.org/>)

You shall not see your brother's ox or sheep going astray and ignore them; rather, you should restore them to your brother...

When Rabbi DovBer of Lubavitch was a young man, he lived in the same house as his father, Rabbi Schneur Zalman. Rabbi DovBer and his family lived in the ground floor apartment, and Rabbi Schneur Zalman lived on the second floor.

One night, while Rabbi DovBer was deeply engrossed in his studies, his youngest child fell out of his cradle. Rabbi DovBer heard nothing. But Rabbi Schneur Zalman, who was also immersed in study in his room on the second floor, heard the infant's cries. The Rebbe came downstairs, lifted the infant from the floor, soothed his tears, replaced him in the cradle, and rocked him to sleep. Rabbi DovBer remained oblivious throughout it all.

Later, Rabbi Schneur Zalman admonished his son: "No matter how lofty your involvements, you must never fail to hear the cry of a child."

(continued on the other side)

The Lubavitcher Rebbe told this story to a gathering of community activists in 1962. "To me," said the Rebbe, "this story characterizes the approach of Chabad-Lubavitch. With all the emphasis on self-refinement and one's personal service of the Almighty, one must always hear the cry of a child.

"This is most applicable today, when so many Jewish children of all ages, have fallen out of the cradle of their heritage. Their souls cry out to us, and we must have the sensitivity to hear their cries and to respond. We must interrupt our prayers and our studies and do everything in our power to sooth these desperate souls and restore them to their cradle."

(by Yanki Traber from www.chabad.org)

Community Information of Interest

December 29: Lecture by Rabbi Dovid Katz. **Democracy, Peace, and its Discontents: The State of Israel and the Jewish World in the late 1970s.** *Israel and the International Community in the Began Era.* This lecture will begin at **8:00 p.m.** and be held at the Congregation Shomrei Emunah.

"The Rav's Friday Night Hashkafa Q&A Shiur for Men"

will take place **this** Friday night (Shemot, December 28)
at 8:00 p.m. and will be held at

the home of **Mr. & Mrs. Chaim Kahn**, 2325 Blackberry Road (corner of Sweet Meadow in Beazer North).

Mr. Moshe and Mrs. Gitty Rosenfeld

are sponsoring Kiddush this Shabbat
in memory of Moshe's father, **Esriel ben Moshe z"l**,
whose yahrzeit is this Tuesday, 24 Tevet..



Yahrzeits This Week:

Moshe Rosenfeld 24 Tevet - Monday night/Tuesday for father Esriel ben Moshe

SHUL DIRECTORY

Rabbi: Shmuel Kaplan . . . rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com
Treasurer: Michael Frank . . . shul.chabad@gmail.com
Membership: Jay Bernstein . . . bernstein1@msn.com
Kiddush: Reuven Frank rfrank82@gmail.com
Bulletin: Howard Kaplon hkaplon@towson.edu
Website: Shoshana Zakar sue.zakar@gmail.com

Gabbaim:
Yehudah Buchwalter . . . judahbuchwalter@verizon.net
Allan Genut agenut@gmail.com
Ephraim Siff
Mikvah Mei Menachem 410-415-5113
Aleph Learning Institute . Mrs. Rochel Kaplan, Director
www.alephlearninginstitute.org / email: alephjli@gmail.com

Davening and Shiurim Schedule

Friday, 12/28 — 20 Tevet
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Candles — 4:33 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.
Father & Son Learning (& Chollent) — 7:45 p.m.

Shabbat, 12/29 — 21 Tevet
Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:45 a.m.
Berachot Gemora Shiur — 3:50 p.m.
Minchah & Seudah Shilishit — 4:20 p.m.
Ma'ariv — 5:35 p.m.

Sunday, 12/30 — 22 Tevet
Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:40 p.m.

Monday, 12/31 — 23 Tevet
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.

Tuesday, 01/01 — 24 Tevet — Yahrzeit of R. Schneur Zalman of Liadi
Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:40 p.m.

Wednesday, 01/02 — 25 Tevet
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.

Thursday, 01/03 — 26 Tevet
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Ma'ariv — 8:15 p.m.

Friday, 01/04 — 27 Tevet
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Candles — 4:38 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:40 p.m.
Father & Son Learning (& Chollent) — 7:45 p.m.