

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center
6701 Old Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD 21209

www.chabadshul.org



December 18, 2021

VaYechi

14 Tevet, 5782

WE WELCOME THE BALTIMORE JEWISH COMMUNITY

בס"ד

EMUNAH

AN EVENING OF SPIRITUAL INTROSPECTION, INSPIRATION AND REALIZATION

BITACHON

THE POWER OF FAITH AND TRUST THROUGH CHALLENGES

GEULAH

WITH REB SHOLOM MORDECHAI RUBASHKIN



ט"ז טבת תשפ"ב - MONDAY DECEMBER 20, 2021

LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING • MEN AND WOMEN 7 PM-9 PM

BNAI JACOB SHAAREI ZION • 6602 PARK HEIGHTS AVE

\$15 PP (EARLYBIRD \$25 COUPLE, BY 12/07/21)

FARBRENGEN-MEN ONLY-9:30 PM • YESHIVAS LUBAVITCH



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A Complete 'Shema'

In this week's Parashah, Yaakov Avinu blesses his children before he passes away. The Gemara (Pesachim 56a) relates that Yaakov wanted to reveal the "End"—the time of the ultimate redemption—to his sons, but the Shechinah departed from him. Yaakov worried that this happened because, G-d forbid, one of his sons was unworthy. His sons responded: "Shema Yisrael, Hashem is our Elokim, Hashem is One"—just as you believe, so we believe. [Until here from the Gemara]

Why did Yaakov's inability to reveal the "End" make him worry that his sons were unworthy, and how did their recitation of Shema assuage him? Also, our Sages say that Yaakov did not hug Yosef at their reunion because he was reciting Shema at that moment (see Rashi z"l to Bereishit 46:29). Why did Yaakov do that?

R' David Cohen shlita (Rosh Yeshiva of the Chevron Yeshiva in Yerushalayim) explains: The ultimate purpose of the Patriarchs' Divine service was to bring Hashem's Presence into the world and to reveal that Hashem is One. This is a process that will be completed only at the "End," but to which every generation contributes. After Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov did their part as individuals, it was time for this service to be taken over by Klal Yisrael / the Jewish nation, beginning with Yaakov's sons. There was significance to there being twelve sons, just as there are twelve months, constellations, and hours in a day. Also, the Gematria of the word "Echad"/ "One" is 13, i.e., the 12 Tribes plus Yaakov. This is why Yaakov mourned so deeply when he thought one of his 12 sons (Yosef) had died: he thought his mission was now doomed to fail. Thereafter, his Shema, his declaration of G-d's Oneness, would forever be incomplete.

When Yaakov was reunited with Yosef, he was able to recite Shema "completely" for the first time since Yosef's disappearance, and he did. But, when the Shechinah left him before his death, he thought that, again, his mission was in jeopardy. No, said his sons, Shema can still be recited. (Mizmor L'David, Vol. I, Ma'amar 5)

(by Rabbi Shlomo Katz from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)

Kol Hanaarim— Father and Son Learning – every Friday evening during the winter at 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. in The Shul. Chulent and other refreshments are served. Each session is 'topped off' at the end with a fascinating story. For any questions, please see Rabbi Itzkowitz.

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DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 12/17 — 13 Tevet
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Shabbat Candles — 4:26 p.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Shabbat, 12/18 — 14 Tevet
 Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.
 Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:40 a.m.
 Minchah — 4:15 p.m.
 Ma'ariv— 5:29 p.m.

Sunday, 12/19 — 15 Tevet
 Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.
 Father and Son Learning — 6:00 p.m.

Monday, 12/20 — 16 Tevet
 Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/21 — 17 Tevet
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/22 — 18 Tevet
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.

Thursday, 12/23 — 19 Tevet
 Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:35 p.m.
 Chavrusa Learning with Chabad Yeshiva — 8 to 10 p.m.

Friday — Legal Holiday, 12/24 — 20 Tevet
 Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
 Shabbat Candles — 4:30 p.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.