The Shul
at the Lubavitch Center
6701 Old Pimlico Road
Baltimore. MD 21209

www.chabadshul.org

August 29, 2026 **Ki Tavo** **16 Elul, 5786**

Don't Think It—Say It

A woman once complained to a marriage counselor that her husband never says that he loves her. The therapist turned to the husband for his perspective. "I told her thirty years ago that I love her," he explained, "and if anything changes, I'll let her know."

In the land of Israel, during the Temple era, every farmer would take the first fruits of a tree to Jerusalem and give it to the priest, the kohen, standing next to the altar. This mitzvah, called bikkurim, was an expression of gratitude to G-d for the abundant produce and the opportunity to live in the land of Israel.

But, in addition to handing the fruit to the priest, the farmer was obligated to make a verbal declaration. This statement was a short summary of Jewish history from the times of Jacob until the conquest of the land of Israel. The declaration emphasizes G-d's kindness and the miracles that affected our destiny.

While it is true that actions speak louder than words, there is an element of appreciation that is expressed more by our words than our deeds. Actions express dedication and commitment, but cannot convey warmth and emotion. When you give a gift to a friend as thanks for a favor, a well-written card strengthens the connection and generates more closeness than the gift itself.

As parents, spouses or friends, it is not sufficient to just do things for another person. Our love and care must be articulated with warmth and affection. We cannot appreciate a kindness done to us in our hearts only; we must express it with words of acknowledgement and thanks. Strong communication fuels the relationship and keeps the spark alive.

Tell those close to you how much you appreciate them every day. Set aside a few minutes to pray and thank G-d for all of His blessings. And to that woman's husband, tell your wife that you love her. She knows it already, but she needs to hear it. She deserves to hear it.

(By Rabbi Michoel Gourarie obm from www.chabad.org)

The Kohain Connection

"You shall come to whomever will be the Kohain in those days…" (26:3)

The Torah teaches us that we are obligated to give the first fruits to "whomever will be the Kohain in those days". It would appear that the words "who will be in those days" are superfluous. Should the Torah not have stated plainly that we must give to "the Kohain"? Is it not obvious that this could refer only to the Kohain who is alive at that time?

Rashi explains that a person should not say that the Kohain of his time is not of the same caliber as the Kohanim of old, thus labeling him as undeserved of the Priestly gifts. Rather, a person should give the gifts to the Kohain of his generation. The Ramban disagrees with Rashi's interpretation of the verse. Although a similar teaching is found in connection with the mention of going to the judge who resides at the time, the Ramban argues that it would be logical to assume that later generation judges may not be qualified, since the judges of the later generations did not possess the wisdom and intellect of earlier generations. Therefore, the Torah must teach us that we should rely upon the judges of our day. However, why should we need such a teaching concerning the Priestly gifts?

After stating the requirement of bringing the first fruits to the Kohain, the verse records the statement which the landowner makes to him: "I declare today to Hashem your G-d…" Why does the landowner say your G-d, and not my G-d or our G-d?

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There are two components involved in giving Priestly gifts, the first being to ensure that the Kohanim have enough to sustain themselves. However, the second component is a benefit to the giver. Having a relationship with the Kohain is an elevating experience, for connecting to the Kohain, who is the representative of Hashem, serves to concretize our relationship with Hashem; the gifts are the vehicle through which we create this bond with the Kohain.

It would be possible to think that a Kohain of our generation cannot offer us the connection to Hashem which we desire, and therefore, we may think we are exempt from giving the Priestly gifts. Therefore, the Torah emphasizes that in every generation we are obligated to give the Priestly gifts, for this relationship can still be attained. The verse alludes to this notion by recording the statement of the landowner to the Kohain, "I declare to Hashem your G-d", intimating that there is a special relationship between the Kohain and Hashem. It is to this relationship that the landowner wishes to connect.

(by Rabbi Yochanan Zweig from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)

Shabbat Afternoon Women's Shiur

Weekly Ladies Shabbat Afternoon Parsha Shiur
given by Rebbitzen Leah Kaplan.

5:00 p.m. at her home – 6509 Deancroft Road.
Come and enjoy refreshments and social time.

Please complete and send to the Shul your: (1) High Holiday Seat Reservation Form, (2) Membership Information Form and (3) Yizkor Form for 5787.
All are available on the Shul Website at www.chabadshul.org

Sponsorship for the two flower displays on the Bima during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are available at $250 each Yom Tov. Consider sponsoring the flowers in honor or in memory of someone. Please contact the Allan Genut at agenut@gmail.com or 443-722-1377 to make arrangements.

Yahrzeits This Week:

Marvin Pazornick	17 Elul - Saturday night / Sunday	for mother	Zelda Pazornick
Dr. Chaim Eisenberg	19 Elul - Monday night / Tuesday	for mother	Estelle Rose Eisenberg
Eliyahu Schwartz	21 Elul - Wednesday night / Thursday	for mother	Chava Basya bas R' Tzvi HaCohen

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DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 8/28 — 15 Elul
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.

Shabbat, 8/29 —16 Elul
Shacharit 9:00 a.m.
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:47 a.m.
Minchah — 7:15 p.m.
Shiur — after Minchah
Shkiah — 7:42 p.m.
Ma'ariv — 8:24 p.m.

Sunday, 8/30 — 17 Elul
Shacharit —8:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:20 p.m.

Monday, 8/31 — 18 Elul
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:20 p.m.

Tuesday, 9/1 — 19 Elul
Shacharit— 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:20 p.m.

Wednesday, 9/2 — 20 Elul
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:20 p.m.

Thursday, 9/3 — 21 Elul
Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:20 p.m.

Friday, 9/4 — 22 Elul
Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
Shabbat Candles — 7:14 p.m.
Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.