

Parshat Bamidbar Shabbat Mevarchim Machar Chodesh

Hertz Cohen Stone Gutnick  Shabbat Begins 8.42pm

Sedra 586 793 726 849 Shabbat ends 9.58pm

Haftarah 948 1189 1207 1487

A CELEBRATION FOR JERUSALEM

Yesterday we celebrated Yom Yerushaliyim at Western Marble Arch in the traditional way. Prayers of thanksgiving, followed by a Festive Breakfast kindly supplied by Tedde Reitman to whom we are, as ever, most grateful, and enjoyed by all who were present.

It is 42 years since the Eastern Part of Jerusalem was restored to the Jewish State during the 1967 War, a day most certainly to be remembered and celebrated. That Picture of Moshe Dayan at the Wall must remain imprinted on the mind of all Jews.

The depth of the significance, beauty and history of that City cannot even be approached by any other. So many names were given; Aramaic, Syriac, Assyrian, so many derivations, Phoenician, Egyptian, Babylonian, but according to the Midrash it is made up of "Shalem" the name given to the City by Shem, and "Yir'eh" that given to it by Abraham.

Even the Arabs have preserved the ancient forms "Urishalam" and "Uraslam". There was even a ring of truth in "The Life of Brian", where the crowd chants "Death to the Cheesemakers", many thought this was skit at the "Peacemakers", but indeed there was a Tyropoeon Valley, the translation of which really is "the Cheesemakers".

In Hebrew annals Jerusalem is first mentioned in Genesis 14.18 "and Melchizedek king of Salem "brought forth bread and wine" meaning refreshments for the battle weary and the liberated prisoners after the battles with the Kings of Sodom and Gomorra. There was even a time when Jerusalem was described as "a foreign City" not belonging to the Israelites and the City was called Jabs. However by the time of the early history of David it is again called by its old name of Jerusalem.

The name "Zion" was given to a portion of the City, but it was renamed by David, the City of David, in the same way that Assyrian rulers were inclined to give their names to captured cities. Although given the name "Ir", a City as in "Ir David" this does not necessarily mean it was very large, but it seems that some enlargement was due to David. There was a partial wall in his time, but it was under Solomon that there is a definite reference to a wall surrounding the City.

His palace took 13 years to build, and the Temple took 7 years and Solomon is said to have embellished Jerusalem with silver and costly wood. There followed many incursions over the subsequent years, and when Nebuchadnezzar's took the City on the 9th of Av 586 the walls were razed and 10,000 deported and settled in various parts of Babylon.

The reconstruction of the Temple began in 537, interrupted by the Samaritans and finished in 516, and a new community organised eventually by Ezra and Nehemia, whose night ride took him round the walls of the City, the route of which has been verified by excavation.

There followed seizure by the Persians, capture by the Egyptians, Invasion by the Greeks, and the recapture by Judas Maccabeus. The Romans followed as the City was beleaguered by Herod and destroyed by Titus. There are varying and perhaps somewhat exaggerated figures given for the population of Jerusalem during these times, 2,565,000, to 3,000,000 and even one Talmudic reckoning of 12,000,000, but according to Josephus only 10,000 soldiers were needed when the City was destroyed in 70 ce.

The Emperor Hadrian attempted to erect a Roman City on its ruins, and with Constantine the Great the City became Christian. And in the year 637 it became under the power of the Moslems.

Once more, a succession of Egyptian and Turkish rule, until the Crusaders took the City. In 1099, but throughout these periods the Jews were far from vanquished, they came they lived, they settled they worked and above all they studied., gradually increasing in number following their expulsion from many places.

Well recorded as recent history may be there remains sufficient evidence from times gone by to justify the claim and celebration of the return only 42 short years ago, to our people of this Great City.

Shabbat Shalom Barrington Black.

Next Week Shavuot & Shabbat

28th—30th May 2009

Shavuot Commences 8.49pm Mincha & Maariv 8.00pm

Announcements

Mazal Tov to David Schmidt on his Bar Mitzvah and to parents Susi & Yaacov Schmidt, brother Gideon and all the family

Kiddush Sponsor

Susi & Yaacov Schmidt invite the congregation to Kiddush to celebrate David's Bar Mitzvah

Breakfast Sponsor

Breakfasts this week for the morning Minyan are kindly sponsored by the Rayden Family

Birthdays— Mazal Tov:

Ralph Levy	George Goldberg
Simon Buchler	Daniel Bloom
Debbie Jaque	Amanda Ronson
Mark Mishon	Francoise Winton
Lynda Rapport	Stuart Creggy
Gillian Fenner	Gerald Ronson
Melvin Freedman	George Rothschild
Janine Ingram	Phyllis Howard

Wedding Anniversaries—Mazal Tov

Annabelle & Mark Sorrell
Debbie & Alistair Jaque
Michelle & Adam Cedar
Jane & David Kaye
Jocille & Paul Cohen

Condolences

To Marsha Lee on the passing of her mother Helena Bernstein z"l

Refuah Shlemah

Seymour Freed	Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
Gala Colover	Chana bat Yehudit Asher Mordecai ben Shifra
Nat Winsor	Noach ben Miriam Chayah
	Shira bat Leah Rivka Bat Chava

Friday 22nd May Yom Yerushalayim—Jerusalem Day

7.15 am Shacharit with Hallel followed by a festive breakfast
7.15 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & D'var Torah

Shabbat 23rd May

8.45 am Shiur with Henry Knobil
9.15 am Shacharit
8.45 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlishit & D'var Torah by Yaacov Schmidt
9.58 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Sunday 24th May - Rosh Chodesh Sivan

8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Thought for the Day by Alan Goldberg
10.00 am Cheder Aged 4—12 years. Contact Batsheva Burns for further information on 0796 88 555 96 or email cheder.marblearch@gmail.com

Monday 25th May - Bank Holiday

8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and D'var Torah by Michael Milston

Tuesday 26th May

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel

Wednesday 27th May

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Parsha Shiur by Ervin Landau

Thursday 28th May - Erev Shavuot

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and D'var Torah by Bernard Silver
Prepare Eruv Tavshilin - details on website and in next Thursday's newsletter
8.00 pm Mincha & Maariv followed by Communal Supper and Tikkun Leil Shavuot - Learning until dawn
8.49 pm Yom Tov begins

Friday 29th May - 1st Day Shavuot

3.01 pm First Shacharit
9.15 am Second Shacharit
7.15 pm Mincha & Maariv
8.51 pm Candlelighting for Shabbat & Festival

Mincha & Ma'ariv through the week
Sun 24th —Wed 27th May 2009 7.15pm
Thurs 28th May 8.00pm

Kiddush Rota

Diana Black. Linda Sharpe

Security Rota

Henry Ejdelbaum. Harry Handelsman.

Community Fun Run This Sunday

Rabbi Lionel is running 10 KM on Sunday to raise money for Jewish Blind and Disabled.

He would be delighted to receive your sponsorship!

Go to www.justgiving.com/rabbilionelrosenfeld or send a donation to him at the office (cheques payable to "JBD")

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Parsha Shiur for Ladies

Next Shiur Monday 1st June at 10.30am

Tikkun Leil Shavuot Thursday Evening 28 May

Mincha & Maariv at 8.00pm followed by Shavuot Supper and Divrei Torah interspersed with plenty of refreshments, tea and coffee until 11.30pm. Learning continues until Shacharit at 3.01am. Bookings for Shavuot Supper must be made by Sunday morning. Cost £25, Students £12.50. Contact the Office on 020 7723 9333 or email : maureen@marblearch.org.uk.

Monday 15th June at 7.45pm R.B. Kitaj—The Controversial Artist

Lecture with Art Historian Patricia Utermohlen. Please join us for this very interesting event.

Rosh Hashanah Magazine/Brochure

We welcome your contributions and/or photographs for the Rosh Hashanah Magazine that we are beginning to compile. Please send your articles etc via email to maureen@marblearch.org.uk or post them to the office

Market Place at WMA—Exclusively for WMA Members

A great new addition to our website has been launched ... **Market Place**, an opportunity for our members to support each other in these economically challenging times. Whatever business you are in let us know by emailing marketplace@marblearch.org.uk so we can include your listing free on the web site. Whatever you need to buy from a fridge to a flight check the website first and support our members. Our web page can be found at www.marblearch.org.uk/marketplace.html Organised and updated by Steven Truman & Jonathan Abro.

You can contact Rabbi Lionel & Natalie Rosenfeld at rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk
Tel: 020 7535 0458, mobile: 07811202244

Our Website: For details of times of services and events, go to www.marblearch.org.uk