

6th Kislev 5771/13th November 2010.

Minister: Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Emeritus Chazan: Rev. Moshe Dubiner

Parashat Vayetze

	Hertz	Cohen	Stone	Gutnick		
Sedra	106	164	144	180		Shabbat begins 4.01pm
Haftarah	118	188	1140	1138		Shabbat ends 5.04pm

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

The relationship that Jacob shares with Rachel is different in nature than the relationships shared by his father and grandfather with their respective wives. In recognising when the Torah expresses their affection, we can deduce certain qualities of their marriage. Regarding Abraham and Isaac, the Torah reveals their feelings towards their wives only after a relationship has been established. Abraham perceives Sarah's beauty when they escape to Egypt to avoid a famine (Genesis 12:11). Similarly, Isaac first meets Rebecca by way of formal introduction by Abraham's servant, Eliezer (see Gen.24:64-66). Only after Isaac marries her does the Torah proclaim "and he loved her" (Gen. 24:67).

In contrast, from the moment Jacob notices Rachel at the well, the Torah describes his being overwhelmed and energised, giving him the power to lift large boulders in a single bound. By the time Jacob reaches his uncle Laban's house, Jacob shows his love for Rachel by offering seven years of his life in service to marry her. All this happens fairly quickly. Within a span of one afternoon, Jacob finds the girl of his dreams, realises she is the girl of his dreams, and commits to making her the love of his life. While his father and grandfather had generally taken their time to appreciate their love for their spouses, Jacob discovers his in a moment.

The Midrash recognizes two paths in finding a partner. There are those who seek – actively - and there are those who are found by their spouse- passively. Isaac was found by his wife: "*And he saw the caravan approaching*" (Gen. 24:63), whereas Jacob pursued his wife: "*And Jacob went forth*" (Gen. 28:10). This active quest characterises Jacob's perspective of a relationship, and his determination underscores his enthusiasm. Not to the detriment of his parents' relationship, Jacob sought a relationship of a different kind. This pursuit was not marked merely by his travelling to another city; rather Jacob was on a search for his soul-mate. His father Isaac certainly ended up with his, seeing Rebecca as his soul-mate. Yet Jacob made his own investigation and used his own personal judgment to find his love.

Which path does the Torah prefer? The Torah does not choose sides; both are worthwhile. Any enthusiasm can be channelled towards a positive endeavour or conversely, abused by misappropriation. On the one hand, if Jacob's relationship can be characterised as enthusiastic, it is that which cost him, in total, fourteen years of his life. His marriage was worth his years, but it was his passion that motivated him to offer his service in the first place. On the other hand, only Jacob left a legacy of twelve children. Abraham and Isaac both left just one child in the chain of the Jewish people, while losing the other to a different historic path. Perhaps Jacob's enthusiasm in his relationship with his wife and his family is at the root of his meriting being the immediate biological father to the entire Jewish people.

Shabbat Shalom.

From a Dvar Torah by Micah Gimpel, graduate of Yeshiva University and author of "A Single Scoop" (An anthology of Torah bytes.)

Next Shabbat - Vayishlach

19th—20th November 2010

Commences 3.51pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 3.45pm

Announcements

A warm welcome to Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks & Lady Elaine Sacks and family who are with us this Shabbat

Mazal Tov to Tatiana Green on her Bat Mitzvah, to parents Jahnene & Jonathan Green and to grandparents and all the family

Jahnene & Jonathan have much pleasure in inviting the congregation to Kiddush after the service to celebrate

Breakfast Sponsor

Breakfasts for the morning Minyan this week have been kindly sponsored by Elliot Tenenbaun of Jerusalem, a regular visitor to our daily Minyan

Birthdays—Mazal Tov to:

Asher Levy	Jonathan Becker
Chloe Rapp	Helaine Gordon
David Harouni	Sara Shasha
Philip Zajac	Nigel Peters
Simon Silver	Philip Kremen
Peter Steckelmacher	David Sandground
Colin Howard	Nathan Winsor

Wedding Anniversary—Mazal Tov

Danielle & Sam Lipton
Philippa & Richard Mintz
Nadia & Michael Moosah
Ruth & David Coffey
Angela & Harvey Soning

Refuah Shleimah

Ruth Bromberg	Ruth bat Elsa
Gemma Levine	Tsipora Chana bat Eliezer
Lisbeth Morgan	Chaya bat Miriam
Gala Colover	Chana bat Yehudit
M.A.	Devorah bat Yocheved
Stuart Caplan	Zelig ben Etta Rasha Hacoen
Aitan Cobb	Aitan Gavriel ben Shulamit
	Aviva
Paul Simons	Pinchas ben Anita
Gerald Bloomberg	Yosef ben Devorah
Nat Winsor	Noah ben Miriam Chaya
Seymour Freed	Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
Alex Guberman	Natan ben Miriam

Friday 12th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haphtarah Shiur by Ervin Landau
- 4.00 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & **D'var Torah by the Chief Rabbi** followed by Pirkei Avot Shiur with Alan Lee and Stanley Simmonds

Shabbat 13th November

- 8.45 am Shiur with Henry Knobil
- 9.15 am Shacharit, **Sermon by the Chief Rabbi**
- 4.00 pm Mincha, followed by Seudah Shlishit kindly sponsored by Akiva Luton and John Rose, members of our daily Minyan and **D'var Torah by the Chief Rabbi**
- 5.04 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Sunday 14th November

- 8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and D'var Torah by Alan Goldberg
- 10.00am Cheder Aged 4—12 years.** Contact Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld for further information on 07811202244 or email rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk or Miriam Kaye marblearchcheder@hotmail.com

Monday 15th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Michael Milston
- 10.30 am Shiur for Ladies led by Rabbi Rosenfeld

Tuesday 16th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel

Wednesday 17th November

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

Thursday 18th November

- 7.30am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Ervin Landau
- 7.15 pm First Simon Weisenthal memorial Lecture**

Friday 19th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau

Come along to strengthen our Friday night and Shabbat Afternoon Minyamin— both at 4.00pm and hear the Chief Rabbi's brilliant D'var Torah

Mincha & Ma'ariv through the week
Sun 14th —Thurs 18th November 4.00pm

You can contact Rabbi Lionel & Natalie Rosenfeld at:
rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk

Tel: 020 7535 0458 mobile: 07811202244

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

Western Marble Arch Synagogue has facilities for the disabled

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pirkei Avot Shiur—12th November after Kabbalat Shabbat (for 30 minutes)

Alan Lee and Stanley Simmonds will be looking at the timeless wisdom of the 'Ethics of the Fathers'. All are welcome to attend.

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Shiur for Ladies

Next Shiur Monday 15th November at 10.30am. Ladies who have not previously attended are most welcome.

Monday Mornings -Healing at WMA

Sonia Shalam continues with her healing sessions on Monday mornings. Please phone her on 07799353708 to book a session or for further information.

GCSE—'Judaism' weekly course for teenagers taught by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld every Thursday at 6.00pm

Anyone who wishes to join this intensive class preparing for the June exam should email or call Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld, see below

Consecration This Sunday 14th November

The consecration of the tombstone in loving memory of Leon Sterling z"l (father of Simon Sterling of our daily Minyan) will take place at 10.30am at Bushey

Thursday 18th November at 7.15pm FIRST SIMON WIESENTHAL MEMORIAL LECTURE

This lecture entitled 'Putting Anti-Semitism on Trial' will be given by Anthony Julius. NOT TO BE MISSED

22nd—24th November Exhibition of paintings from the famous Safrai Gallery from Jerusalem

Please come along to what will be a very interesting and enjoyable exhibition. **On Wednesday 24th November at 7.30pm there will be a cheese and wine reception to highlight the exhibition when the Israeli Cultural Attache will be present.**

Sunday 28th November at Central Synagogue— Rehearsals for the Sound of Music in preparation for the joint 2011 Purim Celebrations

Actors, singers, stage hands, technical help with lighting, sound, sets and costumes. No experience necessary just people interested in having fun. There will only be limited number of rehearsals. Contact Raquel on 020 7580 1355 for more details

Tuesday 7th December 2.30—5.00pm

Archers Chanukah Party—Free Admission

Please come along with your friends for our Annual 'Chanukah Bash' for our senior members where there will be good food, good company, good entertainment, **Lighting of the Menorah and singalong with Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld** and a free super prize draw.

Communal Dinner and Evening with

Santa- Sebag Montefiore— 17th January 2011

In support of the charity Ovarian Cancer Action Funding research, raising awareness, giving a voice.

Reception 7.15pm, Dinner 7.45pm, £45 per head. Please call or email the office today to make your booking. 020 77239333, office@marblearch.org.uk

Operation Winter Survival.

Once again we will be collecting warm winter items for help towards this good cause. Please bring your goods along to the Synagogue. This year they require new and nearly new winter hats, gloves and scarves