

What A P'shat!

Issue #289 Sweet New Year Edition Rosh HaShanah Issue

EST. 2021
By: Michael Suleymanov

Mindblower!!!!

Why is there
no W in one
but there's a
W in two?

Awesome Aliyah

Day 1 — Aliyah 4

- Hashem promises Abraham that Yishmael will also become a great nation, even as Yitzchak's line continues separately.
- Abraham sends Hagar and Yishmael away with only bread and a skin of water.
- When the water runs out, Hagar sits at a distance so she won't watch her son die — and it's there that Yishmael's cry reaches G-d.

Enjoy this paper?

*Scan the QR code to join the
What A P'shat WhatsApp chat!*



D'var Torah On The Parsha

The Cry That Was Heard

A boy is dying of thirst in the wilderness, and his mother, Hagar, has already walked away so she won't have to watch him die. That's where our first Rosh Hashanah reading takes us. Hagar and Yishmael run out of the bread and water provided for them. Yishmael cries. But the Torah tells us it's a different cry that gets G-d's attention: the text specifies that Hashem heard "the voice of the boy," not Hagar's own weeping. Rashi explains that it's Yishmael's cry, from exactly where he's lying, that reaches Him — and it's Hagar's eyes that are then opened to a well that had been there the entire time. Why choose abandonment and a desperate cry as the reading for the head of the new year? What's the P'shat? An answer might be that Rosh Hashanah isn't about arriving somewhere polished and complete — it's about being heard exactly where we are. The well was there the whole time; Hagar couldn't see it until Yishmael's cry opened her eyes to it. Sometimes the sweetness we're asking for this year isn't far away at all — it just takes the right kind of cry to help us see it.

KOSHER **COMEDY** **CORNER**

Q: What do you call an apple that's ready for the new year?

A: A-peel-ing.

Famous Jewish Companies

That's It

Dr. Lior

Lewensztain is the Jewish founder of That's it. While in medical school, Lewensztain discovered that only about a third of Americans eat their daily recommended servings of fruit, and he set out to fix that. In 2012, he launched That's It with just a handful of flavors sold at farmers' markets in Los Angeles — bars made from as few as two ingredients, usually apples paired with something like cherry, coconut, or strawberry. The company grew from a farmers-market table to a fixture at Costco, Walmart, and Target, now bringing in over \$100 million a year, with Lewensztain still hands-on as founder and CEO. Have you ever had a That's It bar?

That's it®

Rosh HaShanah Point

On Rosh HaShanah, Hashem judges us and decides what next year will be like. Why is the world judged on Rosh HaShanah? Because the first man and woman were judged that day. Adam and Chavah were created on the first of Tishrei, the day of Rosh HaShanah. Hashem told them they could eat anything that grew in Gan Eden (which was filled with many trees), except from the tree in the center of Gan Eden — the Etz HaDa'at. If they did, they would die! That was the one and only Mitzvah that Adam and Chavah had to keep! And guess what? They didn't keep it, and ate from the Etz HaDa'at just a few hours after they were created! Did Hashem kill them for what they did? No! Why not? Hashem judged them with mercy. He let them live and punished them in other ways. Hashem said, "Just like Adam was judged on Rosh HaShanah, so will all of mankind be judged on this day every year."

Fantastic, Fabulous, Fun Facts!!!

In the Torah, the word for honey — Devash — most often refers to date honey, not honey from bees. The famous description of Israel as a "land flowing with milk and honey" is generally understood by the Chachamim to mean date honey.

RUSSIAN TERMS

Sladkogo Novogo Goda

Сладкого Нового года

Translation: Sweet new year.

Golova

голова

Translation: Head. Do you eat a fish head or a sheep's head?

Yabloka

Яблоко

Translation: Apple. Dipping the apple in the honey is one of the highlights of Rosh HaShanah.



Halacha Of The Week

Halachot of Keli SheMelachto

LeHeter

Muktzeh does not apply to

Kitvei Kodesh (holy texts).

Therefore, a person can move it

even if they have no purpose to

move it. This is the case even if

the Kitvei Kodesh are going to be sold,

because if a person would want, they would

be able to learn from them on Shabbat. If it is

a Megillat Ester, you are allowed to move it as

well. But when אדר ט"ו falls out on Shabbat, it

is forbidden for people who live in walled

cities (i.e., Jerusalem) to move it.

This section is written by Moshe Pleshtiyev. These Halachot are based on the writings of the Chazon Ovadia.



THIS WEEKS P'SHAT IS SPONSORED

ANONYMOUSLY LELUI NISHMAT:

SHMUEL BEN NOZUK

Parsha Ha'azinu	Sukkot Issue	Simcha Torah Issue
Available Grab this Zechut!	Available Take me!	Available This can be you!

The Punchline

I found out how they make honey in the Middle East...

From a shawarma bees (swarm of bees).

Riddle!!!

Q: Why did the bear use gloves when eating honey?

A: He didn't want to touch it with his bear hands.

Terrific Torah Thoughts

Birthday Of The World

The Rosh Hashanah prayers repeat the phrase "Hayom Harat Olam" — today the world was conceived. Tradition teaches Rosh Hashanah marks the sixth day of creation, the day Adam and Chava came to life. That's part of why we read about a birth (Yitzchak) and the near-loss of a child (the akeidah) on these two days — Rosh Hashanah isn't just a new year on the calendar; it's the anniversary of life itself beginning.