



Parsha: Vayigash

Friday, December 14

7:00 Shacharis

4:39 Candlelighting
4:40 Mincha / Maariv

8:30 Parsha Class @
Nisenbaum's

Shabbos, December 15

8:45 Shacharis.
*Kiddush is sponsored
by the McLaughlin
family in honor of
their new house*

**No Laws of Shabbos
class this week**

4:30 Mincha
*Shalosh Seudos is
sponsored by the
Corbett family on the
occasion his father's
yahrzeit*

5:47 Maariv

Sunday, December 16

8:00 Shacharis

7:30 HEBREW READING
CLASS

10:00 Maariv

Monday, December 17

7:00 Shacharis

8:00 Art of Happiness –
Developing Appreciation
10:00 Maariv

Tuesday, December 18

7:00 Shacharis

8:00 Pirke Avos (Stoll)
10:00 Maariv

Wednesday, December 19

7:00 Shacharis

8:00 The Prophets Still Speak
(Stoll)
10:00 Maariv

Thursday, December 20

7:00 Shacharis

10:00 Maariv
10:15 Parsha Class

Joseph, as the viceroy of Egypt, had set his brothers up in a situation where their youngest brother Benjamin would have to remain in Egypt, as a slave to Pharaoh. Yehuda stood before Joseph and begged him to have mercy on their elderly father who could not bear the loss of another son. He spoke to him respectfully yet firmly, offering to serve the viceroy in Benjamin's place.

When Joseph saw his brothers' concern for Benjamin and Jacob he realized they had repented since the days when they had tormented him without regard for their father's feelings. He no longer had any reason to hide his identity from his brothers. He ordered all the Egyptians out of the room, to spare his brothers the shame, and then revealed his identity to them.

The brothers were so dumbfounded they could not say a word. All the pieces of the mystery of their Egyptian experience now came together. They were ashamed of their earlier treatment of Joseph. Joseph, however, consoled them, telling them that although their intentions had not been proper, G-d had used the incident as a means of putting Joseph into the position of being a benefactor to his family. Joseph sent his

brothers back to Canaan with wagons to bring their father and families down to Egypt, where they would be protected from the famine. Thus would begin the exile foretold earlier to Abraham.

When Jacob heard that not only was Joseph still alive, but that he had also been able to maintain his level of righteousness in the palace of Pharaoh, his spirits were revived. He immediately made plans to travel to Egypt to see Joseph before he would die.

Jacob and his family came to Egypt, where Pharaoh cordially greeted them. They settled in Goshen, a suburb of Egypt, where they would be able to live apart from the surrounding Egyptian culture.

The Torah relates that as the famine became worse and the Egyptian resources were depleted, Joseph took all the Egyptians' land for Pharaoh, in exchange for food. He resettled the whole nation in different areas. This was done in order to make his brothers feel more comfortable. They would not feel like strangers if everyone else had also been relocated. He also extended an exemption to the priests. This would serve as a precedent for the exemption of the Levites once the Jewish slavery in exile began.

Insights: Vayigash

... they told him over all the words of Joseph ... (Gen 45:27) A broken-hearted man came to Rav Simcha Bunim of Ger. "Rebbe," he cried, "I made a serious mistake and sinned. What can I do to rectify my deeds?" The Gerrer Rebbe told him, "I was always bothered by a question. When Jacob came to Egypt met his beloved son Joseph after a twenty-two year separation, how is it possible that he did not even ask what had transpired during that entire period? Why didn't Jacob ask how Joseph had gotten to Egypt? It seems that sometimes it is not worthwhile discussing the past...What happened until now already happened. The important thing is what will happen from now on!"

Did You Know?

The tenth of Teves is a fast day, commemorating the siege on Jerusalem during the first Temple. It also commemorates the passing of Ezra, the leader during the rebuilding of the second Temple, and the translation of the Torah into the Greek Septuagint. Eating and drinking is prohibited from morning (dawn) to nightfall. As on other minor fast days, although one should not brush his teeth or use mouthwash, if one is very uncomfortable, he may do so, taking care not to swallow anything. On Yom Kippur and Tisha B'Av one may not be lenient. Listening to music and taking pleasure trips should also be avoided, as the primary purpose of the fast days is self-reflection and doing Teshuva (repentance).

Thought for the week: *A safe way to pat ourselves on the back in public is to give others credit for our excellence. (A Candle by Day)*

The Art of Happiness

8 part series Mondays
@ 8 with R. Nisenbaum
Beginning Dec 17th

JLC Shabbaton

January 19th
w/ Rabbi Ron
Eisenman