



The sorts of tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt"l, made sure his family was up to date on
from the mundane, to the profound, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'

Parashas Vayeira - November 15th - 17 Cheshvan

Klal Govoah
In Memory of Rav Meir Zlotowitz z"l



Reminders

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Niddah 23.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rebbe to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!



Next on the Calendar

Shabbos Mevorchim for Rosh Chodesh Kislev is next week, Shabbos Parshas Chayei Sarah.

Chanukah begins on Sunday night, December 22nd.



Parshah in a Paragraph

VAYEIRA: Despite the unbearable heat, Avraham waits for visitors • Hashem appears to Avraham, but he rushes to greet three "nomads" • One angel predicts that Sarah will bear a child, Sarah laughs • The angels turn towards Sedom • Hashem tells Avraham that He intends to destroy Sedom • Avraham (unsuccessfully) pleads with Hashem to spare Sedom • The angels arrive at Sedom and Lot hosts them • The people of Sedom attempt to execute the guests • The angels gather Lot's family, and command the family not to look back at the destruction • Lot, his wife and two

unmarried daughters escape the city • Lot's wife turns back and turns into a pillar of salt • Lot and his daughters settle in a cave • Lot's daughters get their father drunk and commit immoral acts • They both bear children, and name them Ammon and Moav • Avimelech takes Sarah, Hashem appears to Avimelech in a dream • Avimelech returns Sarah along with gifts • Yitzchok is born and circumcised on the eighth day • Sarah worries about Yishmael's influence • Hashem commands Avraham to heed Sarah and banish Hagar and Yishmael • Yishmael is saved from death in the desert; an angel promises that Yishmael will be a great nation • The Akeidah • Avraham is promised great blessings for withstanding the test • Rivkah is born

three things: sand of the seashore, dust of the earth, and the stars in the sky (see Bereishis 28:14). What is the significance of these three comparisons?

Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l explains as follows. The land is protected from being flooded by ocean waters by the sand barrier at the shoreline. Klal Yisrael as well has the inborn ability to persevere and withstand waves of trials and tribulations.

The dust of the earth, explains Rav Moshe, has no innate purpose other than being the foundation of agriculture. A person must realize that he wasn't created to serve his personal desires, but rather to do for others and fulfill his Creator's will.

The comparison to the stars symbolize the ability for each and every Jew to rise and shine independently and individually. We are all invested with strengths and capabilities to accomplish in our own lives and shine like a luminary in Hashem's eyes.

In a similar vein, Rav Shlomo Freifeld zt"l explains that we are compared to the stars based on that which it says in Tehillim (147:4): There are countless stars and they each have a name. Klal Yisrael as well are all part of a great nation, yet at the same time, each one of us has a "name," and our unique significance and importance which can't be attained by anyone else.

613

Taryag Weekly

Parashas Vayeira: 147 Pesukim • Parashas Vayeira does not list any Mitzvos



For the Shabbos Table

"Veharbah arbey es zaracha kekochvei hashamayim vekachol asher al sefas hayam"

"And I will increase your offspring like the stars of the heavens and the sand of the seashore" (Bereishis 22:17)

We find that Klal Yisrael is compared to

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