

Parashas Nitzvaim 5781 • September 3rd • 26 Elul

 **Reminders**

Parashas Nitzavim is leined, while Parashas Vayeilech will be leined next week, Shabbos Shuva. The Haftarah of Sos Tasis, the final Haftarah of the 7 Haftaros of consolation, is leined.

Pirkei Avos: Chapters 5 & 6

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Beitzah 3. New Masechta! This Masechta is also referred to as Maseches Yom Tov, due to the many laws of Yom Tov discussed within. Join now and learn this Masechta over the Yom Tov season.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rabbi 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**

Rosh Hashanah is this Monday night, September 6th.

Tzom Gedaliah is next Thursday, September 9th.

Yom Kippur is on Wednesday night, September 15th.

Succos begins on Monday night, September 20th.

 **Parshah in a Paragraph**

NITZAVIM: On the last day of his life, Moshe gathers the people to enter them into an eternal covenant for

posterity • Lest one fall astray and serve other gods thinking they will be spared, the curses stated in the Torah will come forth • Hashem will not punish for hidden sins of another, rather only for not uprooting known misdeeds • When you witness the fulfillment of the Berachos and Kellalos you will be inspired to repent • The Mitzvah of Teshuvah is not difficult; it is well within reach • Hashem gives a choice between life and death; choose life!

613 Taryag Weekly

NITZAVIM: (40 Pesukim) does not list any of the Taryag Mitzvos.

 **For the Shabbos Table**

“Lo Bashomayim hi... velo mei'eiver layam hi ... Ki karov eilecha hadavar meod”

“It is not in heaven up high... and it is not across the seas...for it is very close to you” (Devarim 30:11-14)

The Yerushalmi explains “Lo Bashomayim Hi” as alluding to Moshe Rabbeinu who ascended to the heavens, and “V'lo Mei'eiver Layam Hi,” as referring to Yona Hanavi who was cast in to the sea. The Yerushalmi expounds and explains that a person should not say to himself, “If I would only have a Rabbi like Moshe who ascended the heavens, I would grow in Torah” or “If I would only

have Yona Hanavi, who descended into oceans, to inspire me, then I would accept the commandments.” Rather, a person should recognize that the ability to grow and to improve can be found within himself and his own capabilities.

This Pasuk, according to the Ramban, refers specifically to the Mitzvah of Teshuvah. Rashi however argues that the Pasuk is referring to the Mitzvah of learning Torah. With this Yerushalmi we can explain the Pasuk as referring to both Torah and Teshuvah, as Moshe Rabbeinu was Klal Yisrael's primary teacher of Torah, and Yona was a Navi who brought about the repentance of the city of Ninveh.

Zichron Meir explains that it is very easy for a person to blame his shortcomings on a lack of proper resources available to him. The Torah thus teaches us here that Hashem places within our grasp the ability and opportunity to grow and be better. One just needs to be firm and steadfast in his commitments, knowing that we are not dependent on any outside forces with regard to our Torah and Teshuva pursuits.

**When you have
nothing to say,
say nothing.**

-Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz zt'l