



11 TEVET

5748

JANUARY 1, 1988

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY
by Rabbi Saul Berman

Is there time in our busy lives for helping the most downtrodden people in our neighborhood, the homeless, the unemployed, those who lack food? Perhaps it's not time which constrains but the feeling that the problem is not "ours" but "theirs." And, after all, don't we have enough problems of our own? Lord knows, we certainly do!

On one hand, Jewish Law unequivocally imposes an obligation upon Jews in Israel as well as in Golah to support the non-Jewish poor. Mishnaic legislation, amplified and reaffirmed throughout the centuries, made it abundantly clear that G-d would not abide the abandonment of any of his creatures to starvation. In the words of King David, in Ashrei (psalm 145), which we repeat twice each day, "Hashem is good to all, His mercies extend to all of his creations." The Rabbinic insistence that Jewish imitation of G-d must include the same extensivity of mercy, of "rachamim" and "chesed," is an essential element in their understanding of the mitzvah of "le-hidamot la'hashem."

The issue then may not be cast in terms of "ours" and "theirs." At the close of this article I am appending a letter from HaGaon Rav Aron Soloveichik which amplifies this point. The real issue is priorities. Yes, there are a multitude of Jewish needs. Indeed, I can probably tell you about five additional ones for each need you tell me about. And, yes it is true that we have the responsibility to assign highest priority to fundamental Jewish needs--but not to the exclusion of the needs of other segments of our society. Even if one person in particular is so occupied with responding to Jewish needs that there is just no time left for other concerns, he is still not free of the responsibility of seeing to it that others within the community assume the appropriate responsibility for other needs.

The one thing we may not do is to deny our duties to the non-Jewish poor altogether, for to do so is a denial of cardinal Jewish beliefs, a denial of at least two mitzvot de'oraita and a veritable multitude of rabbinic principles and laws.

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Continued on page 2

"I am writing this letter in response to your request from me for a brief note on the appropriateness of raising funds to assist needy and indigent non-Jews.

It is obvious that, from the Judaic perspective, righteousness is to be practiced equally towards Jews and non-Jews alike. Rabeinu Bahya ben Asher in his comment on the verse in Deuteronomy chapter 16V.20: "Righteousness, righteousness thou shall pursue" says that the reason as to why the Torah reiterates the term righteousness twice is to impress upon us the notion that righteousness is to be practiced equally to Jews and non-Jews alike. Rabeinu Menachem Hameiri--one of the outstanding Torah giants in the thirteenth century--writes that decent Christians and decent Moslems are to be treated like proselytes of the gate (ger toshov). And in respect to a ger toshov (a gentile who observes the fundamental obligations of humanity as represented by the seven Noachide Laws) Maimonides in Yad Hachazakah Hilchot Melochim chapter 10 writes: "It is my view that we are obligated in our relationship with a ger toshov to deport ourselves with the same degree of consideration and generosity as we display towards our Jewish brethren. Even in respect to pagans our Sages command us to support their poor, to visit their sick, to comfort their mourners in the same way as we do it towards our Jewish brethren. For it is written: "G-d is kind to all and His compassion extends to all His creatures." And it is written: "Its ways are pleasant and all its paths are conducive to peace!!!

Respectfully yours,
Aron Soloveichik"

RELIGION ON THE JOB Lecture Series

Medicine

Mondays--Jan. 4,11,18 7:00- 8:30pm
Dr. Fred Posner will speak on "AIDS: A Jewish Perspective on the Care of Diagnosed Patients"; Dr. Ruth Freeman on "Halachic Issues Related to Infertility"; and Rabbi Hershel Billet on "Surrogate Motherhood, Artificial Insemination: A Halachic Perspective."

Law & Communication

Mondays--Jan. 4,11,18 8:45-10:15pm
Rabbi Alfred Cohen speaking on "Privacy and the Professional"; Dennis Rapps on "New York Courts and Halachic Issues"; and Rabbi Ralph Pelcovitz and Jonathan Mark on "Scandals and Secrets: Moral and Halachic Issues Facing the Jewish Journalist."

Mental Health

Wednesdays--Jan. 6,13,207:00- 8:30pm
"Questions Therapists Ask--Mental

Health Practitioners Discuss Halachic Dilemmas Facing Them" chaired by Dr. Shalom Feinberg, Shanna Yocheved Schacter and Dr. Nathan Solomon; "Male Homosexuality: Halachic Approaches in Treatment Modalities" by Rabbi Mordechai Reich; and "External Religious Observance--Covering Hair, Wearing a Kippah, Its Impact on Treatment and the Therapeutic Relationship" by Dr. Ruchama Fund, Robert Goldman and Miriam Schacter.

Business

Wednesdays--Jan. 6,13,208:45-10:15pm
"Halachic Market Norms--Their Financial Limits" by Rabbi Dr. Aaron Levine; "The Gentrification of the Upper West Side: Religious Challenges for the Real Estate Investor by Rabbi Abraham Mormorstein; "A Halachic Perspective on Product Liability" by Daniel Desdin.

The cost for each category above is \$15 for LSS members and \$20 for non-members; or \$8 at the door. All lectures will be at LSS. For more info call 874-6105.

EDITOR	Rissi Zweig
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Arleen Abraham

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The indelible image, among many, of the December 6th rally in Washington, was of Natan Scharansky standing framed between a large Menorah and the dome of the Capital. I hope I will never lose the sense of the miraculous that overcomes me every time I see Natan Scharansky, but on that beautiful day, in that historic setting, that image sent my spirits soaring. That iron-willed Jew symbolizes all we are capable of, and it was his gigantic presence that willed this demonstration into being. Starting in our own Shul last August, he criss-crossed America to crusade for a Jewish presence at the Summit and now he savored the fruits of his labors.

Everyone associated with Lincoln Square Synagogue should take pride in the way we responded to Scharansky's call, as over 950 of us, young and old, journeyed to Washington that day by bus, car, train and plane. Under the leadership of our Rabbi and with Mark Hus and Jonathan Wolf doing the organizing, we, as a community, acted in a way unprecedented in the history of American Jewry. But, no one should have been surprised. Those same 950 people daven here each Shabbat, those same 950 people attend classes here each week, and they form the core of an urban Kehilla that has become the model for every Synagogue in America.

We all have complaints: services are too crowded, the rabbis are too busy, the coatroom is too full, the gabbaim have too many "friends"--but the fact remains that we are all part of a remarkable demonstration of the strength of an eternal traditional Jewish outlook and no one who saw Amsterdam Avenue clogged by 15 buses on the morning of December 6 could fail to be moved by it, and proud to be part of it A week later both of our buildings were thronged for the Mitzvah Supermarket. Suri Kasirer put together a graphic demonstration of what services support a Kehilla, as hundreds of people came to find out about chesed opportunities, learn more about Kashruth, study the proposed local Eruv, have their clothing checked for shatnes, have their mezzuzot and tefillin examined, and to

donate toys. Suri and the score of volunteers have the satisfaction of knowing that their work enhanced our lives. Perhaps next year this day can be run in conjunction with the communal concert, since it graphically demonstrates what the funds are supporting

. January is a month traditionally associated with "intersession," but as our regular classes end, we have come up with a three-week mini-semester that is designed specifically for our members. It is entitled "Religion on the Job," and was also planned by Suri Kasirer. It features a series of 12 lectures that deal with the "existential difficulties facing the Orthodox career person." The sessions, in Medicine, Law and Communications, Mental Health, and Business will be chaired by LSS members, and the lectures will be delivered by notable Jewish experts in these fields. Among the topics to be discussed are: A Jewish perspective on the care of patients diagnosed with AIDS; Privacy and the Professional, the halachic, moral and professional requirements concerning client confidentiality; A Halachic Perspective on Product Liability; and a discussion of the ethical and halachic issues relating to the ownership of real estate. Discussion will be encouraged and these lectures are sure to be meaningful.

. I write these words a few hours before our Chanukah Shabbaton, so any words of description will have to wait, but I want to thank Ed Fagan and his committee for their scrupulous planning of this event. It is completely sold out, but more importantly, it was well thought out and I look forward to Ed's future activities on our behalf

. . . Finally, I want to thank Perry Davis for assuming the task of organizing our volunteers. Perry has supervised the job of contacting all those who volunteered to join our committees and is attempting to see to it that our committees all have chairmen and are fully staffed. It is not too late to get involved. We will publish a list of all chairmen in the near future, and if you wish to become active you will be able to contact that person or the Synagogue office and you will be made to feel very needed.

- Morton Landowne

OUTREACH OFFERINGS

NURSERY NOTES

Registration is now open for September 1988 at the LSS Nursery and Kindergarten. If your child will be three before the start of school (September 14) he or she is eligible.* We take children on a first come basis and would like to fill the places with Synagogue members if possible. If you would like to enroll your child, please come for a visit any morning after January 4. Call the LSS office and ask for the Nursery to make an appointment.

*We have a half-day program (9:30-12:30) for three year olds, and a longer day (9:30-2:30) for four and five year olds.

* * * * *

The following letter was sent to Ms. Bracha Lieberman, Toy Drive Coordinator at LSS:

"Thank you for remembering Beth Israel Medical Center in your holiday giving.

Your generous gifts brought such joy to the faces of our young patients, not easily described in a letter. Their hospital stay was made brighter due to your concern and warm understanding.

From the children and the staff at Beth Israel Medical Center, our sincerest thanks.

Sincerely, Terry Rizzo,
Director of Volunteer Services"

(212) 873-7053

M.L. GROSSMAN
MA JEWISH LITERATURE

INSTRUCTION & TUTORING
HEBREW/ ENGLISH
LANGUAGE & TEXT

Manhattan JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, chemical dependent persons and significant others) Havurah will be holding their next meeting at LSS, Tuesday, January 19 from 7-8:30pm. For further info call LSS at 874-6100.

CONTINUING WORKSHOPS:

Over 50 and Living Alone- meets Sundays 10-noon, Feb. 7, March 6, May 1, June 5. No fee.

Parenting Skills-meets Tuesdays, Feb 9, 16, 23, March 1 and 8, from 8-10pm. \$55 per family.

Bereavement-will next meet in April.

Single Parenting- TU - 8-9:00 PM
Feb 2, 16, Mar 1, 15, 29.

NEW WORKSHOPS:

From Me to We: Creating a Relationship -cosponsored with the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. A 3-session marriage enrichment workshop for couples led by Ms. Vicki Rosenstreich and Mr. Bruce Karp. Designed to assist couples in developing the relationship attitudes and skills which contribute to a successful marriage. Will be held Monday evenings, 7-8:30pm, February 29, March 7 and 14.

Session I will deal with the transition from being single to forming a couple

Session II will focus on communicating with your spouse

Session III will consider creating a Jewish family unit.

You and Your Aging Parents--With the increasing number of senior citizens, families are simultaneously confronted with extra-familial career responsibilities, children leaving home and the demands of aging ailing and/or dying parents. Issues related to this stressful time will be addressed. W - 6:30-8:00 P.M.

Feb 10, 17, 24 Mar 24

Session I will provide an opportunity for participants to get acquainted and the workshop outline and course objectives will be reviewed.

Session II will focus on families as systems and how the impact of each change affects the other cultural aspects of filial responsibility.

Session III will focus on the physical and emotional aspects of the aging process.

Session IV focuses on the question "When is it time to consider a change in our parent's living arrangements and lifestyle?"

FOR QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE WORKSHOPS, PLEASE CONTACT MS. SURI KASIRER IN THE LSS OFFICE, 874-6105.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

CONDOLENCES:

Mrs. Sonia Chesnin upon the passing of her beloved husband and our devoted founding member and former Board of Governors member, Mr. Irving Chesnin.

Sondra Gross upon the passing of her beloved mother Mrs. Yetta Fishman.

Morton Langer upon the passing of his beloved mother, Anna Langer.

We record with profound sorrow the passing of our devoted member Mollie Perlman.

Mrs. Gail Propp upon the passing of her beloved father, Mr. Oscar Dane.

We record with profound sorrow the passing of our devoted member Dr. Dora Rosenthal.

Mildred Schachne upon the passing of her beloved sister Mollie Schachne.

BIRTHS:

Ruchie and Rabbi Kenneth Brander upon the birth of a son, Tuvia Mayer.

Miriam and Alan Goldberg upon the birth of a son.

Shira and J.J. Gross upon the birth of a son, Yair Ishai.

Ahuva and Sol Kirschenbaum upon the birth of a daughter.

Edith and Aron Landau upon the birth of a grandson.

Mrs. Maily Rosenblatt, wife of the late Seymour Rosenblatt, upon the birth of a grandson, Stephen Maurice Rosenblatt.

Shirley Stark and Mark Hus upon the birth of a son.

ENGAGEMENTS:

Mazel Tov to Nina and Rabbi Paul Freedman upon the engagement of their son Chashi to Sima Tuchman.

Mazel Tov to Philip Gordon and family upon the engagement of his daughter Alyse to Dr. Gary Ruth.

MARRIAGES:

Judy Eisenberg and Joe Pollack

BAR MITZVAH:

Mazel Tov to Mrs. Sherry Diangelis upon the Bar Mitzvah of her son, Gabe.

NEW MEMBERS:

Mr. Steven Greenberg

Ms. Mindy Schwarz

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Rosenberg

Thank You

I extend my heartfelt thanks to Rabbi Herschel Cohen, the office staff, clergy and congregants for honoring my beloved husband's memory by planting trees in Israel and giving contributions to various worthy charities.

The visits during the shiva period were a great comfort in my bereavement. All of these friendly acts will remain with me for the rest of my time with and in my association with Lincoln Square Synagogue.

Sincerely, Sonia Chesnin

We wish to gratefully acknowledge and thank for the numerous expressions of sympathy received at the passing of our late father z'l, which gave great comfort to us.

-Leon L. Eisenmann and family

Deep thanks to Dr. Karen Lukashok, Ed Stark and Dr. Ron Platzner for saving one captainship from going down with the bus at the Soviet Jewry Rally.

- J.M.W.

LSS shadchen service (matchmakers) now meets Mondays and Tuesday evenings. Please call Janet to set up an appointment, 874-6100.

LSS WOMEN'S TEFILLAH GROUP

The Women's Tefillah Group will next meet together on Shabbat Shirah, January 30, as part of the second annual Women's Tefillah Network Conference. Every davening group in the Greater New York Metropolitan Area will be meeting and hosting conference visitors from other areas. We will start davening at 9am at our usual location, the Hamilton Senior Center, 141 West 73rd Street.

The theme of the conference is "Sing a New Song unto the Lord, Public and Private Prayer as Exemplified by Hannah, Esther and Miriam." The program, which includes a reception on Saturday night at the Jewish museum, and Sunday sessions at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, will give participants the opportunity to learn about patterns of women's involvement in tefillah, halachot of both personal and public prayer, and basic how-to workshops in a variety of areas. For more information, please phone 799-4072.

NOTE: The West Side Kollel has two late minyanim during the week: 9 and 9:45 am.

MITZVAH SUPERMARKET

Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this program a big success. More than 400 people were in attendance. There were a total of 51 tefillin and 190 mezzuzot checked. 69% of the tefillin were kosher, 31% were posul; 43% of the mezzuzot were kosher, 57% were posul. Over 70 pieces of clothing were checked for shatnes . . . 25 people went to the mikvah to tovel kelim . . . 100 people saw a demonstration of the soon-to-be eruv . . . over 150 Chanukah cards were sent to Jews trapped in the Soviet Union . . . hundreds of toys were collected and distributed to needy children . . . many people volunteered for Chesed projects.

May we merit through this program and others like it to reach a higher level of spiritual awareness. Again we thank all the volunteers and participants who made this program an overwhelming success.

Friday, January 8
Kindle Shabbat Candles.....4:27 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat.....4:40 P.M.

Saturday, January 9 (SHEMOT)
 Shabbat Morning Service.....8:45 A.M.
 Talmud and Bible Classes.....3:40 P.M.
 Mincha.....4:25 P.M.
 Daily Mincha and Maariv.....4:40 P.M.

Friday, January 15
Kindle Shabbat Candles.....4:34 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat.....4:45 P.M.

Saturday, January 16 (VAERA)
 Shabbat Morning Service.....8:45 A.M.
 Talmud and Bible Classes.....3:50 P.M.
 Mincha.....4:35 P.M.
 Daily Mincha and Maariv.....4:50 P.M.

Wednesday, January 20
ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT
Morning Services.....7:00 and 7:40 A.M.

Friday, January 22
Kindle Shabbat Candles.....4:43 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat.....4:55 P.M.

Saturday, January 23 (BO)

Shabbat Morning Service.....	8:45	A.M.
Talmud and Bible Classes.....	4:00	P.M.
Mincha.....	4:45	P.M.
Daily Mincha and Maariv.....	4:55	P.M.

Friday, January 29
Kindle Shabbat Candles.....4:51 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:00 P.M.

Saturday, January 30 (BESHALACH)
SHABBAT SHIRA
Shabbat Morning Service.....8:45 A.M.
Talmud and Bible Classes.....4:05 P.M.
Mincha.....4:50 P.M.
Daily Mincha and Maariv.....5:05 P.M.

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As always, volunteers for Bikur Cholim
will meet Shabbat afternoons at 3pm to
visit patients at Roosevelt Hospital.

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- ☐ My check to Lincoln Square Synagogue in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed. No billing please.

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PHONE NO. _____

LSS HEBREW HOMEWORK HOTLINE

Starting Monday, January 11, call the hotline on Mondays or Thursdays between 7pm and 10pm for assistance with questions on Bible, Jewish Philosophy, Halacha, History, Talmud, etc.

Phone numbers are:

(212) 724-7200 and (212) 724-8233

HOW TO FIND IT AT LSS

Everyone knows that LSS has everything, but do you know how to find what you're looking for? LSS offers so many services and so many ways to get involved, that a lot of people don't know where to begin.

If you want to know what LSS can do for you (and what you can do for LSS) drop a note with your query to:

LSS QUESTIONS

c/o Lincoln Square Synagogue Bulletin
200 Amsterdam Avenue

New York, New York 10023

Answers will be published in later Echod editions.

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