



Congregation Beth Israel
 10 Dexter Street
 Malden, Ma 02148
 781-322-5686
www.BethIsraelMalden.org

Schedule for Parshat Beshalach

Friday, January 18

Shacharit	6:50 am
Mincha	4:20 pm
Candle Lighting	4:21 pm

Saturday, January 19

Shacharit at Salem Towers	7:45 am
<i>Kiddush following services</i>	
Shacharit	8:45 am
<i>Kiddush following services</i>	
Latest Time for Kriat Shema	9:32 am
Mincha	4:05 pm
<i>Followed by se'udah shlishit</i>	
Ma'ariv	5:20 pm
Shabbat Ends	5:31 pm

Schedule for the Week of January 20 - 25

	Shacharit	Mincha	Ma'ariv
Sunday	8:00 am	4:30 pm	5:00 pm
Monday	6:40 am	4:30 pm	5:00 pm
Tuesday	6:50 am	4:30 pm	5:00 pm <i>Tu B'Shvat</i>
Wednesday	6:50 am	4:30 pm	5:00 pm
Thursday	6:40 am	4:30 pm	5:00 pm
Friday	6:50 am	4:30 pm	<i>after Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat</i>

Three Days Left!

Sunday, January 20 is the deadline for early RSVPing to save \$3 off admission to the widely anticipated lecture on mezuzot by Rabbi Chaim Tabasky.

CALL TODAY! 781-322-5686 Or email director@bethisraelmalden.org

Sisterhood Mishloach Manot Project

One of the four Rabbinic decrees specific to the Festival of Purim is to send goodie baskets to your friend. What better way to beautify this mitzvah than by participating in the second annual Sisterhood Mishloach Manot Project? Keep your eyes on your mail next week – the details are on their way!

Thank You

We wish to thank Rabbi & Rebbetzin Rabinowitz and members of the Beth Israel Congregation for their expressions of sympathy and for their support upon the passing of our dear sister, Thelma Sandlow z"l.

From - Ella Berkovits, Harriet Nathan, and family

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Sponsorships

This week's kiddush is sponsored by **Jay and Cheryl Lamport** in honor of their son **Adam David** starting college.

Sponsorships

Want to celebrate an occasion, honor a friend, or remember a loved one? Sponsorships are available at all different levels. Make a donation to show someone you care!

Minimum suggested donations are as follows:

Breakfast	-----	\$5.00
One-Line Greetings	-----	\$10.00
Weekly Bulletin Ad	-----	\$25.00
Se'udah Sh'lishit	-----	\$36.00
Monthly Newsletter Ad	-----	\$36.00
Kiddush	-----	\$50.00
Sefer	-----	\$50.00
Shabbat Chazak Luncheon	-----	\$100.00

Upcoming Events

- 😊 Torah Ethics Class Monday, 01-21-08, 9:30 am at Salem Towers
- 😊 Weekly Parsha Class Thursday, 01-24-08 after Ma'ariv

The Rabbi's class is available on our website, www.BethIsraelMalden.org

- 😊 Brunch/Lecture "Protect Your Home: Laws of Mezuzah" Sunday, 01-27-08
- 😊 Winter Shabbaton and Melave Malka 02-08/09-08
- 😊 Carlebach Light "Happy Minyan", Kabbalat Shabbat, 02-15-08

More on Back

Dignity in the Desert

Insights into Parshat Beshalach from the Ramban, by Rav Reuven Ungar of Sha'alvim.

“There (in Marah) He gave them statutes (chok) and laws (mishpat) and there he tested it” - the Jewish People (Exodus 15:25). Rashi (quoting the Talmudic sages) explains that in Marah the Jewish People received a few portions of the Torah to study - Shabbat, the red heifer (parah adumah) and laws of justice (dinim).

Why did the Torah not write explicitly that Hashem informed the Jewish People of the following chukim and mishpatim? Rashi understood that the Jewish People were taught certain laws and were informed that in the future they would be commanded to observe these halachot. This is similar to the conduct of Avraham Avinu who informed his family and disciples of the Mitzvot that we would ultimately receive. The intention of this pre-command study of Torah was to familiarize us with the Mitzvot and to gauge if we would accept it with joy and a positive attitude. This was the test (nisayon) referred to in the verse.

The following is the plain meaning of the text (pshat): The Jewish People were embarking upon a journey in the desert: a fearsome place without water. It was necessary to instruct the people with a proper code of conduct for this perilous journey.

We must be aware of the ways (chukim) of the desert - to accept the hunger and thirst by properly beseeching Hashem for assistance, not by complaints. The laws (mishpatim) necessary to survive in the desert consist of loving fellow man, adhering to the guidance of the elders and behaving with modesty in reference to family matters. If individuals from outside approach the camp, they are to be dealt with in a peaceful fashion, selling them items that they need. The Jewish camp must constitute an oasis of human dignity and respect. We must not resemble a band of pillagers that is not restrained by any convention.

The necessity to institute civic laws to uphold social stability and decorum is not limited to the desert. At the end of his life, Yehoshua instituted “chok u'mishpat in Shchem” (Joshua 24:25). This does not refer to the laws of the Torah (which we were already required to obey). Rather, this refers to codes of conduct that facilitate a stable, well-functioning society, such as the ordinances that he instituted (Tractate Bava Kama, 80/1).