



Adelaide Hebrew Congregation News

Volume 5 Issue 4

May 27, 2011

Shabbat Details

- Friday night service
6.15pm
- Saturday morning
service 9am
followed by
Kiddush
- Times for Shabbat:
LC 4:56 PM
ends 5:55 PM

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Notices

- Please join us to **farewell Leon and Miriam Zimmet** and thank them both for the tremendous support they have given the AHC over their many years in Adelaide. A Kiddush will be held in their honour this Shabbat 24 Iyar, 28 May 2011.
- **Yom Yerushalayim** -amazing lecture by Roei Sadan , an Israeli biker who crossed all the continents in the world with his bikes, and now finishes in Australia. 1st June 7:00pm at Massada College. \$20 entry to enable Roei cover his journey costs.
- **Shavuot is coming-** we all are going to enjoy a delicious communal dairy lunch in a wonderful kosher family home called the AHC (first day after the morning service). Places will be available for this. Further details to follow soon.
- The new Board is seeking **expressions of interest** from any of the long-term members of the community to join a committee to help find the way forward for the future of the AHC. Please contact President Mark Cohen via the office if you are able to assist.
- We wish **Refuah Shlemah** to Myer Solomon, Mara Zaks, Judith Bayer, John Pearlman, Ivor Lee, Kitty Anderson and anyone else who has been unwell recently.

Yahrzeits

We wish the following members long life on their Yahrzeits:

- Mrs. Miriam Millingen** for father Jacob Zimmet
- Dr. Leon Zimmet** for father Jacob Zimmet
- Mr. Jack Teichman** for mother Sara Teichman
- Mr. Jack Teichman** for father Yehuda Teichman
- Mr. Jack Teichman** for sister Esther Teichman
- Mr. Jack Teichman** for sister Yehudith Teichman
- Mr. Jack Teichman** for brother Gedaliah Teichman
- Mr. Norman Wintrop** for father Sidney Wintrop
- Mrs. Anne Frances Bayer** for her father Joseph Lind



Shabbat Parashat Bamidbar

Parashat Bamidbar- Counting the Jewish nation

The Book of Bamidbar begins with God's instructions to Moses to count the Jewish people. Rashi notes that this is the third count of the Israelites since the Exodus. The first was at the time of the Exodus itself (Exodus 32:28). The second was after the sin of the golden calf (Exodus 38:26) to ascertain the number of survivors. This census preceded God's resting His Shekhina in the camp of Israel after the completion of the Tabernacle. Citing the Midrash, Rashi comments that it is out of His love for Israel that God counts them so frequently.

The second counting is understandable. After those who had worshipped the golden calf were put to death, God counted the survivors as a demonstration of His continued love for the people. However, taking us out of Egypt and resting His Shekhina on Israel were themselves expressions of God's love. Why then did God count the Israelites on these occasions?

According to Rashi, the Torah is teaching us the important lesson that nothing should be taken for granted. Even when a parent demonstrates his love for his child with a hug and a kiss, he still verbalizes the words "I love you." So too our Father in Heaven. Even though taking the Israelites out of Egypt and resting His Shekhina among them were clear demonstrations of God's love for Israel, he still wished to demonstrate His love by counting the people. Nothing should be taken for granted.

Certainly, Eretz Yisrael should never be taken for granted. From the time of our wandering in the desert, Jewish history is full of suffering resulting from Israel's failure to appreciate its Land. Taking something for granted jeopardizes its continuity. The antidote to Israel's sorrows which originated with the sin of the spies is to achieve a true understanding and appreciation of the connection between the People of Israel and its Land.
(based on an article by Rav Magence Yeshiva.org.il)

Shabbat Shalom
Rabbi Netanel Friedler

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