

Welcome to Beth Jacob's Young Professional's Minyan!

Shabbat Nachamu - Parshat Va'etchanan

July 24th, 2010

We are so happy to have you with us—Please join us often!!



Torah Thoughts

The month of Av presents us with a cacophony of conflicting emotion. Throughout the generations, Halacha has grappled with the seeming contradiction between the happiness usually felt on Shabbat and Rosh Chodesh and the national mourning that reaches its crescendo as we enter the month of Av. This week, we celebrate Shabbat Nachamu and it is followed by the 15th of Av, one of the happiest days in the calendar. Yet this is not the only paradox in the Jewish Calendar. Tisha B'av itself is referred to as a “mo'ed” - a time characterized by a tinge of happiness. What message are we to learn from these conflicting emotions?

The Hassidic master Bnei Yissaschar offers a fascination insight into this issue. He notes that there are two kinds of joy. One is what we experience on a day like a Shabbat or a holiday- a happiness of tranquility. It's a feeling that everything is in place and all is right with the world.

But there is another kind of happiness – a happiness that we celebrate that is entirely different from that which we experience on a day like Shabbat and Yom Tov. In a word –it's the joy of a glimmer of hope. It's when you are down in the depths, but you realize that you won't be there forever - you come to the realization that G-d is going to rescue you. This kind of joy is when everything isn't right with the world – but you know it's going to be.

Perhaps this second type of happiness is the inspiration we are meant to glean from this time of year as well. When we contemplate the desolation of our current exile, we do it with an eye toward the redemption that is forthcoming. Perhaps this is what our Sages tell us – anyone who truly reflects during the mourning over Jerusalem, will be able to see the redemption rise from within that burning pyre. As we rise from the ashes of Tisha B'av, we have the opportunity to grow from that experience and reach a place where we are truly happy.

Shabbat Shalom

- Rabbi Adir Posy

Chesed
Opportunity for
the whole family!

Join us Sunday,
July 25 9am -
12pm.

We will be
packing food for
SOVA.

Please feel free
to bring your
non-perishables
to the BJ lower
lobby anytime.

**THANK YOU TO
ALL OF OUR
TOMCHEI SHABBOS
DRIVERS!**

TO JOIN THE
ROTATION OR TO
FIND OUT MORE,
PLEASE CONTACT
ARI MILLER AT
millerari@gmail.com

The YP Minyan expresses our sincerest condolences to Julian Hammond on the loss of his brother, Paul Hammond a”h.