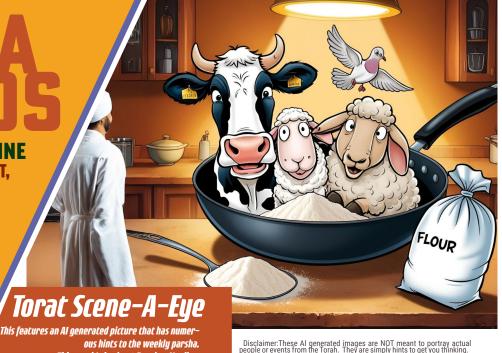


KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE A PROJECT OF NAGEELAWEST COAST, JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

SEASON 9, EPISODE 21

PARSHAS VAYIKRA 5785



DVAR IDRAH

IN GREEDY ENTS

"Hey Bobby, do you have the recipe? I'm ready to start!"

"Umm, yeah, I think I've got it right here somewhere... hmmm... maybe here? Nope, can't find it.

Do you really need a recipe to make a stew, Mel?"

"Uh, yeah. I do. I don't even know what goes into a stew."

"I got you covered there, Mel. I might not have a recipe, but I have a shopping list. I know exactly what goes into the stew, and I think we have all these ingredients:

- beef chuck or stew meat
- all-purpose flour
- Italian seasoning
- kosher salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- garlic powder
- · onion, chopped

CONTINUED ▼

You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!



This week's is about Parshas Vayikra

Deep Thoughts

Sharks swim faster than people. People run faster than sharks. Who would win a triathlon? It boils down to who's the better cyclist.



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DVAR TORAH

CONTINUED

- carrots
- small red skin potatoes
- water
- tomato paste
- frozen peas
- balsamic vinegar

Let's just go with the list, and I'm sure it'll be fine."

How do you think Mel and Bobby's stew will taste? I think they've got a shot of making a killer dish. But while they get their ingredients ready and start the slicing and dicing, I have something else to discuss so let's come back to them a little later. Let's tall about leaven. What is leaven worth? But actually Of course, on the holiday of Passover, any leavened bread is forbidden to eat or to own. For those of you who only speak English, leaven is a product made by allowing dough to rise.

Not only do we avoid leaven on Passover, it was not allowed to be brought as an offering on the holy altar. Hmmm, interesting. Why not? Leaven represents laziness, because it's what happens when you leave dough doing nuuuuuuuthin for a long time. When you keep kneading, kneading, kneading the dough it doesn't rise. We don't want to represent the negative trait of laziness in our altar offerings or our Passover food.

But wait, if leaven is bad, why are we allowed to eat it ever? I don't want my Tuesday lunch to represent laziness either! Beyond that, I have a secret to tell you: Leaven was sometimes allowed on the altar!

What? You can't hear me? I'll try again. Leaven was sometimes allowed on the altar! I know, right? No, french toast wasn't made on the altar, but bread was able to be used for firewood. So is leaven bad or not bad? If it's OK to use on the altar for anything, then why can't it be used for everything? Why can't I have leavened matzah pizza (in case you missed that, it's pizza)?

Let's go check on that stew. How does it smell?

"Hey Mel, how much meat should I put in? How much water?"

"Gosh. You're the one who lost the recipe card, Bobby. You'rell me!"



Mažel Nažel

Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to Nageela Hall of Fame staff member Tova Locker upon her engagement to Yehuda Burger!



Question of the Week

What is the first time the Torah mentions someone building an altar for sacrifices?



LOLZ

What do you get when you have a tug of war with a cow?

Pulled Beef



81

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



106

YS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION



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UMMM, UNUSUAL WAY, WITH A
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"Let's just play it safe and use an equal amount of all the ingredients."

Mel takes out 1 pound of beef. Bobby adds a pound each of carrots and onions. Mel gets a pound of salt and a pound of black pepper, but only has a quart of vinegar. Bobby adds the pound of potatoes and as much garlic powder as he can find. Then, one carefully measured pound of flour to round it off.

The pot is now simmering on the fire, so we may have to wait a few minutes to see how it comes out. OK, no. We don't need to wait. It's going to be horrible! Completely inedible. Are salt, pepper and vinegar BAD ingredients? No, they're wonderful, but only in the right quantities in the right recipe. The same is true of leaven, and of character traits in general.

Should a person be generous or careful? Gentle or firm? Disciplined or relaxed? The right amount at the right time! Some traits, like anger or laziness are usually looked at as negative traits. The reality is that they're simply traits that need to be limited to the right amount at the right time. There are times when anger is warranted, and times when it may be appropriate to procrastinate by using our natural laziness to avoid doing something wrong.

So enjoy that leavened pizza (except on Passover), but maybe don't put a full pound of salt on it.

Wrong Answers Only

We asked the following question to some of our groups: "What's the most important way to prepare for Passover?"

- Spring Cleaning
- Release frogs at the seder
- It's a great time to stock up on bagels!
- Earn Credit card points to pay for hotels
- Pre-slice Matzahs for Yachatz
- Tie- dye your kittel
- Eat crackers in very inconvenient places
- Wax your skis (thank you BZ)

Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

In Parshas Vayikra, we read all about offerin gs brought from cows, sheep, birds and flour. Some are brought in shallow pans and some in deep pans, and there are a number of vessels and receptacles used. Also some incense spices.

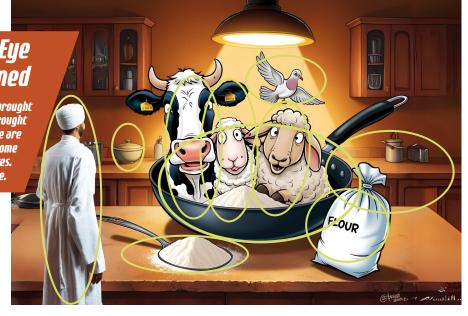
Of course the kohein is the one to do the whole service.



NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NAGEELA



How much do you love being Jewish?



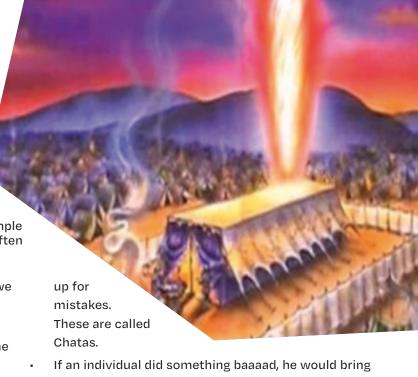
PARSHA L

a brief summary of the weekly Torah porshon

PARSHAS VAYIKRA THE KOHEIN'S GUIDE TO LIFE

OK- the whole book of Vayikra makes it difficult for simple summaries, because it's very technical. It's also very often overlooked, so I'll do my best here!

- There are a number of different types of offerings we can bring in the Mishkan or Holy Temple.
- The Olah is brought from large or small animals, or even birds, and gets completely burned on top of the altar.
- People may also bring offerings from flour. These are called Mincha offerings, not to be confused with the mincha prayer which is based on a different offering that wasn't a mincha. OK, yes to be confused; I know I am.
- Some minchas are oven baked, some are fried in a pan, and some were deep dish.
- The next category is the Shelamim offering, which is basically a voluntary donation. It may also be brought from a variety of animals, and the owners were able to eat most of the meat. This was how people had BBQs back then. Certain parts got burned, including the kidneys. If the offering was a kid (the goat kind, not the human kind... what were you thinking?) the kid's kidneys were burned, but the kid's knees weren't burned.
- There were also offerings that were brought to make



- a female goat or sheeeeep.
- If a leader messed up by telling the people the wrong info- be they King, Kohein Gadol or the Jewish supreme court known as Sanhedrin- they had their own special Chatas offerings.
- For certain other sins, the offering was different and was called an Asham. And probably people brought it because they were Asham-ed.



Answer of the Week

You might have been thinking Cane and Abel, the sons of Adam and Eve. However, although they brought offerings, the Torah doesn't mention if they built altars. They may have just used the back of a pickup truck or something. Noah built the first recorded altar, after he survived the flood.



PHOTO TAKEN AT IMAGINE 3D MINIGOLF IN SCOTTSDALE AT A JEWNIOR NCSY EVENT THIS WEEK.



STUMP THE RABBL

StumptheRabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to stump@nageelawest.org

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

GREEN CHEESE CHOICE

Hi Rabbi,

I'm learning Bereishit in school, and we came across the idea that the sun and the moon were originally the same size, but the moon complained and was punished for it. How is it possible for that to happen? The moon doesn't have free choice, does it? How could it make a 'bad' choice or defy God?

Thanks, Luna Cohen

Hi Luna C.,

It was great to see you this week and discuss this with you in person! Here's a bit of a recap of what we discussed. •

Did you know that the moon gets haircuts? How does the moon cut his hair, you might ask? Eclipse it!

What do we mean when we discuss inanimate objects having conversations or making choices? dunno; not really. But it's something like this: Imagine you are playing minecraft, and you are using a pickaxe. Is that pickaxe real? It seems real enough within the game, but you understand it's just a bunch of pixels on the screen... but is it really? The pickaxe isn't really pixels on the screen. It's really 0s and 1s in a complex computer code, many lines long. That code is real. It's a number with meaning. It doesn't LOOK anything like a pickaxe, but it translates into a pickaxe in the pixels on your screen. Am I making sense? Everything in our world is a reflection of something in the spiritual world. Our world is like the screen with pixels. Everything seems like it's simply right here, but in reality, all things in creation are just pixelated versions of spiritual 'coding'. You might call that coding an angel, or a spiritual consciousness, or Frankie. When we hear about the moon speaking, or the stones fighting to be under Jacob's head, it likely means that the spiritual entity controlling the moon's coding has a consciousness and can think, speak, and eat spiritual pickles.

That's step 1.

So now we (kinda almost) understand HOW the moon is 'alive', but we still haven't worked out WHY it



Note & Disclaimer: We call this 'Stump The Rabbi' for fun, but that's not really the point. The goal is to learn something important in an interesting way. The answers here should not be taken as halachic decisions. You should always ask a competent Rabbi personally.



wrong, if only people have free choice. We've got to define what free choice means. Yes, people have free choice, and spiritual entities don't. Does that mean they can't choose at all? According to some expert opinions, angels and other spiritual entities CAN choose just as well as humans can. They just don't have negative impulses pushing them to do the wrong thing. They have choices that are really easy.

Here's another visual to imagine: Picture a balance scale- the type with two cups on chains. You can choose which cup you want, but if one of them gets too full of money, too heavy, too valuable, then it's an easy choice. So for example, knowing that God wants something should make it it really easy to choose that thing. However, God wants humans to have challenging choices, so He puts His finger on the other side of the scale, balancing it out (that happens through laziness, desires for pleasure and other human traits that weigh down the wrong side of the scale). Angels don't have that balance. If one side is obviously more valuable (like the "listening to God" side), then it's an obvious choice. Angels have choice, but they don't have a challenging choice, so they rarely do anything that would be wrong or edgy.

So yes, it's possible that angels, or the moon or Mr. Potato Head could make a choice against God's wishes, it just doesn't happen all that often.

FYI, we had a similar discussion (regarding the free choice of angels) in Season 7, Episode 31. You can visit the Nageela Media section on the nageelawest. org website to check it out, and all the rest of the almost 350 episodes of Nageela Shabbos.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

The Rabbi



Have a great answer? Send it in to Why did God want us to bring animal sacrifices, as listed in the Torah? Why isn't prayer enough?

And if it's so important, why don't we still have sacrifices?

PICKLE







HAVE A FUN IDEA FOR OUR NEXT PICKLE JEWS COMIC, LOLZ OR DEEP THOUGHTS?

Please share it with us! dlocker@nageelawest.org



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication of Nageela West Coast, Joyfully Jewish Experiences.

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Happy Birthdays!

Myles Glick Avi David Abby Eichner Rivki Gaynor Aaron Goldklang