

# HAVE A NAGEELA PESACH

**KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE**  
 A PROJECT OF NAGEELA WEST COAST,  
 JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

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**SEASON 9, EPISODE 22**  
 .....

**PARSHAS TZAV**  
**-PASSOVER 5785**



## Torat Scene-A-Eye

*This features an AI generated picture that has numerous hints to the weekly parsha. This week's is about Parshas Vayikra*

Disclaimer: These AI generated images are NOT meant to portray actual people or events from the Torah. They are simply hints to get you thinking.

# DVAR TORAH

## GRATEFUL FOR GRAPEFRUIT

Let's talk about matzah.

No, no. This isn't about Passover at all. It's about this week's parsha, Tzav. Which translates in Hebrew to tortoise. Kind of. Not really. Don't ask.

And yes, I do want to talk about matzah, and its counterpart, chametz- also known as leaven. Many offerings brought in the holy temple involved some form of flour or matzah. However, only the Todah has challah- leavened bread- as well, the rest were all required to be unleavened (which basically just means no dough rising has occurred.) What is the todah? Generally it is brought as a gift of gratitude for surviving a harrowing experience such as a serious illness, dangerous travel or release from prison. Why is it that leavened loaves were brought with this offering specifically? And BTW, it wasn't only leavened loaves. In fact, the majority of them were matzah. To be

### CONTINUED ▼

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## Deep Thoughts

.....  
*If life gives you lemons, you can't really make lemonade unless life also gives you loads of sugar.*



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# DVAR TORAH

## CONTINUED

precise, 30 unleavened loaves and ten leavened loaves. So why the combo?

There are a bunch of different approaches to this, but I'll share the opinion of Rabbi Ovadia Sforno, who lived many years ago in a land far, far away. He explains that leaven represents a person's imperfection. The yeast that makes dough rise is the ego and other negative traits that inflate our opinions of ourselves and cause us to falter and do wrong. Why is this hinted to in a 'Thank you' gift? Sforno answers that this gratitude offering comes because a person survived danger. But why were they in danger in the first place? We only have trouble in this world because of our imperfections. This isn't a negative; not really. I mean, we all have imperfections. The key here is the reason this guy was saved is because his matzah outweighs his leaven. Meaning, his goodness has outweighed his mistakes. Hence the offering contains way more matzah than challah, a three to one ratio.

I think this is a pretty cool idea. We're not about trying to chase perfection. Sure, we want to get close, but trying to actually be perfect can easily lead a person to get down on himself for what is perceived as 'not good enough.' We can embrace our shortcomings, and our successes, and thank God for the entire package! More than that, we've got to acknowledge the trouble in order to truly appreciate the salvation. We have to know that the trouble wasn't an 'accident' that God saved us from. It was a calculated and purposeful move to help us grow.

In a way, this is one of the great themes of Passover as well (OK, so maybe it's a LITTLE about Passover). We don't just celebrate our freedom. We double down on the trouble first. The salt water representing the tears, the bitter herbs that barely taste bitter (and the kind that blows your head clean off in a puff of black smoke and soot), the always forgetting not to make a bracha at Urchatz.. We don't just celebrate our freedom and victory, it's really important for us to remember why we needed it in the first place.

Got it? Good, I'm leaven.



### Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to Nageela camper Joshua Matalon who recently celebrated his Bar Mitzvah!



ANSWER ON PAGE 4

### Question of the Week

How is it possible for a person to be obligated to drink a fifth cup of wine on the first night of Passover?



### LOLZ

I was so surprised when the doctor told me I was colorblind. I mean... It came right out of the purple!



74

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



99

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION



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## **Wrong Answers Only**

.....  
We asked the following  
question to some of our  
groups:

**“What would be the per-  
fect 11th plague?”**

- The firstborns come back, but only the annoying ones.
- Ban Tik- Tok
- Remove all Wifi
- Covid
- Jarred Gefilte Fish
- Global Warming
- Blood again (make them think we're starting over)
- To go without leavened bread for 8 days every year in perpetuity....oh wait.....

# **Foncusion**

This week's Torah portion is called Tzav, which means command.

Tzav in Hebrew also happens to mean tortoise.

But wait, what's the difference between tortoise and turtle? Well, your answer might have something to do with different types of hand/foot/claw/flipper thingies. Or that turtles predominantly live in water and tortoises are land animals. So what's the difference in Hebrew?

In Hebrew, turtle is... wait for it... Tzav.

I fed this sentence into Google translate, “What's the difference between a turtle and a tortoise?”

It came up with, “What's the difference between a tzav and a tzav?”

Answer: I don't know, but I can tell you that if I owned either one, it would be “Tzav Sheli,” or in other words, a shelly turtle/ tortoise.

Teenage Mutant Ninja WHAT?

# PASSED OVER

## SILVER- COATED MATZAH

When is it likely to hear this quote:  
"I'm starrrrving!"

- A. After Kiddush on Shabbos morning
- B. At a Thanksgiving Dinner
- C. At any point on Purim
- D. 3 hours into your seder when you haven't had anything to eat aside from a piece of salty, wet celery

Not only do we wait during the seder until we eat, it's appropriate not to eat (at least not an actual meal) for several hours before Passover starts, for a reason. It's a mitzvah to eat matzah at the seder night (it's a lesser mitzvah to eat matzah during the rest of Passover), and we want to make sure you are doing it with an appetite, thus beautifying the mitzvah.

Can I ask a basic question?

Why does it matter if you're hungry for the matzah? I mean, I understand making sure you're hungry enough to be able to finish the right amount. But to eat it with an appetite? Why does that matter?

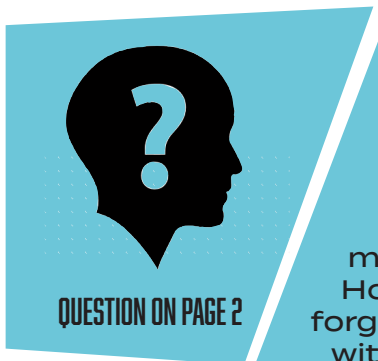
Let me introduce the concept of hiddur mitzvah- beautifying a mitzvah. We try to use a pretty mezuzah case to beautify the mitzvah, or to put a silver coating on a tallis. However, I don't recommend coating your matzah with silver. Coating matzah with chocolate, big fan. Matzah pizza, even better, however we don't do that at the seder, because the mitzvah matzah has to be ordinary. So how do we make this mitzvah beautiful and special? By ENJOYING it! By doing the mitzvah with an appetite. Life hack: put your matzah in an oven for a couple of minutes before you eat it. It changes the whole taste.

Now, the Talmud in the part about Festival offerings (which is called Chagiga, in case you're curious) says something interesting, which may also seem to contradict what we just talked about. It refers to two people who both eat the Passover lamb, but for



## Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to Nageela Shabbos reader and joke cotributor Matanya Naiman on recently celebrating his Bar Mitzvah!



QUESTION ON PAGE 2

## Answer of the Week

If the first night is Saturday night, as it is this year, havdallah is made as part of Kiddush. However, if havdallah was forgotten, it must be made, with a cup of wine. Even if the afikoman has already been eaten and the seder is over, a fifth cup would then be required.



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# PASSED OVER

## CONTINUED

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very different reasons. One eats it for the purpose of the mitzvah, and he's considered righteous. Woohoo! Go him! The other guy eats it for gluttony. He just wants to fill his belly and enjoy his meat. He's considered a sinner. Booooo.

Hmmm, let's unpack this. On one hand, it seems to be a better mitzvah if you get enjoyment from eating mitzvah food. On the other hand, you can be a sinner for enjoying it too much.

The answer is the difference between your GPS and your gas pedal.

GPS is what determines where you go. It's the decision maker. If you input the wrong destination, you might be in trouble, because you'll reach the wrong place. However, you also need a gas pedal. If you don't ever press on the gas, you aint goin nowhere. When we eat for the PURPOSE of a mitzvah, then our GPS is set properly, and we could use some emotional fuel to make the mitzvah better by enjoying it. But if our PURPOSE is the enjoyment, then our GPS is set to the wrong destination and no matter what you do, you won't reach your destination.

Our holidays include a lot of potentially beautiful rocket fuel. Let's make sure our primary motives are set with correct GPS (Godly Positivity System) coordinates and we'll take off spectacularly! Have a wonderful, happy and uplifting Passover holiday!



GENERATED AND SUBMITTED BY MATANYA NAIMAN, RAMAT BEIT SHEMESH, ISRAEL

### Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

*THIS DOESN'T TAKE TOO MUCH EXPLANATION. NINE OF THE TEN PLAGUES ARE REPRESENTED HERE. ONLY BOILS ARE LEFT OUT, MOSTLY BECAUSE THE AI GENERATED IMAGE WAS A BIT DISTURBING.*



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



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# PICKLE JEWS



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**Wishing you a wonderful Pesach!**



### Happy Birthdays!

Rabbi Derek Gormin  
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