



GREEN ROAD SYNAGOGUE

"Where we enrich our lives and our community through
TAM: Torah, Ahavat Yisrael & Medinat Yisrael."

APRIL - MAY 2009

החודש אייר תשס"ט

We hope you had a wonderful Pesach!

Thank you to Andy Stone & our Boy Scouts Troop 95 for creating a community Chametz burning in our back yard. It had a great turn out—and nobody got hurt!

If you would like to find out more about our Shomer Shabbat Boy Scouts troop, please contact David Seltzer in the synagogue office.



Birkat Hachama Without the SUN!

We waited 28 years, had a wonderful community gathering on Erev Pesach for Birkat Hachama, but the Sun was hidden behind clouds until later in the morning. Still, we had a beautiful community event with a large turnout from multiple Shuls. It was a true Kiddush Hashem!



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 645

2437 South Green Road
Beachwood, Ohio 44122

Phone: 216-381-4757

Fax: 216-381-5059

Email:

Office@GreenRoadSynagogue.org

Website:

www.GreenRoadSynagogue.org

Office Hours:

M—Th: 9:30 am — 5:00 pm

Fr: 9:30 am — 3:00 pm

Spiritual Leader

Rabbi Melvin Granatstein

President

Ari H. Jaffe

Vice Presidents

Shella Pearl Pickholtz

Daniel Borison

Shelly Senders

Elizabeth Sunshine

Treasurer

Yaron Goldberg

Recording Secretary

Eliav Sharvit

Administrative Director

David M. Seltzer

Catering

Dovid Greenberger

Synagogue Office

Jane Konopka



APR - MAY 2009
/ APR 5769

Volume 13
Issue 8



Sacrifice and the Service of the Mind

By Rabbi Melvin Granatstein



Sefer VaYikra, the book of the Torah we are now reading, deals in large measure with the laws of the Korbanot or sacrifices. The Temple was destroyed in 70 C.E., and in the absence of the Temple in Jerusalem, daily prayer took the place of all sacrifice. This happened because the Halacha restricts the sacrificial rites to the Temple alone.

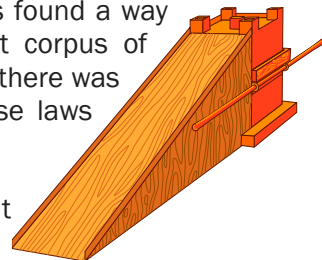
Daily prayer services then became the exclusive format for Jewish liturgical worship, and this has been our liturgical reality for the last 2,000 years. For this reason, it is very difficult for many contemporary Jews to have any sense of what the loss of the Temple meant to the generation that lived through its destruction or even to subsequent generations.

However, there can be no doubt that Jews deeply rooted in the classical consciousness of historical Judaism viewed the Temple's destruction and the elimination of the sacrificial service as a spiritual tragedy that made the Judaism that resulted less than whole. This is eminently manifest in the language of the traditional prayers recited by Jews daily, in which there is constant petition for the restoration of the Temple.

Even when the Temple was only a memory, in the scholastic tradition of Jewish learning, great attention continued to be lavished on the careful study of Temple and sacrificial Halacha. This material is the subject of several lengthy Talmudic tractates.

In the context of this study, the rabbis found a way to give life and meaning to the vast corpus of Temple and sacrificial law, even when there was no Halachic possibility of putting these laws into practice.

The Talmud tells us in different formulations "when scholars study the



sacrificial service, Scripture considers it as if the Temple were rebuilt in their day" (Menachot 110a). In our Parsha, the Torah introduces the various types of the sacrifices with the words "This is the Torah of the sin offering ... this is the Torah of the guilt offering ... this is the Torah of the peace offering" (Leviticus 6:18 – 7:11).

The root meaning of the word "Torah" is teaching. The Talmud then summarizes, "Whoever learns the teaching of the sin offering is as one who offered the sin offering ... the guilt offering is as one who offered the guilt offering," and so on. In other words, the studying will equal the performing.

But the Talmud carries this even further. The Temple of stone that once stood in Jerusalem was a mere manifestation of a supernal, heavenly Temple – or if you prefer, a Platonic Temple idea. The Romans could only destroy the physical Temple; their unclean hands were powerless in the face of the Temple of the spirit, which is always accessible to scholars of Torah who study the Temple Halachot.

Not content to restrict this Temple of the spirit to scholars, the rabbis included relevant scriptural passages and Talmudic explanations in the daily services, thus providing access to this Temple of the spirit even to the uneducated Jew.

One other factor serving to make this kind of study so important is the doctrine of "Torah Lishmah" – Torah study for its own sake. For rabbinic Judaism, the highest form of Torah study is disinterested study. One studies the disciplines of Torah learning because to know God's Torah is to know the mind of God, and that is reason enough to study it.

Here, issues of utility, profit, and reward are beside the point. It is sufficient reward to simply contemplate God's Torah; it is the deepest service we can offer our Creator. In the post-destruction period, mastering the laws of the Temple and its sacrifices became a model for what "Torah for its own sake" could mean and the deepest symbol of the imperviousness of the Talmudic scholars' commitment to God and His Torah. Practicality here is beside the point.

To learn God's Torah is all the fulfillment one needs.



Sephirat Ha'Omer

The period of Sefirat Ha'Omer is a period of Jewish national mourning, for it was during this period that the students of Rabbi Akiva were decimated by a plague, apparently during the tragic period of the rebellion of Bar Kochba against Rome. The rebellion of the Jews was put down with severity. Jerusalem was converted into a pagan city and the Jews were driven out of Judea.



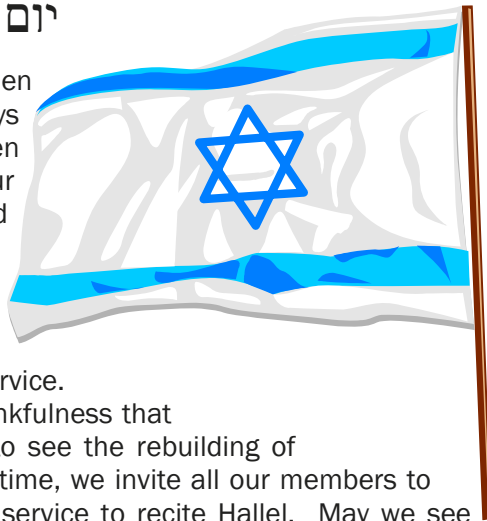
On Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer, according to one tradition, the plague afflicting the students of Rabbi Akiva remitted and as a consequence this day became a day of joy.

During the Omer period we are forbidden to cut our hair and celebrate weddings. On Lag B'Omer all this becomes permissible. There are several alternate customs regarding mourning observances. One custom is to observe these tokens of national mourning from the day after Pesach until Lag B'Omer. Another custom is to observe this mourning from Rosh Chodesh Iyar until the second day of Sivan.

Yom Ha'Atsmaut - Israel Independence Day - יום העצמאות

We live at a time when two of our mourning days of Sephirah have been turned into days of our joy; Yom Ha'Atsmaut and Yom Yerushalayim. In accordance with P'sak of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, we shall recite Hallel in the morning service.

As a sign of joy and thankfulness that we have been Zocheh to see the rebuilding of our homeland in our lifetime, we invite all our members to join us for the morning service to recite Hallel. May we see peace in our homeland. Yom Ha'Atsmaut will occur on Wednesday, April 29th.



Yom Yerushalayim - יום ירושלים



Day of the Liberation of Jerusalem

Jerusalem was liberated on Iyar 28 in 1967. This year Yom Yerushalayim will be celebrated on Friday, May 22nd.

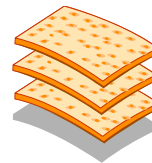
Lag B'Omer

Lag B'Omer will occur on Tuesday, May 12th. On this day we are permitted to celebrate weddings and other Semachot. Tachanun is not recited.



Pesach Sheni

Pesach Sheni occurs on the 14th day of Iyar. When the Temple stood, those who were unable to offer the Korban Pesach on Erev Pesach either because they were ritually impure or outside of the environs of the Temple Mount area at the time, could offer Korban Pesach on Pesach Sheni. It is customary to serve Matzah at the table on this day. We do not recite Tachanun. This year Pesach Sheni will be on Friday, May 8th.



LOCAL JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

There is a grassroots group in the community that is doing what it can to help those of us who are looking for employment, with our search and our skills - interviewing, resume writing, networking, and other skills. Their efforts are meant to compliment those already being put forth by the Federation and the JFSA.

Anyone who is looking for employment or who knows of a job opportunity should contact Karen Baker at the Federation at 216-566-9200. After that, he or she should reach out to Ari Jaffe or Herzl Ginsburg (440-449-6800 x7230) to connect with the local group.





MONTHLY CALENDAR - IYAR

Friday, April 24

Rosh Chodesh Iyar

Morning Services 6:30 a.m.

Parshat Tazria - Metzora - Rosh Chodesh

Friday, April 24

Candle Lighting 7:59 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat **7:15 p.m.

** We will begin Kabbalat Shabbat at 7:15 pm throughout the summer.

Saturday, April 25

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Rabbi's Talmud Class 6:40 p.m.
Mincha 7:40 p.m.
Motsaei Shabbat 8:58 p.m.
Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.
Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.
Weekday Evening Services 8:05 p.m.

Sunday, April 26

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

** Rabbi Granatstein's Monthly Chumash Class
At his home 8:00 p.m.

Parshat Acharei-Mot - Kedoshim

Friday, May 1

Candle Lighting 8:06 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Rabbi's Talmud Class 6:55 p.m.
Mincha 7:55 p.m.
Motsaei Shabbat 9:05 p.m.
Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.
Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.
Weekday Evening Services 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, May 3

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text
At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

Parshat Emor

Friday, May 8

Candle Lighting 8:13 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Rabbi's Talmud Class 7:00 p.m.
Mincha 8:00 p.m.
Motsaei Shabbat 9:12 p.m.
Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.
Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.
Weekday Evening Services 8:25 p.m.

Sunday, May 10

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text
At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

Parshat Behar - Bechukotai

Friday, May 15

Candle Lighting 8:20 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 16

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Rabbi's Talmud Class 7:05 p.m.
Mincha 8:05 p.m.
Motsaei Shabbat 9:19 p.m.
Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.
Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.
Weekday Evening Services 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 17

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel

9:15 a.m.

Parshat BaMidbar - Mevarchim

Friday, May 22

Candle Lighting 8:27 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Rabbi's Talmud Class 7:15 p.m.
Mincha 8:15 p.m.
Motsaei Shabbat 9:26 p.m.
Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.
Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.
Weekday Evening Services 8:40 p.m.

Sunday, May 10 - Rosh Chodesh Sivan

Morning Services 7:50 a.m.

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text
At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

**Community Yom HaZikaron / Yom
Ha'Atzmaut Celebrations on Tuesday
April 28th**

Fuchs Mizrachi School will host at Young
Israel beginning with Mincha at 7:00 PM

Jewish Community Federation & Many
Other Groups will gather at Anshe Chesed
Fairmount Temple beginning with a Yom
HaZikaron service at 6:00 PM

**Both are Free and Open to the
Community!**

PLEASE NOTE: When Davening at an early Kabbalat Shabbat Minyan, you should light candles at that time.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR BULLETIN.

Contact David Seltzer in the Synagogue Office or visit our
bulletin section at www.GreenRoadSynagogue.org

Sponsor a Kiddush for the entire congregation
starting at \$360, or with Cholent at \$1000! To schedule
a Kiddush, call Dovid Greenberger at 216-381-4757.



MAZEL TOV

To Hannah Borison on her Bat Mitzvah and to parents Sue & Dan Borison, and grandparents Bernice & Sidney Borison and Carole Rubin.

To Marla and Joe Shafran on the engagement of their son David Michael to Tamar Bracha Goldstein daughter of Sharon and Yisroel Goldstein of Staten Island, New York.

To Rabbi Pinchos and Ruchie Hecht on the engagement of their son, Yaakov to Elana Brickman, daughter of Chasi and Chaim Brickman of Raanana, Israel.

To Dinnie Davis on the marriage of her grandson Josh Gassner, son of Aria & Jan Gassner, to Shany Mizrahi in Israel.

IN SYMPATHY

המקום ינחם אתכם
בתוך שאר אבל
ציון וירושלים



THE CONGREGATION WOULD
LIKE TO EXTEND ITS
HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

TO ROCHELLE & DAN SHILLER &
FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF
ROCHELLE'S BROTHER, YECHIEL
HARARI.

TO SARAH & JOE GREENBERG &
FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF
SARAH'S BROTHER, JACK
WAXMAN, IN CALIFORNIA.

CALLING CHESSED VOLUNTEERS

We are preparing a Chessed program to reach out to our community in an unprecedented way. We are specifically looking for younger families, and those who feel young, to take this special opportunity to help us make a real difference, particularly in the lives of some of our older members. If you are interested, please contact David Seltzer in the Synagogue office for more details by phone at 216-381-4757 or email David@GreenRoadSynagouge.org

DONATIONS

We would like to thank the following for their generous contributions to our Synagogue.

IN MEMORY OF:

Judy Kirchick's Mother, Esther Madian: Al & Cynthia Uvlin; Morry & Judy Weiss

Vivian Stone: Morry & Judy Weiss; Cynthia & Al Uvlin

Lipman Rabinowitz: Morry & Judy Weiss

Eva Wieder: Jeff, Barbara & Justin Miller

Esther Schachner's mother, Helena Stark: Susan & Sam Shvartz; Marla & Joe Shafran

Rochelle Shiller's brother, Yechiel Harari: Isaac Lifschutz & Tikva Shachter.

IN HONOR OF:

The birth of a grandson to Miriam Katz & Ze'ev Rabinowitz: Morry & Judy Weiss

The engagement of Emily Gross to Andrew Fuchs: Morry & Judy Weiss; Karen & Ira Levinsky

Phil Baskin's engagement to Pessy Sloan: Joel & Elaine Axelrod

Debbie Senders for her kindness: Alice Mendlovic

Rose Rosen and Steve & Sarah Rosen & Family: Ben & Yolanda Kropsky

KIDDUSH:

March 21: By Gary & Cari Gross in honor of their daughter Emily's engagement.

March 28: co-sponsored: By Irene & Tibor Rosenberg in honor of the birth of a grandson born to Danielle & Natan Schwartz in Israel.

By Shimon Fuchs in honor of his daughter Holly Fuchs Berner graduating from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

By Mike & Freida Gecovich in honor of their son Edward passing the State Bar Exam.

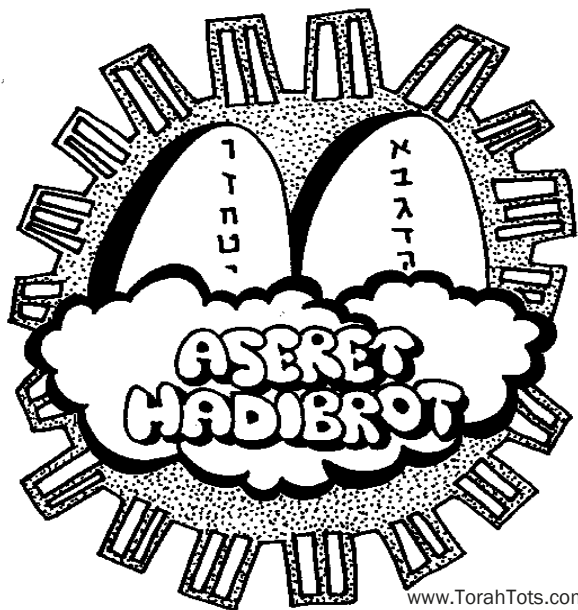
By Mike & Freida Gecovich and Boris & Edith Gecovich in memory of their brother Jack Gecovich on the occasion of his Yahrzeit.

By Rae & Mike Malek in honor of the engagement of their son Jeff to Mandi Chesner, daughter of Lia & Brunek Chesner of Beachwood.

By Yitzhak & Shelly Zemelman in memory of Yitzhak's mother, Shoshana Zemleman on the occasion of her first Yahrzeit.

April 4: By Sue & Dan Borison in honor of their daughter Hannah's Bat Mitzvah.

April 11 (Pesach): co-sponsored: By Hy & Heddy Holz and Arlene & Michael Smith in memory of Hy & Arlene's mother, Rivka (Regina) Holzhaker, on the occasion of her Yahrzeit and by The Jaffe Family in honor of all of the visiting guests.



6th Annual Green Road Synagogue Graduation Kiddush

June 6

Honor your graduates
by becoming a
Kiddush sponsor:



Pre-school thru Graduate School

For \$100 you can co-sponsor Kiddush & have your graduate's name announced and listed in the special Shabbat program we will be printing for that weekend.

To list your graduate and co-sponsor Kiddush you can call Jane at the Shul: **216-381-4757**, e-mail: **Jane@GreenRoadSynagogue.org**, or fax: **216-381-5059**.



GRS Graduation Kiddush Sponsor Sign Up Card

Name of Graduate: _____

School: _____

Grade Graduating/Degree: _____

Parents' Names: _____