

Parashat Emor

FOR OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS
MINHAG HAMAKOM*

ATTIRE

Men and boys must wear kippot/yarmulkes while attending Ohr HaTorah.

Please dress up a little to respect and honor the Sabbath (no blue jeans, t-shirts, flip-flops, immodest dress, etcetera)

ELECTRONICS

Cell phones, pagers, cameras, and other electronics must remain off in the sanctuary. If you must make or receive a call, find a private place.

YOUNG CHILDREN

All parents with infants are kindly requested to leave the service when their child needs immediate attention. We ask that parents with young children sit in the back rows to help minimize any disruption to the service.

MORNING STUDY SESSION

The Morning Study Session (9:00-9:45AM) is part of the Adult Education Program at Ohr HaTorah. It is open to members, prospective members and visitors for their first few times at Ohr HaTorah. If you are a visitor or prospective member, please sign in on the guest sign-in sheet at the front table in the lobby.

Rabbi Finley's Morning Study Session begins at 9:00 AM sharp. Please arrive early enough to be seated when study begins.

Doors close at the beginning of Rabbi's 9:00 AM study session, so that people do not continuously walk into the sessions the Rabbi is teaching. Anyone leaving the session will not be readmitted until the study session is completed.

Doors reopen after the study session and remain open through the rest of the morning.

Those entering during the Rabbi's Torah study (approximately 11:30-12:00 noon) should be seated in the back, and not seek a seat in the front of the sanctuary.

***THE LOCAL CUSTOM
(FOR SHABBAT)**

Synopsis of the Torah Portions Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23

1. Laws concerning the Kohen (priest), including: no contact with the dead, except for his close relatives; no disfiguring of the flesh; special marriage laws; special laws of the Kohen Gadol (high priest); blemishes which disqualify priests from offering sacrifices.
2. Sacred offerings not to be touched by contaminated people (metzora, zav, contact with dead, etc.). Terumah, not to be eaten by a lay person. No blemished animals to be offered; other rules regarding offerings.
3. List of the Festivals: Shabbat; Pesach; the counting of the Omer; Shavu'ot; First Day of Seventh Month (Rosh HaShanah); Yom HaKippurim; Sukkot and (Shemini) Atzeret; Lulav on Sukkot.
4. Laws of the Tabernacle: the Menorah and the Bread offering.
5. Story of a blasphemer, one who cursed the Name -- he is put to death.
6. Laws of murder, damage and retribution, containing the famous, "eye for an eye."

Synopsis of the Haftarah (prophetic reading) Ezekiel 44:15 - 31

The Haftarah for today contains laws concerning the priests from Ezekiel's vision of the restored Temple. His vision of the priests varies from the Torah's laws; in most cases, they are stricter, reflecting the higher state of purity to be lived in the Messianic era. Ezekiel also makes it clear that the Kohanim are not only the adjudicators of ritual law, but of civil and criminal law as well.

Shabbat Study at Ohr HaTorah

Rabbi Mordecai Finley

Dear Friends,

For our morning study session, we will continue our discussion on the Sefirot. This week we are discussing the Sefirah of “Hod” – which means “beauty” or “splendor” in Hebrew.

“Hod” is the fifth of the seven mystical emanations that we study between Passover and the holiday of Shavu’ot, when we celebrate the giving of the Torah.

As a preface to that study, I would like to review briefly a step by step analysis of the Sefirot, and introduce how the three Sefirot that make up the unit of “Netzach – Hod – Yesod” (referred to in Kabbalistic literature by their initials, “NeHiY.”) create an integrated spiritual-psychological concept.

If “Netzach” refers to the spiritual qualities of endurance, mission, steadfastness, achievement, and so forth, then “Hod” is its complementary Sefirah, and according to the system that I teach, stands for harmony, form, aesthetics, etc.

In other words, the devotion to work, missions, values, and visions that we have for ourselves and the world must be modulated by the form in which we conduct that work. On the other hand, too much attention to form and process can vitiate the very essence of an endeavor. The struggle between Netzach and Hod has far reaching implications for spiritual work, psychological theory and even political theory. We will try to touch a bit on all three areas for our morning study session.

This week’s Torah portion, Emor, has a long section on the Jewish holidays. I would like to use our study time to delve into the holiday of Shavu’ot, the holiday of the giving of the Torah, celebrated on May 26-28 this year.

Shabbat Shalom!

COMMUNITY

The Ohr HaTorah staff is available to assist you during office hours:
Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
PHONE: (310) 915-5200
FAX: (310) 915-5792
EMAIL: info@ohrhatorah.org

HELP US PUT DOWN OUR ROOTS BY PLANTING A TREE!

We are putting down our roots in our community and invite you to participate! For a minimum contribution of \$180, you can plant a tree around our building along Venice Blvd. or S. Barrington Ave. Head to the front desk for more details.

Your support and generosity is much appreciated. We wish to thank the following:

Diane Alvy-Halevy	Mindy & Joe Lebovic	Andrea Spector & Malcolm Brown
Jennifer Davis & Robert Mitchell	Babette Markus Weir & Jack Weir	Yolanda & Robb Strom
Eileen & Carl Green	Rebecca Pidgeon & David Mamet	Rebecca Carpenter
Pauline & Albert Kaner	Barbara & Barry Shaffer	Wendy Wyman
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Our Condolences...

Sharon Toriello on the passing of her aunt, Dorothy Glassman, on April 5.

Re-Register your Vons/Pavilions and Ralphs Club Cards TODAY!

Continue to Support Your Ohr HaTorah Community

At absolutely no cost to you, these organizations send Ohr HaTorah a check each quarter in appreciation of your participation. Please help us by visiting the following websites and entering in the designated identification number.

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