

THE Kibbitzer

Lag B'omer
Special

Issue 55



What drink do people drink on the thirty third day of the Omer? A Lager.

You get it? Lag B'omer is the thirty third day of the Omer. Lag, Lager, a pun. Take out the 'bom' and you have Lager. even if most Jews don't drink it.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. What is the tradition of bows and arrows on Lag B'omer? Should we practice it nowadays?

My Dear Pupil. Bonfires are the best way to commemorate the passing of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai (Rashbi), on Lag B'omer. Bonfires make for huge Yahrzeit candles and thus bring more happiness to the celebration of death. Uncontained fires made by children are the best way to celebrate. Though, the bow and arrow are right up there with the bonfire, as they're also dangerous. Why bows and arrows? •Rainbows Bereishit Rabba (35:2) says no rainbow appeared in the sky during the lifetime of Rashbi. Artists were mad, as he killed the multi-colored market. Sales went down. They were stuck drawing stilllives and flowers. Later on, they appreciated the Rashbi, who taught Kabbalah, when the artists made millions off circling the sefirot (emanations of Gd) and selling it. To note: No rainbow is a good thing. The rainbow is a sign from the times of Noah, that Gd's won't destroy the world. It's the covenant, and Gd shows it every time he wants to kill us. Every time somebody gets cut off in traffic

by a selfish individual who skipped the off-ramp line, a rainbow appears.

•Bows Are All The Same The Hebrew word for rainbow is 'Keshet,' which also means bow. Thus, there's a tradition for the children to go out and play with arrows, to add to the danger of uncontained fires. Why not play a violin? You don't shoot a violin bow. We also don't eat Lucky Charms, because they're not kosher, and most people don't shoot them.

•You Shoul Do It Yes. Even if your town doesn't allow kids to run around with weapons, do it. Remember, the main focus of the holiday is about safety hazards. If you're worried about cops, the children should use the bows and arrows in the house. That's dangerous too. In countries where weapons are illegal in public, I would also suggest celebrating this aspect of the Heelulah of the Rashbi by making it more of a ribbon type of bow. Celebrate the rainbows by tying bows and ribbons. Maybe even send the bows to people in your neighborhood who are bad Jews, to let them know about the tradition, with a note telling them that they're the reason we see rainbows.

SERMON OF REBUKE- EMOR

Shabbat Shalom My Holy Congregants... Yes. There are limitations. You can't eat all the kugel at Kiddish. It's not right... You have to sometimes not do what you want to... (Vayikra 21:1-2) *H' tells Moshe to tell the Kohens 'he shall not contaminate to anybody among his people, except for a relative that is closest to him...'* This means his wife (Rashi)... I understand you're not close to your wife. We've talked about this... The Minkowitz family has to work on their relationship. They have many Netflix fights with the big TV... They also fight over Amazon shows. Good questions. We talked about you playing the news to bring you together... You are old. Old people watch the news...

A Kohen can only become Tamei (impure) for parents, children, siblings... His wife... It's his wife... Even if they're married, they are close. I know they hate each other. They're close in hate... Hate brings a couple together... It speaks in singular to everybody, because each person has to do it... I know you throw your responsibilities on the Kohens... That's their family name. They're not Kohens. It's confusing... You can go to the Shiva. You're not a Kohen Frank... Laziness isn't the calling of the Kohen...

You're not a Kohen, but you do need a better hairstyle... (21:5) *'They shall not make a bald spot on their heads...'* I understand it's natural. It still looks bad. Lag B'omer is coming up. Get a haircut... You should shave it to a one.

Camouflage your bald..

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha:

Names of people in our congregation is confusing. We have Kohens. They're Israelites. We have Levis. They're Kohens. We have McDougals. They're Jewish... Community is about limiting oneself so that others can get to the Kiddish table too

SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We understand the excitement of being called to the Torah, but high-fiving the guy getting an Aliyah is not allowed anymore. It has to be a handshake. There has been cheering and yells of 'you're the man' by Tuvi. It disturbs the Mi Shebeyrach's for sick people and it's now considered forbidden.

Acceptable phrases are 'Shabbat Shalom,' 'Yasher Koyach,' or 'Chazak uBaruch.' It's at a point where the older congregants are scared.

The rabbi wants to note that pride is OK. Yet, we must keep in mind the guy with the Aliyah did nothing. The guy who read the Torah did all the work.

Lag B'omer bonfire will take place with the fire department's consent, only in the park's fire pit. Due to last year's home burning and illegal protest. We've met with city council and explained that it was not a protest, just incapable people. The rabbi explained our congregation to them, and they understand.

The shul softball game for God will take place next Sunday.

Shul rule: No hitting Sadie in the middle of the Amidah, even if you're worried she passed out, due to her eyes being closed and snoring. More rules to come.



This is why Jewish summer camp is dangerous, and I stay inside on Lag B'omer... And the counselor is standing there watching, as if these kids shooting weapons is OK.
(Photo: lajrc.org/choosing-jewish-summer-camp - these parents chose the dangerous one)

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