

THE Kibbitzer



My kids left half-eaten Chanukah gelt, and I was stuck with Bitcoin.

You get it? A lot of times, Chanukah gelt is chocolate coins. People bite those, makin them bit. Bitcoin is...

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

It's hard to find the religious feeling in our home on Chanukah. The kids think that gifts are what is important, and now the kids want gifts for Christmas too.

My Dear Pupil. Xmas is not Jewish. I can't even say the name. That's how Frum I am. You're correct. Chanukah needs more Jewish character for it to be religious. There is a question in your statement, I think. A call for help. Here's some ways to make Chanukah more Frum, so Xmas isn't as exciting.

- Eat Oily Food* The Chanukah food is not oily enough anymore. I've seen some of these non-religious people placing latkes on paper towels. If you haven't seen this act of heresy, this is where people pull the latkes off the frying pan and place them on paper towels, to get off some of the oil. I've even seen some of these people pat the top of the latke with a paper towel. These are the same heretics that flip over their pizza to let the oil run off it.
- Eat Oilier Latkes* Add more oil to the eating. Take potatoes that were in oil and throw them in more oil. If you need to, put a latke in your mouth and chase it with oil.

- Give Children Big Kippahs* Who cares if they want the Xbox. Let them know Chanukah is about Jewish identity, even if that means they'll never want to celebrate Chanukah again. That Kippah is the sign of Jewish pride. On Chanukah we announce we're Jewish and light, so the world can see we are proud and know where we live when they get mad at Jews.
- Light up the Electric Candles* This way it makes Chanukah look like a Frum holiday, with a Yahrtzeit, commemorating death. Good Jews always remember family who has gone when they celebrate. Too happy doesn't look religious. You need some solemnness.
- Say Xmas* The most Frum thing you can do on Chanukah is to call Christmas something else. If you use Yiddish, even better. Call it Nitelnacht, or any word with nacht at the end, and you are set. Be a proud Yiddish speaking Jew who doesn't even acknowledge Xmas. Better yet, just call it "The Day," then spit.
- Eat Sponge Cake, Kichel and Herring* That will make any day more of a Frum day. If you can, oil your sponge cake. Oiling up your sponge cake ensures you a place in heaven.

SERMON OF REBUKE- MIKETZ

Shabbat Shalom vChanukah Sameach, Yosef dreamed in last week's Parsha and now Paroh is dreaming. We all have dreams, but when skinny cows eat big cows, there is a problem... Skinny people shouldn't be eating that much. We ran out of food because Anshel ate twelve latkes... The kid is tiny. And because the skinny kid ate too much, everybody was starving. That's what Paroh was dreaming about. Skinny people eating too much... It's an anomaly. It's wrong...

(Bereishit 41:1) 'After two years, days'!... Some things take time. But Yosef didn't give up... I am thinking I might be able to do something decent with this congregation... Using the word 'days' to describe years. It should be written 'two years.' However, Yosef is in jail and you feel those days. Kind of like how it feels in this shul... I have been here for two years. It feels like sixty. I've had some painful years. The past two years I've been the leader of this congregation... each day has been felt... All of the complaints you guys have...the only family event that the Baal Simcha did not complain at was the funeral I performed last week... Everybody was happy... I had a nightmare the other day. I dreamt that I would be stuck in this community for another 7 years. Can somebody please translate what that dream means?...

(Bereishit 41:14) When he finally gets called to Paroh, Yosef 'shaved and changed his clothes and came to Paroh.' This is the most unkempt congregation...

Rashi explains that he shaved out of respect for the king... Geulah starts with respect... Yes.

They have to remember you first. Don't depend on anybody. It may be two years before anything decent happens. The Simchowitzs haven't paid their dues for two years... Each day, I feel that leak in the chapel not being fixed. But you can't depend on the president or the custodian to remember. Two years of waiting... When we finally got the curtain for the ark. You remember, Sadie... She remembers, because it took two years to get that curtain. And every day, people were wondering why there's no curtain... It's painful to open the door every time. When you get it. You respect it. You love it. You kiss it. If the leak is ever fixed, we'll thank H' that it finally happened. And we will finally not have to wear rain jackets in shul... I know. Most people wear them in shul, because somebody is stealing them from the coatroom... You can't switch jackets..... Yosef didn't complain that he wasn't remembered. When it was his turn, he came out and showed what he could do. Unlike Anshel at his Bar Mitzvah, who made... It was seven mistakes an Aliyah... Other than showing that he can eat the carving station... It's preparing yourself, so that when the time comes... Anshel didn't go over that Haftarah... With Black Friday, you all want a deal on dues. It's what you dream about... It's what you do with the dreams... I may get a call to work at Beit Kneset Anshim Normalim...

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha: Rabbi is creative with dues. He works them into every Drasha. I realized our congregation is full of a bunch of procrastinators. Kiddish wasn't even ready this week when we finished Adon Olam. They were bringing out the cake when we walked in. After last week and this week's sermons, the congregants stopped dreaming. Hope was looked at as not a good thing. Yankel decided to be a dream reader. His interpretations weren't that good, but he made a lot of money. He said he was hoping somebody had a dream with seven in it. He said he could translate that.



The Christmas Tree Shop, Where I buy everything I need for Chanukah, including the paper dreidel.

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