

THE Kibbitzer

Issue 47



He wouldn't need to be good at singing or music if he had a talent.

You get it? A talent is something you're good at. A talent is a weight of money, which was a lot of silver in the Torah. He would be wealthy enough to not need to be talented

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. Russia is attacking the Ukraine. I am scared, and staying at home. What should I do?

My Dear Pupil. You live in America. This war is not a strand of COVID. You can leave the house. I suggest you pray. Pray for peace. Let's pray for peace in the North East. We've been praying for peace in the Middle East for years. Now it is time for peace in the North East. Here is why we need peace.

- We Love to Say Shalom* Shalom, means wholeness, peace. It's how we say 'Hi.' We love greeting people. You know how awkward it is to say 'Shalom' to somebody you're warring with? It's almost impossible. You can't say 'Shalom' and then shoot the guy.
- Uman for Rosh Hashana* Jews have enough to pray for, focusing on our sins. We don't need to be by Rav Nachman's grave, praying that we also don't get hit by rockets. If we wanted to pray for protection from rockets, we would spend Rosh Hashana in Sderot. Aeroflot has better not start charging more. I understand bad stuff happens in war, but raising the cost of flights is uncalled for, to say the least. Rise in baggage fees is a crime we must fight.

- More Tehillim* I'm already swamped with Tehillim. Got lists of people. Got the sick people, the army, the kids, a friend with emotional hardship. The list, without prayer, takes fifteen minutes. Now, I've got to focus on another war. My Tehillim are being spread too thin.
- Israel is Going to Get Blamed* They will find a way. Give it time.
- Shalom Is The Reason for Torah* To quote Wikipedia's quote of Proverbs (3:17), '...all her paths are shalom (peace).' The Talmud (Gittin 59b) explains, 'The entire Torah is for the sake of the ways of shalom' (ibid. Wikipedia- this is a scholarly work, and we believe in scholarship at the Kibbitzer). If somebody would just tell Putin. If Putin knew this Torah, he wouldn't attack Ukraine, he would ask for it, kindly. Did Putin ask in a way of Shalom? Did he say, 'Shalom Volodymyr, would you kindly give me Ukraine?' This is what we must ask, as Jews. I've played Risk. You ask nicely for the land, and the dice work for you. Zelenskyy is Jewish. If Putin was Jewish all would be fine. It would be Jews arguing. They wouldn't get along. And each of their countries would be the country they don't go to.

SERMON OF REBUKE- PIKUDEI

Shabbat Shalom My Cattle... My herd is fine. (Shemot 38:21) *'These are the reckonings of the Mishkan (the Tabernacle)...'* It's the English translation... I don't know what a Tabernacle is either... So, we'll call it the Mishkan... Because it's the Mishkan, Bernie... In the Mishkan, there were reckonings. There was counting. There was accountability. The shul board didn't mess it up... Baruch. You can't figure out your income. Bookeeping is a problem in this community... The only smart financial move made the past week is Mike's deal he found at Tinoli's Supermarket... \$6.50 for a two liter bottle of Kedem is amazing. Good job Mike. You should be reckoning for the shul. You'll reckon a better kitchen for us. You should probably reckon Baruch's taxes... *They weighed the 'gold, the silver and the copper, and counted all the vessels for all the work' (Rashi).* The problem with what we have here is that we can't even find a serving spoon for the choolante... Service platters are all over. We can't find a thing. The Kosher is setup wrong... You don't use a blue marker for the meat... Now we have no idea what's meat. It's reckoned all wrong. We can't use any of them for Kiddish work... Kiddish is holy work. Now, we have messed up blue vessels... She's a fool. She used the red for dairy. I know. It's messed up. Now everybody's afraid to eat in the shul... Because you reckoned wrong. It's wrecked.

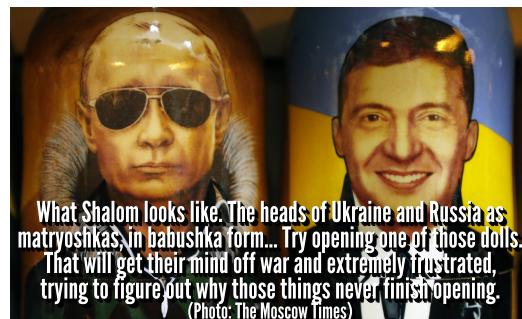
The shul president is no Betzalel Ben Uri Ben Chur... Do you even know the name of your great-grandfather, Fred?... When he got called up to the Torah, he might have tagged on that extra generation... We'd have to send

missaries to Ellis Island, and get research teams on the grounds in Europe, just to get through Revi'i... Because nobody has ever reckoned anything here...

Do we have an Ohaliav?... Exactly. Nobody names their children Ohaliav. You should start... He reckoned right. (Shemot 38:23) *'Ohaliav... a carver, a weaver, an embroider of turquoise, purple and scarlet wool, and linen.'* He did it all. He knew what he was doing. He didn't say, 'This should be the program for older people.' There were professionals... Crocheting is fine. Painting is also good. But not when it's the piece that is hanging in the front hall... Or the cloth quilt covering the ark... Renovations is not a good program for older people. Look... Then why are they on the committee. We need people with talent to work on stuff... Then hire a handyman. The bathroom stall's door is still flimsy as anything...

The materials were a lot. People donated stuff... No plaques, even with the silver and gold. They just donated, Sheril. (Shemot 38:24-31). *A lot of talents...* This wasn't a sing along. It was talents of gold, silver... It's a weight... I would rather see that then to have to see Menachem at another violin recital. I don't know if we can call that a talent... Copper works for vessels. And they didn't paint them blue... Because they weren't dairy... It was a copper altar. You use copper for the copper altar. Not gold or silver... Because it was a copper altar!

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha: The rabbi did a great job of educating about the Copper Altar being made of copper. It was very educational. A lot of reckoning. Great message. It turns out the shul has not done any reckoning for many years, and we're in debt. Talk was of the Feinblum's dairy red. Can't eat in their home anymore. The shul's kitchen also wasn't reckoned. They used blue for meat. Mrs. Feinblum got in the kitchen.



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