

THE Kibbitzer

Issue 97

Purim
Special

Who was the heaviest guy in the Megilah? Bigton.

You get it? Bigton and Teresh wanted to kill the king, Big and ton together. Both mean large. That's a mean name for somebody. I know it's not nice to make fun of somebody's heaviness, but Bigton wasn't a good guy.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. We've been shopping for months and we're trying to figure out what to put in our Mishloach Manot?

Shalom My Dear Pupil. Don't shop. Your Mishloach Manot should contain stuff you don't want. As I have received Mishloach Manot from Jews for years, I have learned this to be the one rule.

Here's some ideas for your gift baskets.

- Give Lemon Wafers* Nobody likes lemon wafers. They come stale. That is how they are made. Thus, making it the perfect item to place in your gift basket. Not just inedible, it is also hard to clean for Pesach. If you purchased a mixed package, pull out the chocolate wafers (people like those) and tinfoil the lemon into your Mishloach Manot.

- Stuff Still in Your Pantry* Do not give away food you will eat. That is a waste. Think about your Mishloach Manot like a food drive collection bin for poor people. You have tuna you haven't used in four years, throw it in there.

Give beans, rice, anything that is taking up room in your cabinets and is past expiration. Canned vegetables is optimal. A can of peas and carrots is perfect. Nobody likes that.

- Make Hamentashen* People like chocolate hamentashen. This is why it is proper etiquette to give poppy seed hamentashen. People don't like poppy seed hamentashen. It looks like chocolate hamentashen, and then whamo, a surprise right in their basket. It always puts a smile on the face of the recipient when they get something they don't want.

- Take Out The Good Stuff* If using Mishloach Manot from other people, take out any decent bottles of wine. Sometimes the Feigenblums make a mistake and give something decent, along with the poppy seed. Thus, always check the basket before reMishloaching. This is also the reason why everybody thinks the Feigenblums are cheap. Not fair to them, but you should enjoy the wine. It is a mitzvah to be happy.

- Put in Stuff You Don't Want* I cannot reiterate this enough. If you cannot return it to the store, that is Mishloach Manot. Go Green: Leftovers from two Shabbats ago is perfect gift basket giving. Files you can't find the heart to throw out. Expired passport photos. It does not have to just be food. Anything you need to throw in the bin can be Mishloach Manot.

SERMON OF REBUKE- TETZAVEH

Shabbat Shalom My Pupils...

S(Shemot 28:2) 'And you shall make holy vestments for Aharon your brother, for glory and splendor.' Our Gabai has the ugliest suit I have ever... Well. You're representing the congregation. This is the most disheveled membership... It's Shabbis. It's not Purim. Well, I though that was a costume. It's got to be the ugliest dress I have seen.

Make *vestments*. Not costumes... There's a difference. A vestment is a work of fine clothing. A costume is something that looks like a vestment if it were to not last a day...

No. It's a costume. That can't be regular clothes. That's a thread count of two.

When families make clothes for each other...

Your Chanukah sweater was an Asur gift. No glory wearing that. *Rambam Hilchot Mada says a Chacham should not walk around in messed up clothes...* That was meant for the Gabai. I can't get over how ugly that suit is.

The sun is shining off it... Polyester...

It was all made to serve H'... *They were to minister to H' (28:1)...* The Kohanim were ministers... Jewish ministers in the Temple. Not a church... That's why they didn't look like Rivka and Sam... That's a polyester suit...

(28:6) 'The work of a thinker'... Yes. That's how I translate it... Think before you get dressed.

You go to a decent tailor... You guys never think... You don't show up drunk for Parshat Zachor... That's why your clothes are messed up. Next time, don't get dressed drunk...

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha:
An ugly dress. You don't wear ugly like that if it's not a costume.

SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Purim is this Tuesday. There is no reason to drink on Shabbat, unless if you have to deal with the new Shul Simcha Committee. They are very annoying and will bring anybody to drinking. Anybody married to Harold Feinbloom can also drink. Other than that, drunkenness is Asur.

The costume parade will include true Mardi Gras performers. We don't want another pathetic showing of poorly tailored Esther costumes.

This week's Kiddish honors a Jew.

Sign up for the shul luncheon. It's not a Kiddish. This means you have to pay. We understand how paying can ruin your happiness. If you spent time with the Simcha Committee, you'd understand that there's many ways to ruin Simcha; such as sitting in at one of their meetings.

We're asking for Machatzit Hashekel. We realize we'll never collect the full amount of dues. If we can at least get half an nis from congregants.



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