

THE Kibbitzer

Thanksgiving
Edition



Nobody wanted to eat the turkey at Thanksgiving dinner. It was ofe.

You get it? 'Ofe' means it didn't taste right. Ofe means chicken in Hebrew. Turkey is not chicken, even in Israel.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

I've been celebrating Thanksgiving for years. Since I was a kid. Now that I am more religious, how can I make it a more Jewish holiday?

My Dear Pupil. I don't know if I can make it Jewish. If nothing is forbidden on the day, I don't see how it can be a Chag. Even so, I'll try to help Jewishize the day. First, let's start with a proper greeting. Thanksgiving Sameach.

•*Eat right* It's known tradition that the rabbis didn't know if turkey was kosher or not., until they realized you can make pastrami out of it. If you can, make a sponge pumpkin pie. I don't know how that is done, but make it and it's Jewish. Songecake is Jewish. If you can make a sponge pie, you're a Jewish revolutionary. A pumpkin babka can work too.

•*Eat A Turkey Shawarma* Mixing Israel into the American celebration allows all the anti-Jewish sceptics to say 'I told you so,' and that makes us feel good. This is the perfect time to lend to the conspiracy that Israel and the US are in cahoots.

•*Tell The Story of the Pilgrims* Tell of the Pilgrims fleeing Europe, running away from Christian persecution. Jews

can connect with the Church trying to kill them. Persecution always brings us Simcha. Turn the Pilgrims into rebbe stories. Tell of how they did Kiruv on the Native people. Make it meaningful, with a sermon of the first Wampanoag Bar Mitzvah celebration.

•*Give Thanks to Gd* Thanking Gd is a Jewish thing to do. Just don't do it at the table in English. Definitely not before the meal. Bless Gd before the meal with a Bracha. Thank Gd after the meal with the Birkat Hamazon. That's not meant to be commentary. That's meant to make you a better Jew. And do not hold hands when praying. This isn't the hora.

•*Make Stuff Forbidden* It just hit me. Forbidding stuff makes it a Jewish holidays. Frobid turducken. It's Kilayim. You can't mix animals, and it kills a good turkey

•*Turn the Parade into a Rally* Jews don't parade. We rally. Use the Macy's floats to make political statements. Let it be known that Garfield loves turkey shawarma.

•*Have a Fight* A family fight will bring that holiday feeling to the day. Practice these customs, eat turkey brisket like a Jew, and your Thanksgiving will be Jewish.

SERMON OF REBUKE- VAYESHEV

Shabbat Shalom vChanukiving Sameach, (Bereishit 37:1) 'And Yaakov sat in the land of which his fathers lived.' The Torah goes through the generations of Yaakov in detail, because, as Rashi says, our ancestors and generations that follow are important. Important... You could be important. Do your ancestors want to know about the deal you found at Marshall's, Tim?... It was a great deal. I was very impressed. I wanted to know about it. I just don't know how they connect to it in heaven... Make yourself important. The Pilgrims were important... The Maccabees were important. You could be important... Many of you live here, still. You received a good inheritance. I commend you for not running away from your family's wealth. The shul hasn't seen any of it... Your grandfather, Shlomo, would've given a donation... (Bereishit 37:11) His brothers were jealous of him, and his father guarded the matter!... You want to get into parenting? Are you sure, Mark? Your kids are running the halls again... Only once there was jealousy did Yaakov watch over the matter. Jealousy is what kills... When you give Chaim a G.I. Joe. You gave Samantha a Barbie go-kart... Chaim is jealous. Yes... His gift is pathetic... You have to stop being jealous. It goes from hatred, to nastiness, to jealousy to slave trade... That's the order. We don't know if it's because he was loved more. Was it because of the dream? Was it because he tattletailed? Was it because he got the gift?... Give your kids decent gifts already... I've seen the socks, Michaela. They're

sown. A gift is not valuable if you make it... You have to buy it. The same way Ephraim buys the Aliyas...

There are multiple factors involved in hatred. You can hate Phillip for sneezing to loud... He sneezes all the time. In know. It's too much. Bill walks past people and hits them with his Tallis... You don't notice, because you don't care. The tassels are whacking people... You walk too fast. Tasseled Superman... I see you, because I sit up here. They can't, because the tassels are whacking their eyes...

Should we sell the shul? Good question... The question is why does nobody in this shul smile... Nobody smiles in the men's section... Is there hatred? Is there jealousy? I know the Gabai does a bad job of divvyng Aliyas... You call the same person up every week, Ephraim. You show favorites... Families being together is not always the best thing... Smile... Yosef missed out on living in the land of his ancestors, because people couldn't smile... Get over it. We need love. Love each other... Your ancestors smiled. Your parents were important because people liked being around them. They didn't sell people. They gave excellent gifts... A Monopoly set was a good gift in the '80s. You can't give that now, Kim... They paid their dues...

No smiling led to slavery. Shul... The Gabai...

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha: The rabbi called it Chanukiving, as he feels that the Jewish holiday should come first. Thanksgiving is offensive to our people. He also feels that Kiving is very important. It brings happiness and love in families. He is truly worried that siblings hate each other in the congregation, because, as the rabbi said 'there has to be better Gifts this Chanukah.' The rabbis lesson was brought home. It was a valuable lesson. Bad gifts is what causes hatred. The Tivels haven't been invited to Simchas for years, due to the mirror they bought for Michael's Bar Mitzvah. It was a mirror. That's it. After the Chanukiving program, all the kids in the shul think they're supposed to get gifts on Thanksgiving. Something about the pilgrims hiding their Judaism.



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