

THE Kibbitzer

PreChanukah
Special

Issue 130



I didn't buy my kids any gifts this past Chanukah. I felt so much gelt.

You get it? Gelt is money. Chanukah gelt is a tradition. It sounds like guilt. I felt bad, but I had a lot of money, because I didn't spend it on gifts.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. I love the undershirt Tzitzit. Why did it take so long to come up with them?

Shalom My Dear Pupil. Here are some of the Mitzvot of Tzitzit, to give you a background. From there, we'll discuss the development of the undershirt Tzitzit. Most Jewish guys are not good at braiding. They don't help with the Challah. Even so, they make Tzitzit. So, let's delve.

- A Four Cornered Garment* Any garment with at least four corners needs Tzitzit on four of the corners. This is why Jews throw out their shirts once they start to rip. Too much Tzitzit string braiding. This is also why Jewish men have short hair.

- Meaning To Braiding* The knots and strings remind us of the 613 Mitzvot or that you have an itch on your legs.

- Men are Required - An Onen Is Not* Prior to burial, all Mitzvah focus is on burying ones loved one. So, an Onen doesn't practice positive Mitzvot until burial. This is why some people hold off on burying their dead family members for weeks. Anything to get

out of having to keep Mitzvot. I don't remember him burying his mom. Haven't seen him at shul in months. Passing Arby's, I saw him eating bacon on Shabbat.

- Used to Be a Tallis* Have you ever tried wearing those under your shirt? You can't adjust it. The average Tallis wearer has to adjust his Tallis at least eighteen times during Shacharit. That's where Chai comes from. It's the number of times your Tallis slips off your shoulders during morning prayers.

- Wool to cotton to mesh* Tzitzit started as wool, then somehow found it's way to mesh. The tiny mesh Tzitzit era of the late 80s. It was a very uncomfortable decade. The Mesh Tzitzit moved as much as a Tallis. Rabbis got rid of mesh Tzitzit. It was too provocative. After going back to wool and cotton, people found themselves sweating again. Finally, they took undershirts, cut the sides, and everybody was comfortable. A joy. Now soldiers want to wear them. And people are getting buried on time.

SERMONS OF REBUKE: VAYISHLACH

Shabbat Shalom My People...
SYou give gifts. It's part of peace. That's what Yaakov gave Esav, to appease him... Something. You give something. You try. You pay your dues every once in a while...
(Bereishit 32:14) 'And he took from what came to his hand, a tribute to Esav.'

You can give me from your house. A nice vase. A car... No gifts here. That's why there are always fights in the shul... I understand you're the Gabai. If you gave a gift instead of an Aliyah, they would like you. If you gave them a Sudoku puzzle pad...

I don't even get Chanukah gifts from you...

A raise. That's a gift... Yaakov separated

the gifts. It's more exciting. That's why you give gifts each night of Chanukah. That's why your kids don't like Judaism. Bad gifts... If Yaakov gave Esav chocolate coins, he'd hate Jews more... Not even the dark chocolate ones. I've never opened a dairy chocolate coin and not had it melt before it was in my mouth... Licking your fingers like Bernie is disgusting... Chocolate coins are not a gift. They're not even money. I learned that the hard way. You feel like a fool when you're ten years old, trying to buy a Slurpee with chocolate coins... Slurpees would be a better gift.. I would be happy with oxen. Camels.

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Sermon:
 I have that chocolate stuck in my fingers all week. After I open a coin, I have to go to the manicure. The basic point is that the rabbi is expecting gifts from the congregants this Chanukah.

SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

You can make reservations for the shul Chanukah party by contacting the office. Do not bother the president. He is an angry person.

The shul Secret Shlomo will have certain gifts that are not allowed. Due to how bad your gift choices have been the past many years, here is a list of gifts you can't give that the rabbi will discuss at Temporary Halacha Class: The paddle with a ball attached, socks you stitched, sweaters you knitted, chocolate coins that are dairy...

The Mikvah cleaning project will start this Wednesday at 2pm. We want to thank the sisterhood for organizing the event. It's promised to be an exciting day of cleaning.

No more giving Divrei Torah without consent. Many congregants have been complaining about abuse at Kiddish, having to hear Torah thoughts while eating herring. We hired a rabbi for a reason. Divrei Torah are relegated to sermon.



Chocolate coins have to be the biggest rip off. Inflation on this currency is beyond explanation.

The Kibbitzer this week is dedicated to all of our holy brothers and sister who have been affected by the terror. To Sponsor - CoNTACT kibbitzermag@gmail.com