

COMING SEPTEMBER 10-11 JEWISH NEW YEAR CELEBRATION IN YOUR TOWN





DEDICATED TO THE LOVE AND INSPIRATION OF THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE

{CREDITS}

soulwise

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{FROM THE RABBI'S DESK}

Dear Friend,

Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the Jewish year, and the anniversary of creation of man. At the brink of a new year it is most appropriate to reminisce and evaluate the past year. It is a time for comprehensive analysis of our lives thus far and some spiritual accounting to plan the year a head.

At Chabad we endeavor to uplift, inspire and educate you on an individual basis as well as a community focus and center. In this spirit we bring you this magazine and sincerely hope you enjoy it and find it informative and inspirational.

It comes filled with thought-provoking articles, fun insights, and other delicacies to enjoy. You'll also find a synopsis of the High Holidays observances and some discussion of their meaning. Included also are dates and candle lighting times needed.

We hope you will enjoy this publication and consider joining us this year for the High Holidays. At Chabad everyone is welcome no matter their religious, educational or economic background.

May G-d Grant you and yours a joyful, prosperous, sweet new year and may you be inscribed and sealed in the book of life happiness and health.

Shana Tova!

- Sincerely, Rabbi Shliach
- Director, Chabad Jewish Center

Don't miss the Rabbi's Thursday Torah Class 7:00 pm

This is Jewish Thought 101. For thousands of years, the Torah has been the Jewish national treasure, and now is your chance to claim your inheritance. *From Moses to David to You!*

Join the class by calling 714-555-5523 or logging onto www.Chabadofnow.com.

Join us Shabbat Morning at 10:30 am

Join us for weekly Torah study and service. Our friendly, Non-Judgmental atmosphere, offers a place to talk to G-d in Hebrew and English. Kids are welcome. *There are never any tickets or membership or affiliation required.* Join the class by calling 714-555-5523 or logging onto www.Chabadofnow.com.

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WHAT'S NEW for the new year



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A team of mitzvah enthusiasts and kosher connoisseurs select the finest books, music, and foods for your Jewish soul's delight. The monthly box is based on the Jewish season and holiday at hand.

Subscribe at MyBoxMitzvah.com.

{book}

AN INNER PERSPECTIVE

Do you wonder about your soul? Ponder the meaning of your dreams? Well, this summer go deep with Kehot's newest book: *An Inner Perspective*. Adapted from the Kabbalistic writings of the Rebbe's father, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak Schneerson.

This easy to read volume provides readers with a unique window into the world Kabbalah.

The sixteen essays, presented by Rabbi Eli Block are adapted from Rabbi Levi Yitzchak's original works that were saved from Europe.

Available at www.Kehot.com.





{art}

THE ETROG, BY ANITA SOBLE

"Perfection is in the eye of the beholder. Every year Jews all over the world attempt to do mitzvot in the best, most beautiful way they can as a symbol of their devotion. During the holiday of Sukkot this comes in the form of selecting a beautiful etrog (citron). Size, shape and condition are all considered. The citron vendors are often very young. Their clients older to old. And in these purchases, the nature of appreciating beauty is passed between generations." -Anita Soble

About the artist: Soble is a rising star in the world of Jewish art. Her unique animation, illustration and graphic design has inspired thousands around the world. She lives in brooklyn with her husband and her children. *Available at www.AnitaSoble.com.*

{music}

NYET NYET

The song is over 200 years old and comes from Russian Jews who would sing Nyet Nyet Nikavo, there is no one else besides G-d. The remake of this song was produced by Oren Antebi and the International Nigun Project and features klezmer

legend Leo Chelyapov on the clarinet. The Italian and Russian vocals are done by Yossi Rodal and Hebrew is sung by Shmuel Marcus. Production was done in Los Angeles by iZZy D JaY. *Hear it on Spotify and iTunes.*

WHAT TYPE OF JEW ARE V002

Are you tall and handsome Jew? Are you a short Jew with an afro? It doesn't matter, we still need you. In fact, the secret to our Jewish survival and success comes from our ability to unite in our differences.

Sukkot is the festival of unity, and we will be bringing all types of Jews together in the biblical ritual called the "Four Kinds" also known as shaking the Lulav and Etrog.

The Torah commands: "Take for yourselves on the first day [of Sukkot] the etrog (citron), lulav (date frond), hadas (myrtle twig) and aravah (willow twig)."

First, you need to analyze these four kinds and decide where you fall on the Lulav spectrum.

INSTANT SELF-TEST: WHERE DO YOU FALL ON THE LULAV SPECTRUM?



ETROG The Citron

Just like the beautiful yellow citron, you have both a wonderful taste and you smell great.

Jewishly: This means you are both a Torah scholar and your many good deeds have an impact on the world around you.

Your Character: Good for you, you really sound like a righteous Jew, and I'm sure many people look up to you, but you lack real friends. Your perfect blend of superior scholarship and unparalleled activism makes you anything but average, and may leave you lonely at the top. Perfection seems to be your valued advantage and disadvantage, as the smallest blemish brings your value way down. In life, while

the other three kinds can handle a scratch here and there, or even a missing leaf, you seem to completely shut down if you discover an imperfection.

Your Shape: The Etrog is in the shape of the heart. Your scholarship and actions are all motivated by a yearning heart to be close to G-d. The Kabbalists see the Etrog as the all-consuming flaming love of Divinity that must be restrained and held separately with the left hand, as a reminder that the perfect Jew's true value is only when he is together with the group.

Instant Self-Test: Did you write book on philosophy while you started a social mission to end poverty? Does everyone around you seem to know, and do, a whole lot less than you? Are you driven totally by your emotions? Are you lonely?



LULAV

The Date Frond

The date palm tree has a nice date taste but no fragrant smell.

Jewishly: This means you are known for your dedication to

Torah study, and we understand that your late nights studying keep you away from communal affairs.

Your Character: You are definitely the tallest of the four kinds. Your focus and discipline in study make you stick out in a crowd. Although you may not have time to volunteer for the PTA, you are still respected for your Torah knowledge.

Your Shape: The lulav is shaped like the spine, and you are known for having a backbone. People know they can rely on you for the unapologetic truth. You may not be the friendliest or the most helpful, but your discipline and backbone really hold the group together. You stand up for what's right and we all like that. As the tallest of the group, people see you first from far away. In Temple times you were a sign of victory. Your Jewish confidence makes you a real winner. Because of your unique character, many times by stating only your name "Lulav" we actually mean all four of the kinds.

Instant Self-Test: Do you speak up for what's right? Are people always asking you for the Jewish view on major topics? Do you have a clear height advantage on the basketball court? No one has ever called you a people pleaser? Are you confident?



HADAS The Myrtle Twig

Although you have no taste, you're actually famous for your unique and pleasant aroma.

Jewishly: This means you excel in good deeds. Your giving personality seems to overcompensate for your lack of studiousness. It must be great to have you as a friend.

Your Character: You're a good person and you really enjoy doing a mitzvah. People love having you around, and you're constantly getting invited to parties. You get things done, and you do it all with a smile. Your kind actions can make us feel festive, and that's why at weddings the brides all want

you to sit near them. Your good deeds prove a wonderful fragrance for those around you.

Your Shape: The hadas is in the shape of the human eye. You have the ability to see what needs to be done, and you get it done. You're aware of the needs of others, and you're willing to help.

Instant Self-Test: Are you busy helping others with little time to read books? Do you find yourself doing favors at 2 AM? Have you already received more than one award for community service? Do you always say that actions speak louder than words?



ARAVA

The Willow Twig

Without taste and without aroma, the willow grows quietly without any accolades.

Jewishly: The willow is the hard-working, sincere Jew who ironically is the unsung hero of the four kinds. Why? Because we all admire the willow's honest service and sincere dedication. The sophisticated righteous Jew wishes he could pray with the childlike sincerity of the willow.

Your Character: You work in the back and hardly receive any compliments. At times, you don't even believe in yourself, yet you show up because you believe in G-d. It's never about you, and it's always about the cause. It's actually your hard work that allows others to receive awards. You are simple, honest, and sincere.

Your Shape: The Arava is in the shape of the human mouth. Your power is in your words as you pray with a sincere heart. The other three kinds all look to you for that purity in your devotion to the Jewish people. You may not be the smartest or the most helpful, but you are by far the most sincere.

Instant Self-Test: Are you shy? Do you cry often? Do you enjoy long prayers? Do you struggle with observance yet you are firm in your faith? Do you speak from your heart?

Now that you've taken the self-test remember that the idea is to unite all four kinds into a harmonies blend. We need everyone in unity to allow for G-d's blessings into our lives. As the verse states: "Says the L-rd: Let them all bond together in one bundle and atone for each other."

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{ complete high holiday guide }

Rosh Hashanah

DEFINITION: Rosh Hashanah (Head of the Year). The Kabbalists teach that basically what your brain is to your body, Rosh Hashanah is to the year. It's the Head of the Year, it's the nerve center of the year, what happens on Rosh Hashanah impacts the entire year.

🔻 ALSO KNOWN AS: Yom Hazi-

karon (Day of Remembrance). This is the name of the holiday used in our prayers, blessing at candle lighting, and in the kidush.

G BIBLICAL VERSE: "...Speak to the children of Israel, saying: In the seventh month, on the first of the month, it shall be a Sabbath for you, a remembrance of [Israel through] the shofar blast a holy occasion." – *Leviticus 23:24*

Rosh Hashanah is the day we proclaim G-d King of the Universe. Each year on Rosh Hashanah, "all inhabitants of the world pass before G-d like a flock of sheep," and it is decreed in the heavenly court "who shall live, and who shall die . . . who shall be impoverished, and who shall be enriched; who shall fall and who shall rise."

OBSERVANCE: Hear the Shofar. The shofar, the ram's horn, which was used to warn people of approaching danger or to call them to return and regroup, was also used to coronate kings. The Heavenly shofar was heard at Mount Saini and the Heavenly shofar will again be sounded in the future to herald the arrival of the redemption. On Rosh Hashanah make sure to hear the Shofar on both days.

DO IT YOURSELF: The shofar has three sounds: 1) the long blast of **tekiya** 2) the three shorter blasts of **shevarim** and 3) the nine rapid blasts of **teruah**. The length of each of the three sounds should be the same so that the one tekiya is the length of the shevarim or teruah. Of course that's not true of the final **tekiya gedola** (the large tekiya) that can go as long as you can hold the note. Do not place the shofar in the center of your lips like a trumpet, rather use the right side of your mouth. Practice to blow from your stomach not your cheeks, so if your cheeks are puffed up right now, you're doing it wrong.

Ψ CUSTOMARY FOODS: Eat apple dipped in honey on the first night, to symbolize our desire for a sweet year. (See blessing in Machzor page 46.) Some have a head of a fish, ram, or other kosher animal, to symbolize our desire to be at the "head of the class" this year. Pomegranates symbolize our wish for a year full of mitzvot and good deeds as a pomegranate is filled with seeds. Throughout the meal, it is customary to also eat foods whose names in the vernacular allude to blessing and prosperity. For example, many have the custom of eating a carrot dish, because in Yiddish the word for carrots, meren, means to multiply.

Eat a **new fruit** on the second night and recite the Shehecheyanu blessing. (See Machzor page 46)

TASHLICH: On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, a special prayer is said near a body of water with fish in it. Water is a symbol of Divine kindness and fish a symbol of an ever-open eye, making it the perfect place to pray for Divine mercy. (See Machzor page 291.)

PRACTICAL: Find a High Holiday service near you, or call the number on the back of this magazine, and hear the shofar on both days.

BUY: You must get the book, and I recommend *Kehot's Machzor for Rosh Hashanah –Annotated Edition with English Translation* sold at www.TheRabbiShop.com. You'll have all the prayers and instructions right there in your hands.

You could get yourself a shofar and learn how to blow it yourself. Visit www.TheRabbiShop.com for a full selection of shofars (lessons not included).

Yom Kippur

DEFINITION: Yom Kippur means "Day of Atonement." Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the year—the day on which we are closest to G-d and to the quintessence of our own souls.

S BIBLICAL VERSE: "...On the tenth of this seventh month, it is a day of atonement, it shall be a holy occasion for you; you shall afflict yourselves..."-*Leviticus* 23.27

OBSERVANCE: 1) Abstain from food and drink. 2) Do not wash your body. 3) Do not anoint your body with creams or lotions. 3) Do not wear leather footwear. 5) Abstain from marital relations.

DO IT YOURSELF: In the early morning hours before Yom Kippur we take a white rooster, or fish, or money and give it to charity in what is called the **Kaparot** ceremony. (See Kehot's Machzor for Yom Kippur page 2.)

• THE DAY BEFORE: Request and receive honey cake, should you ever need to ask for anything this year, let it be a piece of cake. Eat a festive meal; immerse in a mikvah; and give extra charity. In the late afternoon we eat the pre-fast meal. Ask your parents for a blessing and bless your children, light a memorial candle (if applicable). Girls and women light candles 18 minutes before sunset.

WHAT TO WEAR: It is a custom to wear white as a sign of purity. Men bring your tallit to services Yom Kippur eve as it's the only night service that the tallit is worn.

PRAYERS: In the course of Yom Kippur we hold five prayer services: 1) **Maariv**, with its solemn Kol Nidrei service, on the eve of Yom Kippur; 2) **Shacharit**, the morning prayer, which includes the Yizkor memorial service; 3) **Musaf**, which includes a detailed account of the Yom Kippur Temple service; 4) **Minchah**, which includes the reading of the Book of Jonah; and 5) **Neilah**, the "closing of the gates" service at sunset.

The closing Neilah service climaxes in the resounding single blast of the shofar, followed by the proclamation, "Next year in Jerusalem." We then perform the Havdalah service and Blessing of the New Moon, and partake of a festive after-fast meal, making the evening after Yom Kippur a yom tov (festival) in its own right.

Sice. IT'S TISHREL

SEPT 9 | ELUL 29

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Girls and women **light candles** 18

Shofar is not blown

Give extra charity.

minutes before sunset.

Bless your friends with the words "May you be inscribed

and sealed for a good year."

SEPT 10 | TISHREI 1

Hear the **shofar**

Do Tashlich at a body of water Light candles after sundown

Happy Birthday Adam & Eve. On this day 5777 year ago G-d said: "Let us make Man in Our image."

SEPT 11 | TISHREI 2

Hear the shofar

Havdalah after nightfall

On this day in 1677 BCE our matriarch Sarah passed away after hearing the good news that that her husband Abraham had not sacrificed her only son Isaac.

SEPT 18 | TISHREI 9 Erev Yom Kippur

Kaparot

Give extra charity.

Girls and women light candles 18 minutes before sunset.

Fast begins Remove leather shoes

Kol Nidrei Prayer

SEPT 25 | TISHREI 16

Shake the Lulav and Etrog Kiddush and all meals in the sukkah and dip challah in honey!

Tonight's Guest: Jacob

OCT 2 | TISHREI 23

Perform Hakafot and dance with the Torah

Havdalah after sundown

Did you know? THE MONTH

BEFORE: During Elul, the month before the High Holidays, we begin practicing blowing the shofar daily and reciting Psalm 27 in our daily prayers. The code of Jewish Law encourages people to visit the resting place of a great tzadik to pray to G-d before the High Holidays. Many people today use the online form at www.OhelChabad.com to send their letters for blessings to the

WANT MORE **DETAILS**?

resting place of the Rebbe.

Check out the complete High Holiday Guide on the previous & next page.

The Shofar is made of a ram's horn to recall the Binding of Isaac which also occurred on Rosh Hashanah, in which a ram took Isaac's place as an offering to G-d. We evoke Abraham's merit as we pray for a year of life, health and prosperity.

SEPT 23 | TISHREI 14 Erev Sukkot

Girls and women **light candles** 18 minutes before sunset.

Kiddush and all meals in the sukkah and dip challah in honey! On Sukkot supernal "guests" grace our sukkah. These guests are known as Ushpizin. Tonight's Guest: Abraham

SEPT 30 | TISHREI 21

Shake the Lulav and Etrog Perform Hoshanot

All meals in the **sukkah**

Light candles 18 minutes before sunset

Outside of Israel: Perform Hakafot Shake the Lulav and

SEPT 24 | TISHREI 15

in the **sukkah** and dip



OCT 1 | TISHREI 22

Perform Hakafot Recite **Yizkor** Memorial Prayer Begin **Prayer for Rain** Light candles after sundown Perform Hakafot and dance with the Torah

It's that time of year when we swap beach bags for tallit bags, and Twitter for the siddur. The month of Tishrei is full of momentous occasions and meaning ful customs and rituals that it's like the free Wi-Fi zone at the airport where you download everything you'll need before you take off into a fresh new year.

thursday	friday	shabbat
SEPT 13 TISHREI 4	SEPT 14 TISHREI 5 Girls and women light candles 18 minutes before sunset. Kiddush & dip Challah in honey !	SEPT 15 TISHREI 6 Shabbat of Return (Shabbat Shuva) Torah Portion: Vayelech Kiddush & dip Challah in honey! Havdalah after sundown Passing of Rebbetzin Chana Schmeerson
	W/k2	(1879-1964), mother of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.
SEPT 20 TISHREI 11	SEPT 21 TISHREI 12	SEPT 22 TISHREI 13 Torah Portion: Ha'azinu
Start building sukkah. Don't forget to order your set of the Four Kinds .	Girls and women light candles 18 minutes before sunset. Kiddush & dip Challah in honey!	Kiddush & dip Challah in honey! Havdalah after sundown
		Yahrtzeit of Rabbi Shmuel of Lubavitch, 4th Chabad Rebbe who authored many books and traveled throughout Europe to pressure the Czarist regime to halt its instigation of pogroms against the Jews.
SEPT 27 TISHREI 18 Chol Hamoed	SEPT 28 TISHREI 19 Chol Hamoed	SEPT 29 TISHREI 20
Shake the Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah <i>Tonight's Guest: Aaron</i>	Shake the Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah Light candles 18 minutes before sunset Kidush in sukkah and dip challah in honey ! Tonight's Guest: Joseph	It's Shabbat: DO NOT shake the Lulav and Etrog Kidush and all meals in the sukkah and dip challah in honey! Havdalah after sundown <i>Tonight's Guest: David</i>
ed up The Yahrtzeit of the final great Chassidic leader and advocate for the Jewish de people, Rabbi tee Levi Yitzchak y 0(1240, 1810)	OCT 5 TISHREI 27 Girls and women <i>light candles</i> 18 minutes before sunset. Kiddush & dip Challah in salt	OCT 6 TISHREI 27 Shabbat Bereishit Torah Portion: Bereishit Kiddush & dip Challah in salt Havdalah after sundown
	SEPT 13 TISHREI 4	SEPT 13 TISHREI 4 SEPT 14 TISHREI 5 Girls and women light candles 18 minutes before sunset. Kiddush & dip Challah in honey! SEPT 20 TISHREI 11 Start building sukkah. Don't forget to order your set of the Four Kinds. SEPT 27 TISHREI 18 Choil Hamoed Shake the Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah Tonight's Guest: Aaron State the Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah Tonight's Guest: Aaron FTorah, Torah, Torah, State we Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah Tonight's Guest: Aaron HREI 25 Choil Hamoed Shake the Lulav and Etrog All meals in the sukkah Tonight's Guest: Joseph HREI 25 Choil Hamoed State in the sukkah Torah, State in the sukkah Torah State in the sukkah State in the sukkah Torah State in the sukkah State in the sukk

S Visit www.JewishNewYear.com for complete calendar of events.

Sukkot

DEFINITION: Sukkot literally means "Huts". The Jews enjoyed the protection of the miraculous "clouds of glory" as they traversed the Sinai Desert following the Exodus. That's something we should not forget. We are commanded to dwell in a sukkah--a hut of temporary construction with a roof covering of branches--for the duration of the Sukkot festival (on the Jewish calendar Tishrei 15-21).

ALSO KNOWN AS: Z'man Sim-

chateinu (The Time of Rejoicing). All Jewish holidays are a joyous occasion, however, Sukkot is the only holiday called "The Time of your Rejoicing." The nightly evening-todawn festivities held in the Holy Temple in preparation for the drawing of water for use in the festival service, was considered an unparalleled joyous occasion.

G BIBLICAL VERSE: "For a seven day period you shall live in booths. Every resident among the Israelites shall live in booths, in order that your [ensuing] generations should know that I had the children of Israel live in booths when I took them out of the land of Egypt. I am the L-rd, your G-d. – *Leviticus 23:42-43*

OBSERVANCE: Eat all your meals in the sukkah hut and otherwise regard it as your home.

Take the Four Kinds: a) an etrog (citron), b) a **lulav** (palm frond), c) three **hadassim** (myrtle twigs), and d) two **aravot** (willow twigs). On each day of the festival (besides Shabbat), we recite a blessing over them, bringing them together in our hands as we wave them in all six directions: right, left, forward, up, down and backward. Taking the Four Kinds are also known as **"Shaking the Lulav."** For complete directions and instructions visit www.JewishNewYear.com.

BUY: You could get your very own Lulav and Etrog Set and have it shipped to your door, prices start at only \$45 at www. TheRabbiShop.com.

DO IT YOURSELF: If you're handy you could build your own sukkah, if not, you could buy a pop-up sukkah, so visit www.TheRabbiShop.com and search keyword "sukkah."

DEFINITION: Chol Hamoed (literally, "the weekday of the holiday") refers to the "intermediate period" of the festivals (Tishrei 17-20). We eat in the sukkah, shake the Lulay, drink wine and rejoice, and but work is permitted.

🗐 DEFINITION: Hoshana Rabbah

Great Salvation (Tishrei 21) is the seventh day of Sukkot is called and it closes the period of Divine judgment that begun on Rosh Hashanah. On this day we encircle the bimah (synagogue reading table) seven times while holding the Four Kinds, it's also traditional to take a bundle of five willow branches and beat them against the ground five times. (See Kehot's Siddur— Annotated Edition page 368 for complete instructions).

Shemini Atzeret

DEFINITION: Shemini Atzeret, literally The Eighth (Day) of Restriction (Tishrei 22-23), is a biblical festival that comes right after the seven days of sukkot, that's how it got its name "The Eighth Day."

GEBIBLICAL VERSE: "[For] a seven day period, you shall bring a fire offering to the L-rd. On the eighth day, it shall be a holy occasion for you, and you shall bring a fire offering to the L-rd. It is a [day of] restriction. You shall not perform any work of labor."–Leviticus 23:36

[G-d says to Israel,] "I have detained you [to remain] with Me." This is analogous to a king who invited his sons to feast with him for a certain number of days, and when the time came for them to leave, he said: "My sons! Your separation from me is so difficult, please, stay with me just one more day!" – *Rashi's commentary ad loc*

JOY: This holiday is characterized by utterly **unbridled joy**, which surpasses even the joy of Sukkot.

ISRAEL VS. DIASPORA: In the Diaspora Shemini Atzeret is a two-day holiday, the second day is known as Simchat Torah. In Israel, Shemini Atzeret is a one-day holiday (which includes Simchat Torah).

OBSERVANCE: Shemini Atzeret is observed as a biblical Holiday with candle lighting 18 minutes before sundown and a

festive meal that begins with Kidush over wine. Shemini Atzeret evening service features the seven Hakafot and dancing with the Torah similar to Simchat Torah, and the morning service features the annual prayer for rain as we officially start the rainy season in ritual prayer. The Yizkor memorial service is observed (if applicable) after the Torah reading. It's not sukkot, so no need for shaking the lulay, but many have the custom to still eat and drink in the sukkah without making the special blessing upon the sukkah.

CUSTOM: Sometime before sundown, it is customary to go into the sukkah, have a bite to eat, and "bid farewell" to its holy shade. As the sun sets and Simchat Torah begins we no longer use the sukkah, all eating and drinking returns to our homes.

Simchat Torah

DEFINITION: Simchat Torah means the "The Joy of the Torah." The most joyous occasion as we celebrate our Divine inheritance and our intrinsic inner connection to the Torah.

OBSERVANCE: Simchat Torah features the hakafot, held on both the eve and the morning of Simchat Torah, in which we march and dance with the Torah scrolls seven times around the reading table in the synagogue. We won't be celebrating by studying the Torah, rather, we will be dancing with the Torah while it is closed. Showing that the joy is from our inner supra-rational essential connection to the Torah.

CUSTOM: Children dance with Simchat Torah flags. The custom is to eat stuffed cabbage on Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah.

BUY: Find the perfect Simchat Torah dancing partner on www.TheRabbiShop. com. Choose from plush Torah scrolls to decorative Simchat Torah flags.



We all start out in life with a love for sugar and candies. As we mature, some of us begin to appreciate things like a New York sour pickle, fermented bitter ale, or a fine scotch aged in wooden casks. And this taste change is for good reason.

Scientifically, a young brain needs glucose, and sweets provide the quick and easy energy that all kids need. As we age, our diets must broaden and eventually many adults acquire a taste for the burn of a good whiskey.

In the Kabbalah sugar and sweets allude to your natural

effortless talents and the blessings that come to us as gifts. On the other hand, sour foods, or whiskey, would refer to our struggles and effort in overcoming challenges. Why is this so important?

Well, first a little background on the spiritual significance of black-pepper steak and chocolate souffle dessert. *The*

Oxford Journal of Clinical Nutrition actually has a clinical term for why you ask to see the dessert menu right after consuming a large meal. It's called "sensory-specific satiety." The expert Dietician Susan M. Kleiner, R.D., Ph.D. sums it up like this: "Basically, your "salty" stomach can be stuffed to the brim, but if your "sweet" stomach has yet to be fed, then yeah, there's plenty of room for dessert."

As Jews, we already knew this. In fact, hundreds of years ago, this is what the sages saw in the words of Isaac in Genesis 27:4. "And make for me "tasty foods" as I like... in order that my soul will bless you." The Kabbalah teaches us that the righteous Isaac is a reflection of the Divine, and it's quite telling that Isaac is asking for "tasty foods" both "salty" and "sweet." The kabbalists understand this to be a clear message to each of us that G-d's perfect meal is both "salty" and "sweet." Is there a prayer you read very well and yet another you struggle with? Is there a mitzvah that's easy for you and yet another that you struggle with? Think of it as a "Divine sensoryspecific satiety." The Creator seeks both your effortless talents and your struggles. G-d sees beauty in both your sweet perfections and in your burning imperfections.

For me, this idea helps me cope with the fact that my life is not a bowl of cherries. Most people I speak with consider obstacles and struggles a major part of thier lives. Don't we all struggle a bit with either relationships, finances or spirituality?

> If you identify with struggling, then you're in the "salty" group. If, although not common, you easily breeze through life without any challenges then you are in the "sweet" group, and you should not be reading this.

Ironically, Yom Kippur is a great time to discuss the Kabbalah of whiskey,

as Yom Kippur marks the day that G-d forgave the Jews, and we overcame a crisis in our Divine relationship. The story of the Golden Calf is not a sweet story, as our momentary crisis of faith led Moses to smash the first tablets. However, it was the catalyst for what would transpire forty days later, on the 10th of Tishrei, the original Yom Kippur. After days of prayer, Moses secured our forgiveness and received the new, unbroken, perfect tablets. So we have a crisis of faith, broken tablets and new perfect tablets. Here comes the important part: Moses is commanded to put *both* the broken tables and the perfect tablets in the Ark. G-d's wants both "salty" and "sweet."

So the next time you sip a shot of whiskey, remember that success is sweet, but the burn hard work is sweeter.

>>Rachel Sherman is a writer and reader. She lives in NYC with her husband and enjoys a good whiskey every now and then.

G-D SEES BEAUTY IN BOTH YOUR SWEET PERFECTIONS AND IN YOUR BURNING IMPERFECTIONS.

10 MITZVOT that changed the world

1. LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES

Women and girls (age 3 and up) are encouraged to light candles every Friday afternoon, 18 minutes before sunset, in honor of the Shabbat, and before Festivals.

2. TEFILLIN

Men (age 13 and up) are encouraged to wear the Tefillin every morning excluding Shabbat and Festivals. Tefillin are black leather boxes containing small parchment scrolls of selected portions from the Torah, in which the fundamentals of the Jewish faith are inscribed.

6. A HOME FILLED WITH HOLY BOOKS

Furnish your home with as many holy books as possible. At the very least, get a hold of a Chumash (Bible), Psalms, and a Prayer Book.

3. MEZUZAH

Every Jewish home should have a mezuzah on its doorposts. The mezuzah contains the Shema and is a sign that the home is sanctified for G-d and enjoys His protection.

4. TORAH

Study a portion of Torah daily. Even a few lines contain the infinite wisdom and will of G-d.

A mitzvah is one of the 613 Divine instructions contained in the Torah. The word also means connection: a deed that connects the human being who performs it with G-d, who commanded it.

A unique connection between man and G-d, a bridge between Creator and creation, a mitzvah is a deed of cosmic significance and infinite value unto itself.

Citing Maimonides, the Rebbe repeated time and again: a single person performing a single mitzvah could be the deed that tips the scales and brings redemption to the entire world and all of creation.

So the Rebbe issued a call to every Jew: Even if you are not fully committed to a Torah life, do something. Begin with a mitzvah — any mitzvah; its value will not be diminished by the fact that there are others which you are not prepared to do.

The Rebbe also suggested ten possible

"gateway mitzvot" — precepts which, because of their centrality to the Torah's guide to life, are ideally suited for a first experience of the mitzvah connection.

This year Chabad is celebrating 60 years since the start of the mitzvah campaigns in 1958. Although anytime is a great time for a mitzvah why not make this year a special year and do an extra mitzvah! Contact your local Chabad for ideas and suggestions. **Read more at www.Chabad.org**

7. KASHRUT

Eating is one of the basics of life. Shouldn't it be done with intelligence? For a healthy and sound soul, eat only kosher foods,

for when you eat differently, your Judaism is not just metaphysical, but part and parcel of your very being.

8. LOVE YOUR FELLOW

"Love your fellow as youself," said the great Jewish sage Rabbi Akiva, is a most basic principle in the Torah. Reaching out to your fellow Jew with patience, love, concern and unity is among the greatest mitzvot a Jew can do.

9. EDUCATION

Every Jewish boy and girl should receive a Jewish education. Teach your children everything you know about your faith, and provide them with a quality Jewish education — you will be ensuring Jewish integrity, Jewish identity and a Jewish future.

10. FAMILY PURITY

Observance of the Jewish marital laws allows you to make the most of your marriage, bringing you and your spouse to new, undiscovered depths of intimacy and sacredness in your relationship.

5. TZEDAKAH

Give charity daily. When you give to the needy, you are serving as G-d's emissary to provide for His creations. The home is a classroom, and keeping

a"pushkah" (charity box) in your home and contributing a coin to it every day — will teach you and your children the noble value of regular giving.



CHABAD IS INCLUSION

At Chabad we are committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming community both spiritually and physically. If you require an accommodation to participate, or would like to get involved please let us know!



For more information on Jewish Inclusion please visit: **www.Chabad.org/Inclusion**, and for local accommodations or support please contact us at **701-404-RCII**or email **info@RCII.org**

Know Your **Jewish Rights**

By Attorney Melissa Carr

School days and homework can be complex especially if your child is in a public school and the teacher thinks Yom Kippur is a great for a math test. So, we hired an attorney to help you navigate school rules and the Jewish High Holidays. You're welcome.

It was my second Back-to-School-Night ever. You know that night where you meet your kid's new teacher, get the scoop on homework and mutually pledge to be partners in your child's academic year? My oldest was beginning first grade in public school. His teacher was new and nervous. She kept close to the script until she asked for a show of hands of who was Jewish. The request came out of the clear blue sky. I stirred in my seat. She went on to explain that, "The Jewish Holy Days are coming and I want to see who will be missing school those days." Hmm...maybe well-intentioned, but what about all the assumptions she was making?

When I approached the new teacher after her presentation I wondered: 1. Did she know what her responsibilities were toward students who were absent for religious observance; and 2. Did the other parents know what their responsibilities were to the teacher regarding taking students out of school for religious observance?

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE AN ACCOMMODATION FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

K-12 public schools generally have a legal obligation to accommodate students who observe the High Holidays. The Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment of the US Constitution and the California Constitution and specifically the Education Code require the schools to allow students time off from school without penalty for observance of the High Holidays. This means that in addition to permitting a student



to be absent, a school must give a reasonable amount of time for the student to make up any missed assignments or tests.

Private K-12 schools generally are not legally obligated to provide students with religious accommodations for observance of the High Holidays. Certain state or local laws prohibiting religious discrimination may cover private schools and require them to provide an accommodation for the High Holidays. Furthermore, parents should closely review school policies and handbooks. When a private school's policies affirm equality of opportunity, prohibit discrimination, or allow for religious accommodations, the school may be obligated to provide a student with an accommodation.

FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY TO REQUEST AN ACCOMMODATION FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

Families should communicate with teachers on a regular basis and for sure before a student is absent for the High Holidays.

The younger the student, the more they require an advocate to request an accommodation for the High Holidays. As students advance through the grades, they should be empowered to communicate the need for an accommodation. A request for an accommodation should be made well in advance of the High Holidays. If the holidays fall close to the start of school, communicate with the school administrators during the summer break and then again at the beginning of the semester. Advanced notice helps the school plan to ensure that important assignments, tests or events are not calendared on the High Holidays.

Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday, September 9 at Sundown and ends on Tuesday, September 11 at Sundown.

Yom Kippur begins Tuesday, September 18 at Sundown and ends on Wednesday, September 19 at Sundown.



תּוֹרָה צִוָה לְנוּ מֹשֶׁה מוֹרָשָׁה קְהִלַת יַעֲקֹב

"The Torah that Moses commanded us is the heritage of the congregation of Jacob."



"It is within your close reach to follow the Torah in speech, feeling and deed."

-Deuteronomy 30:14



True Monotheism

means that G-d is the ultimate power source for existence and therefore an active "hands-on" Creator making everything that happens to you, or the world at large, Divine Providence.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל ה׳ אֶלֹקֵינוּ ה׳ אֶחָד

"Hear O Israel, G-d is our L-rd, G-d is One."

-Deuteronomy 6:4

G-d's rooting for you!

וְהָנֵה ה' נִצְב עָלָיו וּמְלֹא כָל הָאָרֶץ כּבוֹדוֹ וּמַבִּיט עָלָיו וּבוֹחֵן כְּלָיוֹת וָלֵב אִם עוֹבְדוֹ כָּרָאוּי

"G-d stands over him, and the whole earth is full of His glory and He searches his mind and heart [to see] if he is serving Him as is fitting."

-Tanya ch. 41



You'll love this one:

וְאָהַבְתָּ לְרֵעַךְ כָּמוֹךְ - רַבִּי עַקִיבָא אוֹמֵר זֶה כְּלָל גָדוֹל בַּתּוֹרָה

"Rabbi Akiva says: 'you should love your fellow as yourself', is a basic principle of the Torah."

-Leviticus 19:18, Midrash

Only hard work works!

יָגַעְתִּי וְלֹא מָצָאתִי אַל תַּאַמִין לא יָגַעְתִי וּמָצָאתִי אַל תַּאַמִין יָגַעְתִי וּמָצָאתִי תַּאַמִין

"If someone says: 'I have worked hard but I have not been successful,' don't believe him. If someone says: 'I have not worked hard and I have been successful,' don't believe him. If someone says: 'I have worked hard and I have been successful,' believe him!"

-Talmud Megillah 6b



The Rebbe hand-selected these 12 passages containing

You're free!

בְּכָל דוֹד וָדוֹר חַיָיב אָדָם לִרְאוֹת אֶת עַצְמוֹ כְּאָלוּ הוּא יָצָא מִמִצְרָיִם

"In every generation one must look upon himself as if he personally had gone out of Egypt."

-Talmud Pesachim 116b





כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל יֵשׁ לָהֶם חֵלֶק לְעוֹלָם הַבָּא שֶׁנֶאֱמַר וְעַמֵךְ כּוּלָם צַדִיקִים לְעוֹלָם יִירְשׁוּ אָרֶץ נֵצֶר מַטָעַי מַעֲשֵׂה יָדַי לִהְתִפָּאֵר

"All Israel have share in the World to Come, as it is stated: 'And Your people are all righteous.' They shall inherit the land forever. They are the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, in which I take pride.'"

-Talmud Sanhedrin 90a



Who's the boss?

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֶלֹקִים אֵת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ

"In the beginning G-d created the heavens and the earth."

-Genesis 1:1

Your True Goal

וְזֶה כָּל הָאָדָם וְתַכְלִית בְּרִיאָתוֹ וּבְרִיאַת כָּל הָעוֹלָמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים וְתַחְתּוֹנִים לִהְיוֹת לוֹ דִירָה זוֹ בִּתַּחָתּוֹנִים

"The purpose of the creation of every Jew and of all the worlds is to make a dwelling place for G-d in this world."

-Tanya ch. 33

On Jewish Education וְשִׁנַנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךְ וְדַבַּרְתָ בָּם בְּשִׁבְתְך בְּבֵיתֶך וּבְלֶכְתְך בַדֶרֶך וּבְשָׁכְבְּך וּבְקוּמֶך

"And you shall teach the Torah to your children and you should speak about it when you are at home and when you travel, before you lie down to sleep and when you wake up."

-Deuteronomy 6:7

Be Happy!

יִשְׂמַח יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעוֹשָׂיו פֵּירוּש שֶׁכָּל מִי שֶׁהוּא מְזֶרַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יֵשׁ לוֹ לִשְׂמוֹחַ בְּשִׂמְחַת ה' אַשֶׁר שָׂשׂ וְשָׂמֵחַ בְּדִירָתוֹ בְּתַּחְתּוֹנִים

"The Jews should rejoice in their Maker. Every Jew should share in G-d's joy, who rejoices and is happy in His dwelling in this world."

-Tanya ch. 33

Worth Spreading

fundamental Jewish ideas and we think you should definitely know about them.

The Day I Met My Brother

When our tour guide, Gadi, rolled down the window and addressed the security guard as "*achi* my brother," I was surprised that he just happened to have a brother working at the Masada parking lot, particularly as his "brother" responded with a Russian accent and did not say much more then "*yashar*, *yashar*—keep going straight!" I soon learned that everyone Gadi addressed was "*achi*" and that I was in a country inhabited by a very large family.

I learned more about this family at Tel Aviv's "Dialogue in the Dark" museum, where visitors experience what it's like to operate with zero vision. We were he guided from one pitch black room to al another by the calm and encouraging instructions of Meir, whom we met only through his voice. He taught us how

to navigate our way through touch and listening, even how to order a drink and pay for it. Only at the end of the tour did Meir surprise us with the completely unexpected fact that he himself was blind from birth.

As we had our drinks, I overheard the receptionist come in and tell Meir in Hebrew that his ride to Jerusalem was leaving and that if he missed it he'd have to take a bus. Meir told her he had to stay because he had promised us some time to converse with him. The receptionist then asked us in English if we could give Meir a ride. Of course we agreed and had the added benefit of a mitzvah and a chance to converse at length with Meir.

After we dropped him off at his apartment building, my wife remarked that such an experience would be highly unlikely at a California or New York museum. But if your brother is heading to Jerusalem, it's only natural to ask for a "tremp."

Then there was the late Friday afternoon when I realized

we had run out of milk for the baby. I rushed out to Emek Refaim to buy some but all the markets were already closed for Shabbat. I finally found one cafe still open but they didn't sell milk. The proprietor saw I was desperate and offered to sell me a bottle from his own stash. I proffered a large bill for which he didn't have change, so I said, "Take the money and I'll come back after Shabbat for the change." To which he countered: "Keep the money, and pay me after Shabbat." This man had never met me before and, at least su-

perficially, we seemed very different, what

with his bare head and my large kipah and Chassidic beard. Apparently, brothers don't always look alike.

My last "*achi*" experience was very emotional. A terrorist had killed four soldiers in Jerusalem. My brother Chaim

decided to take our extended family, in Israel for my sister's wedding, to visit the parents of one of the soldiers, Erez Orbach H"yd. A day before the wedding, we showed up at Erez's home. His parents were deeply moved by our visit and began telling us all about their son. About how he had originally been rejected by the army because of a rare condition and how he had fought to be accepted. About how much Erez cared and did for others, helping fellow students study for their tests late into the night, refusing to go to sleep until he was sure they understood the material. They told us how moved they were that "complete strangers" from California had come with all their children, along with the bride on the day before her wedding, to visit them in their time of sorrow.

As we bid farewell, Erez's father embraced Chaim, and choking back tears said simply, "*Todah, achi...*" • >>Rabbi Yossi Marcus is the director of Chabad of the North Peninsula and editor of the *Kehot* editions of Psalms, *Haggadah*, and *Pirkei Avot*.

I was surprised that he just happened to have a brother working at the Masada parking lot.

{ HOLIDAY SERVICES & CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES }

ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018 Light Candles at: 0:00 pm Say Blessings 1 & 5 Evening Services: 0:00 pm Community Dinner: 0:00 pm

Monday, Sept. 10, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Shofar Sounding: 0:00 am Tashlich Service: 0:00 pm Evening Services: 0:00 pm Community Dinner: 0:00 pm Light Candles* after: 0:00 pm Say Blessings 1 & 5

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Shofar Sounding: 0:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Holiday Ends at 0:00 pm

FAST OF GEDALYA

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018 Fast Begins: 0:00 am Fast Ends at: 0:00 pm Learn more @ chabad.org/TzomGedaliah

SHABBAT SHUVA

Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 Light Candles at 0:00 pm Say Blessing 3 Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Shabbat Ends at 0:00 pm

YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018 Kaparot: 0:00 am

Morning Services: 0:00 am Afternoon Service: 0:00 pm Light Candles at: 0:00 pm *Say Blessings 2 & 5* Fast Begins at: 0:00 pm Kol Nidrei Services: 0:00 pm

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018

Morning Services: 0:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service: 00:00 am Afternoon Service: 0:00 pm Neilah Closing Service: 0:00 pm Fast Ends at: 0:00 pm *Followed by light refreshments*

SHABBAT Friday, Sept. 21, 2018 Light Candles* at 0:00 pm

Say Blessing 3 Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018

Morning Services: 0:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Shabbat Ends at 0:00 pm

SUKKOT

To purchase a Sukkah or a Lulav and Etrog set, please call 123-456-7890. Sunday, Sept. 23, 2018

Light Candles at: 0:00 pm Say Blessings 4 & 5 Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Monday, Sept. 24, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Light Candles^{*} after: 0:00 pm Say Blessings 4 & 5 Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am

Evening Services: 0:00 pm Holiday Ends at 0:00 pm Shabbat Chol Hamoed Friday, Sept. 28, 2018

Light Candles at 0:00 pm Say Blessing 3 Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Shabbat Ends at 0:00 pm

HOSHANA RABBAH

Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am

SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018 Light Candles at 0:00 pm Say Blessings 4 & 5 Evening Services: 0:00 pm

Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Monday, Oct. 1, 2018 Morning Services: 0:00 am Yizkor Memorial Service: 00:00 am Evening Services: 0:00 pm Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Light Candles* after: 0:00 pm

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018

Say Blessings 4 & 5

Morning Services: 0:00 am Followed by Kiddush & Hakafot Evening Services: 0:00 pm Holiday Ends at 0:00 pm

{ BLESSINGS }

BLESSING #1

בּרוּה אַתָּה ה', אֱ-לֹקֵינוּ מֶלֶה הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר מָהֲשָׁנוּ בְּמַצְוֹתֶיו, וְצַוָּנוּ לְהַרְלִיק וֵר שֶׁל יוֹם הַזְּבָרוֹן.

Baruch Atah Ado-noi, Elo-hay-nu Melech Ha-olam, Asher Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-tav, Ve-tzi-vanu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Yom Ha-zi-ka-ron.

BLESSING #2

בָּרוּד אַתָּה ה', אֱ-לֹקִינוּ מֶלֶד הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קַדְשְׁנוּ בִּמְצִוֹתֵיו, וְצַוָנוּ לְהַדְלִיק וֵר שֶׁל יוֹם הַכִּבְּרִים.

Baruch Atah Ado-noi, Elo-hay-nu Melech Ha-olam, Asher Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-tav, Ve-tzi-vanu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Yom Ha-ki-pu-rim.

BLESSING #3

בָּרוּהַ אַתָּה ה', אֵ-לֹקִינוּ מֶלֶהְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר מִדְשְׁנוּ בְּמַצְוֹתְיו, וְצַנְנוּ לְהַדְלִיק וֵר שֶׁל שֵׁבָּת לֶדֶש.

Baruch Atah Ado-noi, Elo-hay-nu Melech Ha-olam, Asher Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-tav, Ve-tzi-vanu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Shabbat Kodesh.

BLESSING #4

בָּרוּהַ אַתָּה ה', אֵ-לֹקֵינוּ טֶלֶה הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קַדְשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו, וְצְנָנוּ לְהַדְלִיק וֵר שֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב.

Baruch Atah Ado-noi, Elo-hay-nu Melech Ha-olam, Asher Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-tav, Ve-tzi-vanu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Yom Tov.

BLESSING #5

בָּרוּך אַתָּה ה׳, אֱ-לֹקֵינוּ מֶלֶך הָעוֹלָם, בַּרוּד אַתָּה ה׳, אַ-לֹקֵינוּ מָלֶד הָעוֹלָם,

שֶׁהֶחֱיָנְוּ וְקִוְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּישָׁנוּ לְזְמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Ado-noi, Elo-hay-nu Melech Ha-olam, She-heh-chi-yah-nu Ve-ki-ye-mahnu Ve-hi-gi-ahnu Liz-man Ha-zeh.

* Light only from a pre-existing flame

Note: For Candle lighting times in other areas, visit ChabadofYourtown.com/times.

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For a full schedule of services and programs please see inside back cover. There is NO CHARGE for seats; your donation is greatly appreciated. Advance reservations are suggested.

> For more info and reservations: 123.456.7890 info@chabad.com www.chabad.com