



This Week at Chabad Lubavitch of Maine



CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES
FOR
PORTLAND:

Friday, Oct. 15 5:39 pm

Torah Portion: [Lech-Lecha](#)

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Message from the Rabbi

Dear Friends,

This week marks an obscure holiday on the Jewish calendar, the 7th of Cheshvan. It is the day that the daily recitation of the prayer for rain starts in Israel. Since the economy of Israel, especially in ancient times, depended on rain to enable the land to prosper and produce, this is not an insignificant prayer.

Ideally this prayer should have begun several weeks earlier, right after the holiday of Sukkot. But since the last pilgrims to Jerusalem for the holiday would not arrive home until the 7th of Cheshvan, the prayer for rain was postponed to allow them to reach home safely and not be caught in any heavy rainstorms.

Imagine an entire nation waiting all summer for rain so that the crops can be watered, but they wait an additional two weeks just so that the stragglers, those living in the most distant cities, would be able to travel comfortably.

An important lesson in how we must care for every single individual, sometimes even at the expense of the community at large. And of course, the reward for this consideration for our fellow Jews, we are blessed with an abundance of rain and sustenance for ourselves and our families.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Wilansky



Torah Studies



THE BIBLICAL STORY AND ITS KABBALISTIC INTERPRETATION

In this week's Haftorah, we read a fascinating story about an evil king, a poor widow, and children who are almost taken into slavery. What's the deeper meaning? Kabbalah has the answer.



Sunday, 10/17



chabadofmaine.com/zoom

JEWISH INSIGHTS

A TASTE OF THE REBBE'S TEACHINGS



PARSHAT VAYERA

Join Rabbi Levi for the weekly Torah Studies on Sunday, 10/17, at 2:00 pm.

chabadofmaine.com/zoom

Can You Change an



Antisemite's Heart?

The graphic features a large stylized 'W' composed of various images, possibly from history or news, set against a white background. Below the 'W' is the title **OUTSMARTING ANTISEMITISM** in bold capital letters. A subtitle below it reads: "A four-part course on the absurdity of antisemitism and how to beat it with purpose, positivity, and pride". To the right, a dark rectangular box contains the text: **Tuesday, November 2**, **@ 6:30pm**, **First class - free trial**. Below this, a section titled **Your favorite Jewish Foods** lists *Challah, Babka, Rugelach, Knishes*. At the bottom right of the dark box is a call-to-action: **RSVP and more info** with the website www.chabadofmaine.com/antisemitism.

In a world where so many are burned out from trying to outshout or hide from antisemitism , now is the time we learn how to outsmart it!

Join us for a special standalone trial JLI Class and enjoy FANTASTIC traditional homemade Jewish food on Wednesday, November 2nd at 6:30PM.

RSVP's are required and space is limited, so please click the link to register today.

chabadofmaine.com/antisemitism



Service Times

Thursday

7:00 am

Friday night

6:00 pm

Shabbat day

10:30 am

Kiddush and refreshments

12:30 pm



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Join in and become a partner in the work we do!

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This Week @ www.ChabadofMaine.c om

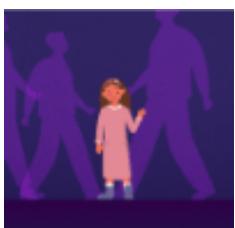


PARSHAH

Was Abraham Hungry for Riches?

It is surprising to say that Abraham was concerned about his reward, when Maimonides singles out Abraham as a paragon of serving Gd purely out of love.

[More...](#)



BY THE NUMBERS

9 Facts about Odel, the Baal Shem Tov's Daughter

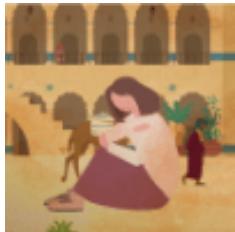
Learn about the Baal Shem Tov's only daughter, Udel, who plays a unique role in early Chassidic history.



ESSAY

Three Are Better Than One

The idea of harmony is not to give up our identity for the sake of the collective. The ideal is that each of us should achieve maximal individuality, developing all our unique strengths and talents, while coming to appreciate and value each other for what we are.

[More...](#)

STORY

The Story of Sulika

A beautiful maiden accused of having converted to Islam and wanting to return to Judaism, a crime punishable by death under Islamic law.

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Parshah in a Nutshell

Parshat Lech-Lecha

Gd speaks to **Abram**, commanding him, **Go** from your land, from your birthplace and from your fathers house, to the land which I will show you. There, Gd says, he will be made into a great **nation**. Abram and his wife, **Sarai**, accompanied by his nephew **Lot**, journey to the land of Canaan, where Abram builds an altar and continues to spread the message of a **one Gd**.

A famine forces the first Jew to depart for **Egypt**, where beautiful Sarai is taken to Pharaohs palace; Abram escapes death because they present themselves as **brother and sister**. A plague prevents the Egyptian king from touching her, and convinces him to return her to Abram and to compensate the brother-revealed-as-husband with gold, silver and **cattle**.

Back in the land of Canaan, Lot separates from Abram and settles in the evil city of **Sodom**, where he falls captive when the mighty armies of **Chedorlaomer** and his three allies conquer the five cities of the Sodom Valley. Abram sets out with a small band to

rescue his nephew, defeats the four kings, and is blessed by **Malki-Zedek** the king of Salem (Jerusalem).

Gd seals the **Covenant Between the Parts** with Abram, in which the exile and persecution (*galut*) of the people of Israel is foretold, and the **Holy Land** is bequeathed to them as their eternal heritage.

Still childless ten years after their arrival in the Land, Sarai tells Abram to marry her maidservant **Hagar**. Hagar conceives, becomes insolent toward her mistress, and then flees when Saraitreats her harshly; an angel convinces her to return, and tells her that her son will father a populous nation. **Ishmael** is born in Abrams eighty-sixth year.

Thirteen years later, **Gd changes Abrams name to Abraham** (father of multitudes), and Sarais to **Sarah** (princess), and promises that a son will be born to them; from this child, whom they should call **Isaac** (will laugh), will stem the great nation with which Gd will establish His special bond. Abraham is commanded to **circumcise** himself and his descendants as a sign of the covenant between Me and you. Abraham immediately complies, circumcising himself and all the males of his household.



Chabad World News



EUROPE

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VIDEO

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

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Remote Northern Australia

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