

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- **Wednesday-Thursday, March 5-6:** Annual Campaign!
- **Friday, March 7:** Friday Winter Schedule Ends
- **Thursday, March 13:** Taanis Esther - 3:15 Dismissal
- **Friday, March 14:** Purim - No School
- **Wednesday- Thursday, March 19-20:** Simcha Retreat - details coming soon

MAZAL TOVS:

- Mazal Tov to Rabbi Doron (Temima Co-President) and Mrs. Rebekah Silverman (12th grade Health teacher) and family on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Yaakov Moshe, this Shabbos. Mazal Tov to Yakira Silverman, 11th Grade.
- Mazal Tov to the Spotts family on the upcoming wedding of their son Yosef to Esti Schottenstein. Mazal Tov to Temima Spotts, 11th Grade.
- Yashar Koach to students for all the merit points earned during the 1st semester. Enjoy your prizes!

ALL THE HOSTAGES

497

ARE IN OUR HEARTS & TEFILOS.

PLEASE CONSIDER SAYING PEREK 140 OF TEHILLIM AS A ZECHUS FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS.

SUPPORT TEMIMA:

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
MARCH 5 & 6, 2025

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From the Desk of Rabbi Avraham Shapiro



At the conclusion of this week's Parsha, Yisro, the Torah explains how the Mizbe'ach HaAdama, the Sacrificial Altar of the Bais HaMikdash, is to be constructed. At the beginning of next week's Parsha, Mishpatim, there is a long list of laws between man and his fellow man which begins immediately after the conclusion of the laws about making the Mizbe'ach.

Rashi quotes Chazal who explain that these two sections of the Torah are purposefully placed one after the other in order to teach us that the Sanhedrin (Am Yisrael's Supreme court), must be built on the Temple Mount near the Mizbe'ach.

At first glance one might ask, "If the Mizbe'ach has a spiritual function and the Sanhedrin deals with legal issues, why do they need to be so close to each other?" The two subjects, spirituality and legality, do not intuitively seem to go together. From an American constitutional point of view it seems like the proximity of the Sanhedrin to the Mizbe'ach goes contrary to the concept of the separation of Church and State.

The Sifsei Chachamim explains that there is a profound connection between the Mizbe'ach and the Sanhedrin. Simply put, the goal of both is to bring peace to the world.

The Mizbe'ach does this when sacrifices are offered to HaShem, thus helping Am Yisrael as a whole and each individual to make peace with HaShem when they have done something wrong. Similarly, the Sanhedrin's legal determinations are meant to bring peace. This is accomplished by making clear legal decisions that enable us to live with each other in harmony and according to the will of HaShem.

One might even make the case that from a Torah perspective, there should not be a separation between church and state. The founding fathers applied this principle because they wanted to ensure religious freedom. If life is run according to our Holy Torah, there is no reason to be afraid of religious persecution.

In a Torah world, the spiritual demands that HaShem makes of us and the entire world coincide with the Mitzvos He requires us to follow. There is no conflict between Mitzvos Bein Adam LeMakom and Bein Adam LeChavero.

The Jewish king, who is the political head of state, must have a Torah scroll that he takes with him wherever he goes. This is to remind him and make sure that during his reign as king his religious conduct and decisions jive with all the legal intricacies of how he runs the Jewish kingdom. Obviously, both must follow the guidelines of the Mesora.

For a Torah Jew, legality and spirituality go hand in hand. Our devotion to fulfilling the laws of the Torah enables us to bring Kedusha into the world. When we perform Mitzvos we are creating a reality that reflects the will of HaShem and thus creating a holy place to live.

Good Shabbos to All!

Rabbi Shapiro

This Week at a Glance:

TU B'SHVAT PANEL



We had the privilege of having a Tznius panel in honor of the growth that we hope to achieve during this Tu B'shvat season. Thank you to Mrs. Amy Solomon, Mrs. Chelsea Rosenstein, and Mrs. Aviva Zazulia for sharing your inspiring and relatable words with us!

TU B'SHVAT & THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL!



Thursday was a very exciting day! We celebrated Tu B'shvat and the 100th day of school! Thank you to our seniors, Talya Lewis and Sarah Estreicher for the cheerio necklace making station celebrating our 100th day of school. And Rivkah Tkatch and Miriam Cohen for setting up the Tu B'shevat fruit making contest.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

At Temima, we are always looking for more learning and professional development opportunities. Yashar Koach to the following staff members on their recent training completions:

- Mrs. Nagla and Mrs. Shmuel - Hineni Mental Health First Aid training
- Mrs Sackett - SAIS Student Support Training
- Mrs. Meth and Ms. Goldberger - Penimi Mechaneches training

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DETAILS AND WAYS TO
GET INVOLVED IN OUR
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
COMING UP ON
MARCH 5TH & 6TH!**

GOOD SHABBOS!