

WHAT'S HAPPENING

— @ Chabad of Coral Springs —

Parshat
Lech Lecha

Mazal Tov:

Avraham and Esther Zago on the
birth of a baby boy. May they merit in good health
to bring him into the Bris of Avraham Avinu & raise
him to Torah, Chuppah & Maasim Tovim.



Zecharia & Rivka Phillips on the
birth of a baby girl. May they merit in good health to
raise her to Torah, Chuppah & Maasim Tovim.



Davening Times & Information

Friday Candle Lighting: 6:28 p.m.

Shabbat Ends: 7:20 p.m.

Tzeit Hakochavim (Friday): 7:10 p.m.

Shabbat: 8:15 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Shabbat Mincha: 6:25 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays: 6:45 a.m., 7:45 a.m. & 8:45 a.m.

Mincha & Ma'ariv: 6:35 p.m.

Ma'ariv, 2nd Minyan: 9:30 p.m.

10/25 Earliest Tallis & Tefillin: 6:44 a.m.

Latest time for Shma: 10:13 a.m.

10/30 Earliest Tallis & Tefillin: 6:46 a.m.

Latest time for Shma: 10:14 a.m.



TIMELESS TORAH

By: Rabbi Yossie Denburg

SODOM COMES to PARIS

Though the Paris protests originally railed against poor school conditions, radical far left and Free Palestinian groups exploited and expanded them into a mass movement of mayhem. Over 1,000 high schools and universities were closed, properties looted, and cars burned. In Limoges, the historic town hall (constructed in 1883) was set ablaze.

The French government, which sees itself as the last protector against all downsides in life, has painted itself into an inevitable progressive corner. Now with excessive spending and unsustainable debt, it's a battle of all-against-all in a zero-sum game where the only way to hold onto your share of the handouts is to riot more intensely than others.

The Left's Holy Grail of more government money and no tradeoffs should be a warning to Americans. Paris today, might be Washington tomorrow. France did everything our progressive politicians promise. Universal health care, free college, generous welfare, strong unions, high taxes on the rich, etc. On paper, it's a dream. They promise protection, but the result is stagnation. They promise to tax the rich (think California, New York, Illinois) and create great jobs. The result, the rich relocate and take their jobs with them.

Yet, America has hope. All it needs is to look at its own **Abrahamic** origins. Our patriarch is not just a historical figure; he is an archetype of the ultimate **giver**. Conversely, the rioters are **takers**. This highlights two fundamentally opposing worldviews on society. One takes responsibility for others, the other collects grievances. One is driven by faith, the other by frustration. One builds tents to invite and feed others, the other tears down buildings and burns the other out. One prioritizes the recipient's dignity, the other esteems selfish ego. One brings order, the other sows anarchy. One builds respect for all, the other bashes basic human dignity.

Our 'taker' mentality is also found in the Bible with Sodom's famous inhospitality. How did they get this way? Were they suffering from being wronged? The exact opposite. "*Sodom was corrupted on account of the good lavished upon them.*" (Sanhedrin 109a) Sodom's story appears against the background of Abraham. Indeed, they are his antithesis. Note: they were not outright thieves (as was the generation of the Flood). Instead, they demanded that their lawless philosophy be condoned by society.

The burning of Paris ought to serve as an urgent call for us to reclaim our Abrahamic mission statement based on this enigmatic Midrash: A man saw a

palace in flames. He wondered: *"Has the palace no owner?"* So too Abraham upon confronting a raging world asked, *"Does the world lack a ruler?"*

Abraham's bewilderment is understood. Like a grandiose palace our universe is brilliantly structured. But it's in flames and full of thugs, rioters, and killers demolishing the palace, turning our world into an ugly battlefield of untold pain. So, Abraham cries: *Where's the owner? Why does G-d allow man to destroy His palace? Could He have made a world only to abandon it? Would anyone create a masterpiece and then desert it?*

G-d replied: *"I'm the owner, Sovereign of the universe."* Yet He does not attempt to extinguish the flames. Instead, He declares, *"I am here, but where are you?"* As He said to the first man (Adam) while still in the Garden, *"Ayekah/Where are you?"* Yes, I made it, but it was you who set it on fire, and only you can put out the flames. In other words: Man asks G-d, *"Why did You abandon the world?"* and G-d asks man, *"Why did you abandon Me?"*

This is the Bible's revolution: Man, not G-d, must extinguish the immoral flames of bloodshed and restore the world to the harmonious and sacred palace it was intended to be. If we forget the exchange between Abraham and G-d, we fail to do our part in protecting G-d's palace. Civilians must demand that our governments fight back, as we did on Sept. 11.

For too long, we have succumbed to the lure of the new-fangled notion that there is no such thing as absolute evil. *"Thou shall not judge,"* has become the cherished motto of our times. We have been taught to understand the aggressor's underlying frustrations. This 'open-mindedness' now feeds the post-modern ethos of boundless tolerance.

But the refusal to take a stand will result in evil's victory. Judaism, in its impassioned attempt to turn the world into an exquisite palace, mandates absolute standards. These are defined by the Creator of all and are articulated in His manual where harming innocent people is evil. No *ifs*, *buts* or *whys*. The violent rioter may be psychologically hurting, but that never justifies wanton violent.

Nobody votes for decline. Every politician's promise sounds reasonable and compassionate. But after years of lavishing generous unearned gifts, you wake up in a country that can no longer keep its people and streets safe. We don't want to be France. When people feel that a system has systematically 'taken' their dignity and future, they repay society in kind. They become *takers*. Conversely, when you recognize G-d's abundant gifts in your life, you repay in kind and become a giver.

Decide: Do you want to be the son of Sodom or a child of Abraham?

COMMUNITY CHESSED PROJECT

TOD

Help Us Mulch the Playground!

SUNDAY MORNING

Oct 25

9 AM – 12 PM

At the shul playground

All ages welcome

Chesed hours signed

Wear a hat & bring water

**Keeping our
children safe**

Fresh mulch cushions falls and
helps prevent injuries.

No RSVP needed. Just show up!

MEN'S

**TAHARAS
HAMISHPACHA**
— REVIEW SERIES —

SUNDAYS AT 8:30 PM
WITH RABBI ZALMAN DENBURG

OCTOBER 25
י"ח תשפ"ה

LAWS OF MARCHAKOS

NOVEMBER 1
י' תשפ"ה

**PROCESS OF
BECOMING TAMER**

NOVEMBER 8
ג' תשפ"ה

**PROCESS OF
BECOMING TAHOR**

NOVEMBER 15
י' תשפ"ה

MARRIAGE CLASS
WITH DR. CITAH CHENBERG


SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

**DATES
CHANGED**

3925 N. University Dr. Coral Springs, FL 33065

CoralSpringsChabad.org 954-344-4855

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Mobile door access inactive during office hours.

