

## T'rumah / Zachor

7 b'Adar 5781 • Friday, February 19, 2021



### Shabbos Rosh Chodesh

Candle Lighting (20 min.)	5:59 PM
Mincha / Kab. Shabbos	6:00 PM
Shabbos Kollel	8:00 AM
<b>NEW Hashkama</b>	8:15 AM
Shacharis	9:00 AM
Last Shema (Gr"a)	10:07 AM
Pre-Mincha Shiur	5:15 PM
Rabbi Dov A. Wise: "Sefer Chaggai"	
Mincha	5:40 PM
Sunset	6:21 PM
Ma'ariv	6:55 PM
Shabbos ends (40 min.)	7:01 PM

### The Week of Feb. 14

	SUN	M-F
Shacharis	8:00 AM	6:30 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		6:05 PM

### School of Jewish Studies

[www.golfmanorsynagogue.org](http://www.golfmanorsynagogue.org)

- **Rabbi Travis:**  
Daf Yomi Sunday 7-8 AM  
Weekdays 6-6:30 AM
- **Rabbi Alt:**  
Derech Hashem Mondays 8:00-8:40 PM  
Hands-On Halacha—for Purim! Tuesday 8:30-9:10 PM
- **Shmuel Plotsker:**  
712-770-4945, access code 664943#  
Intro to Talmud 101 (Chagiga 5b) OFF this week  
Book Club: Redemption Unfolding Mondays 1-2 PM  
Intro to Midrash (B'reishis Rabbah) Sundays 8:45-9:45 AM  
Tanach Tuesdays (M/W) I Kings 21 7:30-8:30 PM

### Sponsors

Rabbi Dov Aharon & Anne Wise, in memory of Anne's brother, Hal Rothman, Henschel Koppel ben Nachman Yaakov, whose *yahrzeit* is this Shabbos.

### Shul Announcements

**Parshas Zachor** will be read three times—at the Hashkama minyan (not before 9:30 AM), at the main minyan (not before 10:20 AM), and an additional reading in the Main Sanctuary at 11:30 AM.

**Introducing our Anniversary Logo** celebrating 120 years! Honoring our past, building our future.

**Hashkama Minyan:** The early Shabbos morning minyan in our Social Hall will continue at 8:15 AM, now under the auspices of GMS and led by Rabbi Dovid Tzvi Meissner.

**2021 Family Hamentaschen Bake**—In-person! (With masks and distancing.) **This Sunday**, February 21, in two shifts 11 AM-noon and 12:30-1:30 PM. \$5 per family; register online: <http://www.bookwhen.com/gms>

**Purim Torah:** GMS and Machon Meir present another online Torah series, Zoom ID 606-322-3694  
• **This Sunday**, Feb. 21, 8:45 AM (online and in-person): "The Fast of Esther" (Rabbi Alt)  
• **This Monday**, Feb. 22, noon: "Purim" (Rabbi Rothman, Machon Meir)  
• **This Tuesday**, Feb. 23, noon: "Shushan Purim" (Rabbi Bar-Hayim, Machon Shilo)

### In the Community

**Mazal tov** to Binyamin & Matilda Abramov and grandparents Avi & Chagit Hagage, on the *milah* of baby Yosef Chaim.

**Mazal tov** to Rabbi Michoel & Tova Stern and family, on the birth of a boy. Shalom Zachar 9:30 PM-midnight at the Stern residence, 2432 Vera Ave. Men only, please; masks required.

**We extend our condolences** to Donna Taplits and the extended Taplits family, on the recent passing of Donald Taplits.

**Behind the Mask, Then and Now:** Purim inspiration for women, from Atara: Tues., Feb. 23, 9:30 pm: <http://bit.ly/AtaraZoom>

**B'nos Mid-Winter Break Program:** Mazal tov to all the participants! An exciting event is scheduled for next Sunday, Feb. 28. Stay tuned for details!

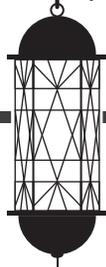
**The Eruv** was sponsored last week by Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Heinemann, in honor of everyone who made an extra contribution to the effort to purchase a new bucket truck.

**Matanos l'Evyonim:** Money to be distributed locally on Purim day can be given to Rabbi Alt (or to Rabbis Goldschmiedt, Minster, Spetner and Weinrib). Funds will be pooled together, then distributed based on need. Donations can also be made online at the Kupas Tzedakah of Cincinnati website—please indicate in the note field that the funds are for *matanos l'evyonim*: <http://kupascincinnati.org/>

**Join Team Cincinnati!** Add an extra dose of *shalom* to your relationships, with 2-minute inspirational videos. We have our own Shalom Challenge team—join for free: <https://www.cchfshalom.org/teamcincinnati>

### Refuah Sh'laima

- Bracha Leah bas Rochel Mushka (Barbara Nagler)
- Eitan Chaim ben Elisheva (Ethan Kadish)
- Gavriel ben Pesha (Gary Walsh)
- Chana Rivka bas Ethel (Juanita Weiss)
- Nesanel ben Chaya Rochel
- Tzvi Michoel ben Leah (Hirsch Wise)
- Daisy bas Lulu (Mrs. Daisy Kattan)
- Z'ev Shmuel ben Malkah Rochel
- Reuven ben Malkah
- Simcha Leib haLevi ben Devorah
- Esther Hitzel bas Gitel (Esther Deutch)
- Bunim Tzemach Aharon ben Leiba (Barry Silver)



# V'Dibartah Bam

## Living With Passion

THIS SHABBOS IS THE LAST SHABBOS BEFORE WE CELEBRATE the holiday of Purim. Haman, the villain of the Purim story, was a descendant of Amalek; we therefore read a special *maftir* this Shabbos, about the mitzvah to destroy Amalek.

...You shall wipe out the memory of Amalek from under the Heaven—do not forget! (Devarim 25:19)

What is unique about Amalek that it's the only nation that must be "wiped out?" The Jewish people have had many enemies. Why must Amalek be completely destroyed?

Rav Yitzchak Hutner *z"l* discusses the essence of Amalek in the first essay of the Purim volume of *Pachad Yitzchak*. Rav Hutner points to the prophetic statement of Bil'am:

"First of nations is Amalek, and its end will be utter destruction." (Bamidbar 24:20)

The Midrash explains Bil'am's intent: Amalek was the first nation to attack the Jewish people after the miraculous Exodus from Egypt, and Amalek will be utterly destroyed in the End of Days—unlike the other nations, who will repent and serve Hashem when He reveals Himself. Rav Hutner asks, what makes Amalek unique among all the nations of the world, that it has no part in the End of Days, without even the opportunity to repent? What makes Amalek worse than all the other idolaters, atheists, and antisemites of the world? Rav Hutner also notes that Bil'am's words are not merely poetic; there is deep meaning behind his words—so there must be a correlation between Amalek being the first to attack the Jewish people and Amalek's ultimate doom.

Rav Hutner explains that the fact that Amalek was the first to attack the Jewish people was not merely a crime; it was an expression of Amalek's *essence*.

Remember what Amalek did to you... *Asher korcha baderech*, how he met you by the way, and struck at your rear... (Devarim 25:17-18)

Rashi, in his commentary to the *maftir* of Parshas Zachor, cites the Midrash Tanchuma, which comments on the words *asher korcha baderech*. The Midrash uses an analogy, comparing Amalek to a reckless individual who jumps into a boiling hot tub; though he gets burnt, he cools it down for others. (*Korcha*, "met you," can also be translated "cooled you.") The Jewish people were that boiling hot tub. Before Amalek's attack, the Jewish nation was untouchable—who would dare attack the nation of G-d!? Amalek's actions changed that forever. They made opposing the Jewish people doable.

Rav Hutner takes this further and explores why Amalek was the first to attack the Jewish people. He cites the Midrash (Shemos Rabba 27:6), which describes Amalek as a *letz*, a cynic. A *letz* mocks even important things. He has no values; nothing is

important in his eyes. That is Amalek—even the nation of G-d, which had just exited Egypt after Hashem Himself had brought the mighty Egypt to it knees, was nothing special in the eyes of Amalek. They were unfazed, unimpressed, and willing to attack.

Rav Hutner explains that there is a fundamental difference between an idolater and a cynic, which explains the difference between the rest of the nations of the world and Amalek. An idolater answers to a higher power; he has values, but they are misplaced. A cynic answers to no one, and he has no values at all. Nothing matters to the cynic—to Amalek.

The deepest form of mockery is to take something important and turn it into a joke.

When Hashem reveals Himself at the End of Days, the truth will become clear to the entire world. All the nations of the world will redirect their worship and values to Hashem and Torah. But Amalek is hopeless. It witnessed the great Revelation and the Exodus, but it remained unchanged. Hashem's revelation at the End of Days will be no different: Even when the truth is clear, Amalek will not repent.

"First of nations is Amalek, and its end will be utter destruction." The Amaleki philosophy that "nothing matters" led Amalek to be the first to attack, and that same philosophy is why its end will be utter destruction. This is why Amalek *must* be destroyed—because it has no future; it will never take part in Hashem's purpose for Creation.

In the end of Parshas Beshalach, the Torah identifies the location of Amalek's attack: Rephidim. Our Sages teach that the name "Rephidim" alludes to the fact that the Jewish people had become weak in their Torah study—in Hebrew, "*Raphu yedeihem min HaTorah*." Rav Hutner notes that the more typical language used to express a lack of Torah study is *bittul Torah*. Why here is a different term used?

Rav Hutner explains that the shortcoming that brought on Amalek's attack was not a lack of Torah study, but the way it was done. It was *weak*, without an appreciation for the value and significance of Torah. This is what brought Amalek, who says that nothing matters.

We may not be able to fulfill the mitzvah to eradicate Amalek in the literal sense, but we can fight Amalek's philosophy. To do that, we need to be careful not to fall into the ways of a cynic, never to make light of serious matters. When we allow the opportunity to do a mitzvah to excite us, we are wiping out Amalek. When the fire of Torah burns inside of us, when we study Torah with an intensity, hanging on every word, we are wiping out Amalek. When we are passionate about strengthening our relationship with Hashem, we are wiping out Amalek.

"Do not forget!"

Good Shabbos,  
Rabbi Yosef Alt

# Purim Schedule

All minyanim will be held in the Main Sanctuary.

## Ta'anis Esther:

6:03 am — fast begins

6:16 am — earliest tallis and tefillin

6:20 am — Shacharis

5:50 pm — Mincha

7:00 pm — Ma'ariv, followed by Megillah.

Reading will not begin before 7:07.

## Purim day:

6:30 am — Shacharis & Megillah.

Megillah reading will not begin before 7:14 am.

12:51 pm — halachic midday.

When purim falls on a friday, it's ideal to begin the Purim feast before midday.

6:07 pm — candle lighting

6:10 pm — Mincha & Kabbalas Shabbos

### *Matanos l'Evyonim*—

**For local families:** See Rabbi Alt (or any shul rabbi), or donate to Kupas Tzedakah: [www.kupascincinnati.org](http://www.kupascincinnati.org)

### **For Israel:**

- Od Yosef Chai: Rabbis Boruch Berger & Tzvi Fishman.
- Yad Eliezer: Yosef Zoimen.
- Ophal Bas Zion: Moshe Kibel, 403-4602.

### **Purim learning programs for boys & men**—with stipends!

- Kollel Purim Night Learning: 9:15–10:15 PM on the Kollel campus. RSVP required: [purimnightlearningcincy@gmail.com](mailto:purimnightlearningcincy@gmail.com)
- Seder Keey'mu v'Kiblu: Before Shacharis