

PRAYER

O my soul, bless the Source of All
O my Almighty God, You are indeed very great,
Robed in glory and majesty.

*You build Your chambers amidst ethereal elements,
Making the clouds Your chariot and riding upon wings of air.*

The winds are Your emissaries;
Flaming fires Your agents.

*You cover Yourself in raiment of light,
Stretching forth the heavens as a curtain
Guiding the earth in its rounds.*

The moon You appointed to mark our times,
The Sun to set our seasons.

*You set a boundary for the waters,
Sending them into the valleys, and bounding
Between the mountains;*

You give drink to every creation in the field;
The earth is full of the fruit of Your endeavors.

*How wondrously marvelous are Your creations,
O God, with infinite wisdom did you make them all.*

(Psalm 104 selections)

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

God's delays are not God's denials.

Robert H. Schuller



October 29, 2011

ב ראש חודש חשוון תשע"ב

Parashat No'ach - Genesis 6:9-11:32 (נח)

Hertz – p 26 Stone – p 30

Maftir – Numbers 28:9-15

Hertz – p 695 Stone – p 890

Haftarah – Isaiah 66:1-24 (ישעיה)

Hertz – p 944 Stone – p 1208

Kiddush luncheon sponsored by
The Youth Committee
in honor of the
Dedication of the
Ric Markowitz Teen Lounge
and in appreciation to all those
whose support made the Lounge possible

Special cake provided by Mike & Sylvia Schwartz
In honor of their 62nd anniversary

Talmud Class with Rabbi Gordon – 4:00 PM
Minchah – 5:00 PM **Shabbat Ends** – 6:48 PM

On This Week's Torah Portion

תנ

In parsha Noah there is a restatement of principles expounded in Bereshit (Gen 1:1-6:8). The Almighty decides to start the world again. The destruction--the flood--was a form of salvation and a catalyst for a new beginning. The flood is a key indicator that the Almighty controls nature, rather than nature or human behavior controlling the Almighty. Isaiah (XLIII:8) indicates that these actions are related to the Almighty's role as Creator of the Universe.

Who was Noah and why was he selected? The limited information indicates that "he was a righteous man who was morally pure and who walked with G-d" (Gen VI:9), and that Noah willingly followed the Almighty's commands. The Almighty chooses to maintain the **covenant** with Noah. He is accompanied by his household; i.e., his three sons, Shem, Japeth, and Ham, Noah's wife, his son's wives, and animals. The animals were seven pair of each clean animal, one pair of each unclean animal, seven pair of fowl, and pairs of all insects. The Almighty will maintain those on the ark while destroying the remainder of the world. The Almighty's action was to "blot out all that I have made in seven days" (Gen 7:10). This idea is a mirror image from Bereshit where the world was created in seven days. There are differing interpretations whether the Almighty's covenant was with Noah alone or with Noah and his household. The later interpretation would seem to be an important linkage to Abraham.

When the flood subsides, the Almighty gives the rainbow as a sign of his covenant; and the rainbow is a statement of the Almighty's promise never to destroy the Earth again (Gen 9:13-15). Part of this promise is the Almighty's blessing and commandment to Noah and his family to "Be fruitful and multiply" (Gen 8:17, 9:1, and 9:7). What meanings should we attach that this instruction is given three times, and does the instruction have the same implication each time it is given?

The Torah will show that the Almighty told both Noah and Abraham that he was going to destroy the people. Abraham argued for their lives while Noah did not argue with the Almighty about the destruction (Gen VII:5). There is a substantial time period between Noah and Abraham. The parsha shows ten generations between them; i.e., Terah--Abraham's father--is a descendant of Shem. Did the different generations of Noah and Abraham have a different understanding of the covenant? Perhaps the Almighty's promises to Noah and sign of the covenant to Noah allowed Abraham to argue with and request that the Almighty keep those commitments and not destroy the people or the world.

*Shabbat Shalom,
Steven Puro*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays, 10:30-11:30 AM **Hebrew Prayerbook Reading Class** at the home of Lois Elfanbaum. Class will review the Musaf Amidah, the Torah service, and the Sh'ma. Basic Hebrew reading ability required, speed reading not necessary. RSVP to Lois, 314-576-4236.

Tuesday, November 1 **"Big Jewish Community Read"** A panel of rabbis, including Rabbi Gordon, will discuss Rabbi Jamie Korngold's book [The God Upgrade: Finding Your 21st Century Spirituality in Judaism's 5,000-Year-Old Tradition](#). 7:30 PM at the Kopolow Building; reservations required by October 31, 314-442-3720.

Sunday, November 6 **Stitch & Schmooze**, 10:00 AM

Shabbat, November 12 **Kiddush Luncheon** co-sponsored by Gloria Friedlander in honor of her birthday, and by Mauricio & Marcia Lisker in honor of Marcia's birthday

Sunday, November 13 **Travel Me Jewish Program** for Teens in grades 8-12 and their parents, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. This week's session will include developing a "Jewish family travel kit." Please RSVP to Marian if you plan to attend; for additional information, contact Ken or Cyndee Levy, Mimi Levy or Rabbi Gordon.

Motzei Shabbat, November 19 **Israel Bonds Dinner, 7:00 PM. Join us to honor our Eishet Chayil, Cyndee Levy.** Guest Speaker Dr. Jonathan Adelman: "Israel and the Mideast: Hope or Despair?" Paid reservations due by 11/4.

Monday, November 28 **Last chance to be photographed for our 2012 Membership Directory.** Photographers will be here from 2:30-9:00 PM; go on-line to www.tradcong.org to book your appointment, or call the office if you need assistance. No obligation, you'll receive a free 8"x10" portrait just for coming in.

December 2-4 **Scholar-in-Residence Program with Rabba Sara Hurwitz.** Full program information is available in our November Newsletter and in your mail this coming week.

Refuah Sh'leimah to Barry Schapiro; Shirley Langfeld

DAILY SERVICE TIMES

Sunday morning – 9:00 AM

Monday-Friday mornings – 7:00 AM

Monday-Thursday evenings – 6:30 PM (*Arvit* only)

Friday evening – 5:45 PM