was Shabbat, when he absorbed the warm atmosphere engendered by the delicious food, *zemirot* and camp spirit.

It was during one of those long summer Shabbat afternoons that the head counselor made a startling announcement. "We were just notified by the local township that they'll be turning off the electricity late this afternoon – apparently they need to make some repairs."

The listening campers began to murmur in surprise. Would the rest of Shabbat be spent in the dark?

"Don't worry," the head counselor reassured them. "It'll be great! We'll be having an extra long *seudah shelishit*, followed by a kumzits." The camp director planned to delay the start of *arbit* until after Shabbat ended, so they could bring flashlights to provide light for praying.

As the sun dipped low in the sky, it became very dark in the dining room, but the spirited singing seemed to dispel the gloom. Soon the head counselor announced, "Time to say *Bircat Hamazon*! We'll say it out loud so everyone can follow along."

Yitzy turned to his counselor, "Could you pass me a *siddur* please?" he asked quietly.

"What do you mean? You can't see anything! We'll all just say *Bircat Hamazon* together."

"I know," Yitzy admitted, "but could you give me one anyway?"

The counselor was perplexed. "I don't understand. Why?"

They had reached an impasse. Yitzy had no choice but to reveal his secret.

"This past *Elul* I made a commitment to always say *Bircat Hamazon* with a *siddur*. Throughout the entire year I did not say it by heart – even once! I know I won't be able to see it, but I'll figure something out."

Yitzy's counselor was impressed. "Of course. Here's the siddur."

And as the siddur changed hands, the lights suddenly went back on.

Yitzy and his counselor stared at each other for a long moment. They both realized that something must have been heard in Heaven. (Visions of Greatness IX)



SHABBATKORAH $\phi \phi \phi \rightarrow \epsilon, \Box X \phi \uparrow$

Haftarah: Yeshayahu 66:1-24

JUNE 23-24, 2017 30 SIVAN 5777

Fri. Shir Hashirim/Minhah: 6:30, 6:55, 7:30 pm Shaharit: 4:29, 6:40, 8:30, 9:15 am

Candlelighting: **8:11 pm**Evening Shema after: **9:09 pm**

Morning Shema by: 8:15 am Shabbat Class: 6:40 pm Shabbat Minhah: 7:50 pm

Shabbat Ends: 9:10 pm (R"T 9:42)

These times are applicable only for the Deal area.

Sunday Minhah: 7:05 pm

This bulletin is dedicated for a *refuah shelemah* for Dalia Naomi bat Zakiah by her father, mother, brother, husband and children.

Rosh Hodesh Tamuz will be celebrated on Shabbat and Sunday, June 24 & 25.

A Message from Our Rabbi

ייניקח קרחיי

"And Korah took (Bemidbar 16:1)

Harav Obadiah Yosefzt" lasks a simple question: Why is the whole story of the rebellion against Moshe *Rabenu* named after Korah? After all, it is shown that the main rebels were Datan and Abiram. The *pasuk* (16:12) says that Moshe sent to speak to Datan va-Abiram. Why them? Obviously because they were the main agitators. Also, it says later on (16:25) that Moshe went to them. In addition to this, in Debarim, when Moshe reviews the episode (Ekeb 11:6) it says, "And what He did to Datan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Reuben, when the earth opened its mouth wide and swallowed them, etc." The *pasuk* doesn't even mention Korah, only them! Also the *pasuk* in *Tehillim* (106:17) only mentions them and that they were swallowed up. So why name the rebellion after Korah?

The answer is that yes, it is true that the main rebellion was done by them. However, they were very poor. As it says earlier in Shemot (4:19), Hashem tells Moshe to return to Egypt because "all that seek to harm you are dead." *Rashi* explains: "Who are they? It is Datan and Abiram. Even though they were alive, since they became poor, a poor man is considered like he is dead."

It turns out that without money, they couldn't conduct the rebellion. Along came Korah, who was fabulously wealthy, and he took up the cause against Moshe *Rabenu*.

Since the rebellion could not have happened without his money, the rebellion was named after him.

Hacham Obadiah concludes with the *pasuk*: "Wealth is held by its owners to their detriment." Shabbat Shalom. Rabbi Reuven Semah

Looks Good but...

ײַנִיּקָהְלוּ עַלִּמשֶׁה וְעַלִּאַהְרוּ וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם רַבּ־לָכֶם כִּי כָליהָעֵדָה כֵּלָם קדשִים וּבְתוֹכָם ה׳ וּמַדּוּעַ תִּתְנַשִּׂאוּ עַל־קַהַל הייי

"And they gathered against Moshe and against Aharon and said to them, 'It is too much for you! For the entire assembly is holy, and Hashem is among them; why do you exalt yourselves over the congregation of Hashem?" (Bemidbar 16:3)

Korah attacks Moshe with a strong claim — "The entire Jewish People experienced a direct connection with Hashem at Sinai, so why do we need *you*?" It seems from this argument that Korah's sole concern was for the good of the Jewish People. However, the *Ibn Ezra* learns that Korah's revolttook place directly a fter Aharon and his sons were appointed to replace the firstborns, who had lost their right to Priesthood as a result of their involvement in the sin of the Golden Calf. The *Ibn Ezra* explains that the reason Korah rose up against Moshe was because he was a firstborn, as were the two hundred and fifty men who joined him, and although they disguised their arguments in honorable terms, in reality it was their own thirst for power that drove them to enter into a fight with Moshe and Aharon.

From here we see that an *outwardly* righteous appearance does not necessarily mean the *presence* of righteousness, and although it is undoubtedly important to *appear* to be righteous, to actually *be* righteous is life's goal! Our outward actions help us do this, as the *Sefer Hahinuch* writes, "One's personality is molded by his external actions," but we can never think that *looking* righteous is the goal, it is only the means to the goal.

The following story helps to emphasize this point.

In his home, Rav Yoel Teitelbaum, the Satmar Rebbe, once honored R' Elimelech Gavriel "Mike" Tress, the Administrative President of Agudat Yisrael of America; the man responsible for saving thousands of Jews during the Holocaust as well as having a major input in the Torah establishing its roots in America. Upon hearing of the visit, some young students approached the Rebbe and brazenly asked him how he could honor a man who did not have a beard. "Surely the Rebbe knows the importance of having a beard," they said. The Satmar Rebbe looked them in the eyes and said, "You're right. When that man leaves this world, the Heavenly Court will say, 'Jew, Jew, where was your beard?' But when you leave this world, they will say, 'Beard, Beard, where was your Jew?'"

Hard Labor

ייְוְהָיָה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר־יִבְּחַר הי הוּא הַקָּדוֹשׁ רַב־לָכֶם בְּנֵי לֵוִייי ייְוְהָיָה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר הי

"And it will be the man who will be chosen by Hashem, he is the holy one, (you have taken) too much upon yourselves, sons of Levi." (Bemidbar 16:7)

Rashi asks: "Korah was an intelligent person, so what led him to (persist in) this foolishness?"

Seemingly, Korah's actions were much more wicked than foolish; why does *Rashi* look at what he did as "foolishness"?

Also, the *Midrash* relates that Korah was incited to rebellion by his wife. She argued, "Why did Moshe appoint his brother as *Kohen Gadol* and leave you to carry the heavy *Aron*?" Yet, this *Midrash* is difficult to understand, since *Hazal* tech us that the holy *Aron* in the *Mishkan* was weightless; in fact, it maintained the characteristic of carrying its carriers, and they expended no energy when walking! What, then, were Korah and his wife complaining about?

Rav Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg *shlit"a* explains. The ease or difficulty of any endeavor is dependent on one's attitude. If one believes in the Torah's power to carry a person, it will do so. If one views the Torah as a burden, it will feel like one. Similarly, if one devotes himself to spiritual growth, it is not hard to accomplish. This is the meaning of the *Gemara* (*Sukkah* 53) that at the end of time, *sadikim* will be surprised to discover how "big" the *yeser hara* really is and how hard it is to conquerit. Since *sadikim* devote their entire lives to overcoming the *yeser hara*, it seems easy to them.

Certainly, Korah's actions were wicked. However, he could never have stooped so low and caused such a terrible rebellion had he not been foolish enough to confuse his privileged position with labor. To him, the Torah was a heavy burden; the *Aron* certainly did not carry him. Thus, at the root of his discontent was foolishness. He couldn't see his station for what it was; the right to be borne by the Torah. (*Torah Tavlin*)

Heart Monitor

Watch your diet. Get a good night's sleep. Exercise regularly. Avoid stress. These instructions are all part of a doctor's prescription for heart health.

Our Sages also teach us the importance of developing a good heart, but their intention is quite different. Yes, people must take care of their physical well-being; it is a Torah requirement. But they must also work constantly on developing a good heart.

Envy is a disease of the heart; people must learn not to be suspicious, jealous or hateful. Short temper can deal a more deadly blow than cholesterol buildup. Kindness and empathy work much better than pills in developing a healthy demeanor. Cheerfulness and pleasantness provide longevity; tranquilizers can't do that. Aside from these benefits, a good heart also attracts people to the one who is pleasant and outgoing. Individuals look for opportunities to share their thoughts and concerns with others who demonstrate the qualities that indicate a "good heart."

The *Mishnah* states (*Abot* 2:9): When the great Sage, Rabban Yochanan ben Zakkai asked his students to determine the best type of attitude or character trait that a person can have, Rabbi Elazar answered, "A good heart." This means: the proper attitude, and the absence of envy.

If you catch yourself doing something that is harmful to the development of your good heart, stop and check your emotional heart monitor. Change direction – from anger to serenity, from envy to generosity, from tension to calm. This only takes a minute, but the health benefits are immeasurable. (One Minute With Yourself – Rabbi Raymond Bevda)

Bentching Request

Summer was in full swing – and that meant it was time for camp! Yitzy Kaufman was enjoying every minute of his stay in Camp Avoseinu. The highlight of the week