



VERY PUNNY

What's it called when a volcano stops you in middle of saying something?

An interruption!

Ouch.

Have a better pun? Send it in to dlocker@nageelawest.org

SEASON 2
EPISODE 4
SEPT 21, 2017

Candle Lighting:

WED THU FRI
Phoenix 6:09, 7:25, 6:06
Las Vegas 6:22, 7:38, 6:19
San Diego 6:29, 7:46, 6:26
Los Angeles 6:34, 7:50, 7:31

have a

Nageela Shanah

DOUBLE EDITION

Rosh Hashana /Parshas Haazinu

5778

A Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences

Hear ye, Hear ye

by Rabbi Dani Locker

"Listen up, heavens, and I will speak, and the Earth shall hear the words of my mouth." These are the opening words of this Shabbat's Torah reading, and are part of the last speech given by Moshe, the greatest leader our nation has ever had.

"Listen up, heavens"... "Earth shall hear"... Ummm, I don't know about you, but last I checked I don't think the heavens and the earth have ears. This reminds me of a joke I heard a long time ago:

A guy is going for a job interview, and before he enters the room where the boss is waiting, the secretary tells him, "The boss doesn't have any ears. But don't mention that to him, he's very sensitive."

The guy walks into the office and

immediately says, "I see you wear contact lenses!"

"How can you tell?" asks the boss.

"Well, you can't wear glasses..."

So, about heaven and earth... Many explanations have been given to explain this strange sounding statement. The Bal Haturim (a great Rabbi who lived in the 13th century) says that it refers to people who live in tall, fortified towers that reach 'to the heavens' and people who live in small simple villages

'of the earth.' What is the message Moshe is trying to give to the Jewish people at this point, on the very last day of his life?

I've been teaching and running kids programs for a long time. There are some things ya just can't do. You can not give one combined class for 5 year-

olds and teenagers. It just won't work (the teenagers aren't mature enough). It's incredibly difficult to teach the same curriculum to advanced and beginning students. It even causes trouble to have students from different cities in

the same group. People think differently *continued on page 2*



Hey!
I'm the only one with ears around here!

sponsorship

to sponsor an episode of Nageela Shabbos, please contact ygelb@nageelawest.org



844-NAGEELA
www.nageelawest.org
info@nageelawest.org

Did Jew Know<

Most major Jewish holidays are celebrated for only one day in Israel, but for two days everywhere else in the world. These include, Sukkot, Passover, Shavuot, Shemini Atzeret (and according to some opinions, Black Friday-jk).



Rosh Hashana is the exception to this rule. It runs for two days even in Israel. Wednesday night Rosh Hashana, as we have this year is the **ONLY** time there are three straight days of holiday/shabbat (meaning no work) in Israel.

The reason is because when each new month was announced in Israel, there was no time for other countries to hear about it in time for the holiday, so they weren't sure what day to keep. Since Rosh Hashana is the beginning of the month, there wasn't even enough time to let people in Israel know.

Hear ye... *continued from page 1*

and speak differently. Some kids appreciate puns and it makes others groan (OK, maybe it makes everyone groan... until they've gotten older... then they're all groan up...). Some students learn better from pictures, while others do well with songs, and still others like to memorize words or numbers. As a general rule, successful teachers are the ones who can reach each student the way that they learn best, and in a language they can relate to. But the more different people are, the more difficult this becomes.

The Torah is such a remarkable masterpiece that it can be studied, understood and remain meaningful to the wisest, simplest, wealthiest, most destitute, quickest, or most thorough people. It applies to everyone, in all generations and in all places. Continents away, and with completely different languages, societies and customs, all people can listen and hear the words of the Torah.

The Earth may not have ears, but we do, and we can all use them to learn and grow from the Torah's instruction.



25

NageeLatte

Las Vegas
Canyon Pointe Coffee Bean,
6:45pm

4th-8th graders are invited to join the awesomeness with free drinks, a game and some great Jewish discussion!

26

Locker Live Instagram and YouTube Every Tuesday at 6:30pm

A 15 minute live show including live Stump the Rabbi, Top Ten list, special guests and pickles. Lots of pickles. tinyurl.com/selfietorah or instagram: @lockeroom

SAVE THE DATE



THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2017

CAMP NAGEELA WEST REUNIONS SHABBATONS
EXCITING LA ATTRACTIONS
RECONNECT WITH AWESOMETASTIC NAGEELA STAFF!

Mitzvah Minute

a short weekly column introducing one of Judaism's 613 commandments

Hitting People

Just to be clear, I mean NOT hitting people.

Source:

You shall not add [to his lashes] (Book of Devarim- chapter 25, verse 3).

Details:

- Everyone is taught as a child that hitting isn't good (except at hockey games when children see adults cheering for people hitting each other). This source tells us that hitting is actually a Torah prohibition.
- The verse is talking about a court whipping someone who deserves

it. The court must be careful not to hit him any extra times. This teaches us that any hitting that's not sanctioned by the Torah is a violation.

- Even one who lifts a hand to hit someone without actually making contact is still frowned upon (and called 'rasha' which isn't too good).
- A parent or teacher hitting a



child does not violate this commandment (which doesn't necessarily mean it's a good idea)

Lessons:

- The way we treat other people is important
- Even if someone isn't a very good person, that doesn't mean they deserve unlimited suffering. Their consequences must be carefully planned to fit the crime.
- Raising your hand is still good if it's to answer a question in class.



FAMILY SUKKOT CELEBRATION

8

Join Nageela for fun, music and art at the LVK annual Sukkot Festival at Tivoli Village, Las Vegas

4:30-7:30

Jewish Youth Leadership Council

27

Shabbaton Las Vegas

7th and 8th graders in leadership roles come together in Las Vegas for our annual leadership Shabbaton.

Staying in Touch

Here are a bunch of ways you can stay connected with Nageela West Coast!

SELFIE TORAH:

Each Friday, we upload a short (usually about 2 minutes) video Torah message appropriate for kids, teens and adults! You can find it on YouTube or at tinyurl.com/selfietorah. Make sure to subscribe!

NEW WEEKLY STUMPTHERABBI LIVE!

Tuesday nights at 6:30PM will be a live show on Instagram and facebook for 15 minutes. There will be live Stump The Rabbi (comment or DM your questions), news and special guests! Instagram @lockerroom. or youtube at tinyurl.com/selfietorah

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE:

We regularly post photos, event flyers, videos and more on our facebook page, facebook.com/NageelaWestCoast and our YouTube channel, youtube.com/user/nageelawest.

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST:

To get our weekly emails with this publication, and other Nageela updates via email. To join our list, just text NAGEELAWEST to 22828.

WHAT'S APP:

Join Rabbi Locker's weekly Shabbat Shalom What's App list by what'sapping "ADD ME" to 801-613-1539

Happy Birthday!

to the following Nageela family members who've had recent birthdays:

Sari Lewis
Gavi Arnell
Benyamin Sherizen
Sara Bocarsky
Seth Goldklang

Stump The Rabbi



Party Hats or Prayerbooks

Hi Rabbi,
Why do we make such a big deal about New Years? It's just a day in the calendar. We should have a party, dip some stuff in honey if we want. But the hours of prayers, the shofar, the prayers, the intensity seems a little over the top. Oh, and did I mention the prayers? It would be awesome if you could please explain to me why there's so much hype about Rosh Hashana.

Thanks,
Dimitry P. Appel

Dear Di P. Appel

Why do we make a big deal about the Jewish new year? Great question! If it was just an ordinary New Years celebration, we'd just put on party hats and have a countdown, waiting for the giant apple to drop. No, Rosh Hashana is no ordinary New Years celebration. Here's one way to think about it.

Lots of adults like to drink whiskey. Did you know that when distillers make the stuff,

they do not like to use clean, new utensils to ferment their drinks. No way! In fact they like to use old, old wine casks that have flavor soaked in from many years of use. When something has a strong flavor in it, that flavor sticks with it even when the wine is gone.

When a significant event happens in human history, that event leaves a taste, a flavor for the rest of the time. For example: The Jewish people were freed from slavery on Passover, and that is why many believe that we will again be freed with the final redemption on the same date.

Rosh Hashana is the anniversary of the day that it all started. Not the earth, but humanity. According to Jewish tradition the first day of the month of Tishri is the day and Adam and Eve, the very first people walked the Earth. It was a day of brand new life, and for the rest of the time, this day remains a day for new beginnings, fresh starts and making changes.

Each Rosh Hashana as the shofar is sounded, we begin anew. A chance to fix the mistakes of the past, and a chance to add to our bank account of goodness.

God takes a look at us and decides what help He will provide us for the coming year. Life, health, money and family... these are all 'given out' on Rosh Hashana, and our job is to commit to using them properly. If we are planning on using our health to do good deeds, then God *may be more likely to provide more of it. If we'll use our money to be honest and generous, that may be provided as well. Now you see (I hope) why we take Rosh Hashana so seriously. Sure we're happy about living another year! It's up to us to make sure that we continue to bring blessings into our lives by using Rosh Hashana as a fresh start in our lives of awesometasticness.

Have - a- Nageela New YEAR,

the Rabbi

* God has many factors that He uses to decide what blessings we get. Doing more mitzvos is not an absolute guarantee of blessing in this world. It is a guarantee of blessing in the next.

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question. Have a question? Please send it in to stump@nageelawest.org

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed

STAY IN THE LOOP

Get news and more from Nageela West

Text **NAGEELAWEST** to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

have a Nageela Shanah

4

Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast.

Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.

