



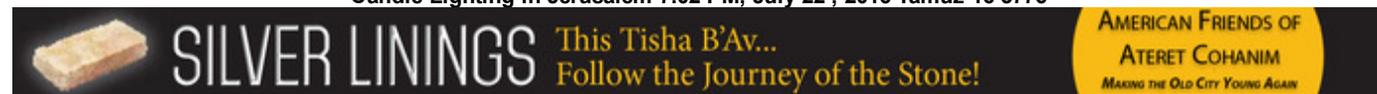
[Click to view this email in a browser](#)  
[Forward this message to a friend](#)  
**Printer Friendly**

## American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai ....Making the Old City young Again

[Our Website](#) | [Tours](#) | [Donate](#) | [YouTube](#)



Parashat Pinchas / פינחס פרשת (Israel) Parashat Balak / פרשת בלק (US)  
 Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 7:02 PM, July 22, 2016 Tamuz 16 5776



### Jerusalem Divrei Torah

*The centrality of Jerusalem to the Jewish People is indisputable and is the core of our mission. Our Divrei Torah by [Rabbi Yosef Bronstein](#) focus on Jerusalem and its connection to the weekly Torah portion. For a pdf to discuss at the Shabbat table, please [click here](#). To sponsor a Dvar Torah please [click here](#)*

### Imagining Place

A person's desires are a powerful tool. When Bilam is approached by Balak's messengers regarding cursing the Jews, Hashem's initial response is to prohibit the mission. However, after much persistence is demonstrated on the part of Bilam and Balak, Hashem acquiesces and tells Bilam to go with the messengers of Balak. Rashi, quoting the Gemara, comments that "on the path that a person wants to go he is taken."<sup>[1]</sup> It was Bilam's desire to go and so Hashem let him follow his desire. What is the meaning behind this idea?

Perhaps this idea is connected with the notion of the Bal Shem Tov regarding the significance of thought and imagination. He is cited in *Keter Shem Tov*<sup>[2]</sup> as saying "in the place that a person is thinking in his thoughts, that is where he is entirely situated." This means that a person is not defined or bound by his physical surroundings. Rather he can transcend these physical limitations through the faculty of his thought and imagination which are essential to the definition of a human being.

Now we can understand the principle that Hashem guides people in the direction that they want to go. Even while still in Petor, Bilam's thoughts were centered on the border of Moav where the Jewish people were camped. He repeatedly imagined himself being in that location and cursing them. Based on the Bal Shem Tov's teaching this meant that his primary place was on the border of Moav cursing the Jews despite Hashem disallowing his traveling. Once that was his primary location due to his thoughts, eventually Hashem allowed his physical body to catch up with his brain and told him that he could go.

Rav Yaakov Yosef of Polnoye<sup>[3]</sup> writes that based on the idea of his Rebbi the Bal Shem Tov, we can at least partially grasp what it means to face Yerushalayim in our prayers. On one level we pray to return to the city. However, this alone is not enough. We face the city in order to think about it and imagine ourselves in the future, redeemed city. We should take time and virtually walk through the city up to Temple Mont and into the built Beit ha-Mikdash.

This exercise will not only intensify our desire to see our city redeemed but also redefine who we are as people. No matter where we live, we can be people of Yerushalayim as long as our minds and hearts are connected to the holy city. And as with Bilam, if our minds and hearts are constantly in Yerushalayim, Hashem will soon take our bodies on that path as well and we can live, body and soul, in our redeemed city.

### New Ateret Cohnim Projects

*With your support we make things happen*

#### **Donate Now**

#### **PINAT CHAM**

First ever PINAT CHAM of the Old City for all security personnel and Policemen.

Help us establish this most needed rest and refreshment spot under Beit Wittenberg.. *They protect us. Let's show them some appreciation. (projected cost \$42,000)*

- Serving 100 security personnel
- 8 hour schedule
- Free food and coffee , restroom
- Outside of Beit Wittenberg on the spot where Rabbi Nechemia Lavi was murdered

#### **SCENIC OVERLOOK**

The most spectacular scenic view of Jerusalem (from the South) overlooking the Temple Mount, the City of David, the Kings Garden and the Mount of Olives, is from Beit Rachel in the old Yemenite Village.

Help us establish the scenic outlook with all-weather model of historical Jerusalem.. Naming rights available. (projected cost \$35,000)

#### **SUMMER IS HERE**

Sponsors needed to subsidize all our kids and youth activities and summer day camps.

They need a "break" from the pressures, tension and difficult security situation of the Old City and its environs. Help us give them an enjoyable summer.

- Young children (5-12 yrs) : \$5000
- Youth (girls : 13-16 yrs) : \$7500
- Youth (boys : 13-16yrs) : \$8500

- [1] Bamidbar 22:35  
 [2] Keter Shem Tov siman 56.  
 [3] Ben Porat Yosef, parshat Vayechi, pg. 426.

See All of Our Videos on You Tube



### SECURITY CAMERAS NEEDED ASAP

The Police of the Old City approached Ateret Cohanim requesting that we place 12 cameras on our very strategic rooftops in order for the Police to have "eyes" over the rooftops.

Many attacks by local Arabs has been from these rooftops and not the alleyways. With many private homes in the old Jewish Quarter, having these cameras is a life saver.

- 9 static cameras required at \$3000 each (5 cameras already sponsored as of mid July 2016)
- 3 moveable-rotating cameras required at \$8500 each

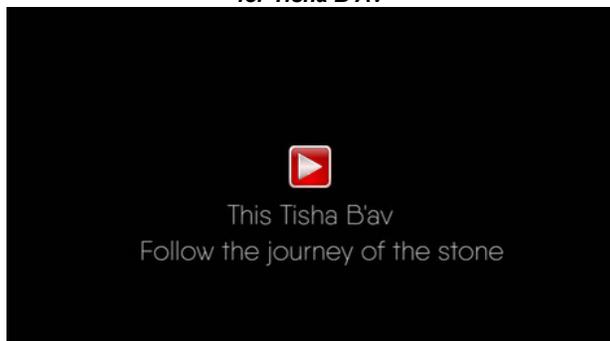
***As always, your generous support is greatly appreciated***

Please join us in learning mishnayos in memory of  
**הלל יפה בת עמיחי הי"ד**  
 the 13 year old who was killed השם על קידוש השם  
 while sleeping in her bed.

One may participate by learning any amount of any masechta.  
**To be included in this mitzva please email [kollehkorashatov@gmail.com](mailto:kollehkorashatov@gmail.com)**  
 with your name and what you plan to learn.  
 In addition one may compose any words of nechama, which we plan to forward to the family.  
*Shloshim on Parashat Pinchas*

### **SILVER LININGS**

**a movie produced by American Friends of Ateret Cohanim for Tisha B'Av**



for more information, [click here](#)

### **From the Wittenberg Play Center**

*Our play center brings out the best in creativity*



Your support keeps our children smiling and we need your support now to keep the children busy and learning throughout the summer months [click here](#)

**SHOW THE WORLD THAT WE ARE PROUD AND NOT AFRAID**

**Plan your tour of Jerusalem During the Summer Months**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Visit our New Buildings- Beit HaNof in the Old City**



The Silverstein and Hecht Families at Abu Tor

**FROM ANY ANGLE,  
NORTH, SOUTH, EAST OR WEST  
JERUSALEM LOOKS BEAUTIFUL**

VIEW FROM BEIT HANOF



**THIS SUMMER TOUR WITH US  
AND SEE OUR JERUSALEM!**

VIEW FROM BET HATZALAM



**CONTACT US TO PLAN YOUR TRIP**  
AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATERET COHANIM/JERUSALEM CHAI  
212-216-9270 IN ISRAEL CALL 02-624-3337 OR 054-654-4407  
DLJERUSALEM@GMAIL.COM | WWW.JERUSALEMCHAI.ORG/TOURS



STAY TUNED FOR  
**לבי במזרח**  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS SINCE  
THE LIBERATION OF JERUSALEM  
6-7-17

Home What's Up? Tours Kotel Quarter Become a Member Mazal Tov

**Jerusalem Chai Kids**

*A new music video featuring Gad Elbaz and Meron Williams produced for Ateret Cohanim*



**We Thank This Week's Corporate Sponsors**

	
<p><a href="#">click here for Torah Anytime</a></p>	<p><a href="#">click here for Soon By You Website &amp; <a href="#">click here</a> or the image to watch the 1st Episode</a></p>

**שבת שלום**



**5776 - תשע"ו May it be the year of "The City - Jerusalem" (עיר), and her residents. (ויושביה) May G-d's City - Yerushalayim, be rebuilt and restored to its previous glory for the Jewish People. Next year in a united Jerusalem with a flourishing Jewish life centred around religious educational institutes.**

[Our Website](#) | [Tours](#) | [Donate](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

7/22/2016

This Week from Our Jerusalem - Parashat Pinchas (Israel) Parashat Balak (US)

New York, NY 10001  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

