



[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](#) | [Advocacy](#)

Parashat Vayikra / פרשת ויקרא Shabbat Zachor / שבת זכור Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 5:09 PM, March 18, 2015 8 Adar II 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](#).*

#### Personal Involvement

The first words that Hashem commanded Moshe to relay to the Jewish people about korbonot are: "A person who brings from [among] you a korbon to Hashem."<sup>[1]</sup> There is a clear emphasis from the very beginning that it is a member of the Jewish people who is bringing the korbon. The midrash<sup>[2]</sup> contrasts this explicit association of the korbon-bringer as a Jew with the way the Torah describes a person who is discovered to have tzara'as on his body: "If a person has an affliction on the skin of his flesh."<sup>[3]</sup> The identifying phrase "from [among] you" is missing from the description of the potential metzora. It is as if the Torah wants to hide the fact that this person is part of our nation.

The midrash explains this discrepancy by referring to Hashem's desire to bestow honor on His people. Therefore, the Torah is formulated precisely in the way which discloses the nationality of the anonymous person engaged in the laudable activity of bringing the korbon, but hides the nationality of the metzora.

The midrash compares this notion regarding the Jewish people with a similar idea regarding Hashem. When Hashem is forced to destroy Yerushalayim, he does so through the agency of Gavriel as He does not want to be associated with this action. However, we are promised that the future redemption will be similar to the original exodus from Mitzrayim. Just like originally it was "I and not an angel... I Hashem and no one else"<sup>[4]</sup> it will be Hashem himself who in the future will rebuild the city and purify the people.



### Pre Purim Message from Daniel Luria



### Parlor Meetings in New York Executive Director Daniel Luria speaks in communities around the New York Metropolitan Area



Daniel Luria, Hosts David and Suri Alter, and Executive Vice President Shani Hikind at the Alter home in Lawrence, New York

This midrash teaches the importance of associating ourselves and becoming personally involved with positive activities. It brings honor to the Jewish people when someone who is identified as being "from you" brings a korban. Hashem himself wants to be personally involved, so to speak, with the redemption of the Jewish people and the rebuilding of Yerushalayim.

This last point has clear ramifications for us. If Hashem himself wants to be personally involved and associated with the messianic process, how much more should we be! The dictum of "ve-halachta bidrachav" (imitating Hashem) should obligate us to follow in Hashem's footsteps. We, too, need to become personally involved in the rebuilding of Yerushalayim and associate ourselves with the process of redemption. It is not enough for us to send messengers and let others take care of it. Hopefully, in the merit of our personal involvement with the rebuilding of Yerushalayim, Hashem himself will, in turn, become personally involved as well and fully redeem our people and our city.

- [1]Vayikra 1:2
- [2]Yalkut Shimoni, Melachim 2 Remez 231.
- [3]Vayikra 13:2
- [4]Hagadah of Pesach.

[click here for a pdf copy](#)

### Happenings at the Wittenberg Play Center Getting ready for Purim



## VISIT ISRAEL NOW

### SHOW THE WORLD THAT WE ARE NOT AFRAID

Book a Tour With Us [CLICK HERE](#)  
 See our Jerusalem!  
 You will never forget the experience

Join Us as we support the ZOA



Rabbi Motti Neuburger, Assitant Rabbi of the White Shul in Far Rockaway offers Divrei Bracha as well as insights into the importance of building Jerusalem

### Learn what Ateret Cohanim is doing!!

Ateret Cohanim Executive Director Daniel Luria will be speaking to the Meshadi Community in Great Neck (March 18-19), and Great Neck Synagogue (March 19 - Seudat Shleesheet)

#### Become our Partner and support our ongoing Projects

- Beit Wittenberg Childrens and Older Youth Activities Center \$3,000
- Four Yaldei Tzion V'Yerushalayim Nurseries \$2000
- Monthly Hosting of Students in our neighborhoods for Shabbat: \$1,200
- 3 Closed Circuit TV Surveillance Systems \$70,000

#### Renovation and dedication of apartments in the area to add Jewish families or students

Major restoration of Beit Wittenberg as a monumental heritage house (Mark Twain also stayed in the building in 1867)

[Donate Now](#)

**Save the Date**

**Annual Yom Yerushalayim Dinner**

**Tuesday May 31, 2016**

**כג באיר תשע״ו**

**Hedy & Dr. Steve Rubel - Bonei Yerushalayim Awardees**

**Anne & Rabbi Joseph Stamm - Bonei Yerushalayim Awardees**

**Terrace on the Park, Flushing New York**

**American Friends of Ateret Cohanim / Jerusalem Chai**

jerusahting@gmail.com www.jerusalemhat.org 212.76.9178

Jerusalem Registered, Charitable Corporation

[click here](#) or the image for a larger view



the view from the Yemenite Village

We encourage our readers to:BUY ISRAEL

