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Parashat Yitro פרשת יתרו Candle Lighting in Jerusalem 4:37 PM February 6, 2015 Sh'vat 17, 5775

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](#).

Is Hashem in Yerushalayim or Truly Everywhere?

In the aftermath of the great events at Har Sinai, Hashem informs the people about the parameters of future revelations:

"An Alter of earth shall you make for Me, and you shall slaughter near it your burnt-offerings and your peace-offerings, your flock and your herd; wherever I permit My name to be mentioned I shall come to you and bless you."

The Torah refers to a place where Hashem's name will be mentioned and we will encounter the Shekhinah. Where is this place? The Mishna cites this verse as a source that the Shekhinah is present whenever even a single Jew sits and learns Torah, no matter the location. Hashem is not spatially bound and He will appear anywhere on the globe as long as a Jew beckons Him through the learning of Torah.

Elsewhere, however, Gemara offers a different interpretation of the verse:

"Everywhere that I Myself will come and to you and bless you, there I will permit mention of my explicit

Jerusalem-Myth of the Two Cities

In this video, [Honest Reporting](#) exposes the myth of what is known as Arab East Jerusalem, interviewing Jews who survived Israel's War of Independence in 1948, when the eternal Jewish capital was divided for the first time in history.

Flower's Gate Playground



Our children need to get outside, run and play and be children. Our Flowers Gate Children's Playground is the perfect antidote to escape from the stones and rocks (human missiles) thrown at them as

they venture outside to enjoy some time in the sun. Our playground is in need of a drastic facelift.

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Help us improve the safety and purchase more toys and equipment so our children can be children.

Thank You

name. And where will I bless you? In the Beit ha-Behirah (chosen sanctuary)." Only there in the Beit ha-Behirah will I permit mention of My explicit name.

According to this understanding the verse refers to the place – the Beit ha-Mikdash in Yerushalayim. It is only there that Hashem can be revealed through His name in a manner that is prohibited in the rest of the world.

These two interpretations seem to have opposite orientations. Are we supposed to encounter the Shekhinah in our own homes and study halls throughout the world or in the single place of Hashem's choosing? What is the relationship between these two interpretations of the location of the Shekhinah?

The Or ha-Hayyim ha-Kadosh teaches that even though the Shekhinah encompasses the globe, there are varying levels of the intensity of its revelation. Any Jew who engages in Hashem's Torah can cause the Shekhinah to rest in his own four cubits, but the highest level of revelation, as reflected by the articulation of Hashem's name, is reserved for the Beit ha-Mikdash.

Though this resolves the direct contradiction between the passages, we can still inquire as to the meaning of both of these revelations being rooted in the same pasuk. The single source for the variegated encounters with the Shekhinah indicates that they should be understood as integrated and intertwined.

Rav Dovid Dov Levanon suggests that yet a third interpretation for this verse serves as the bridge between the Shekhinah of the Beit ha-Mikdash and of the Beit ha-Midrash. Hillel, speaking in the name of Hashem, used to say the following:

If you will come to My house, I will come to your house; if you will not come to My house, I will not come to your house. As it says: "Wherever I permit My name to be mentioned I will come to you and bless you."

Hashem will enter our houses to the extent that we enter His house. The degree that we are connected to the most intense revelation of Hashem in Yerushalayim will determine the degree to which Hashem will reveal Himself in our own homes around

First Aid Courses Attended by our Residents

Local residents learn how to assist first responders

The New Yemenite Village Website
click the picture to learn more

Our current projects in the Old City of Jerusalem and areas adjacent to the Old City actualize our mission of "Making the Old City, Young Again"



Today, the walled city of Jerusalem (the Old Yishuv) and the areas immediately adjacent to it, have come back to life with children and families due to the work of Ateret Cohanim. The miracle that was the rebirth of the State of Israel in 1948, the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 and the continued growth of the Jewish community in these areas, are constant reminders of the eternity of our religious belief. Help Us Continue Our Work.

**Established in 1978,
This year is our "double
chai" year**

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

Our Mission

The Old City is home to nearly 35,000 people..

The Jewish population of the Old City numbers 5000 of which 4000 reside in the Jewish Quarter. The additional 1000 are living and learning in the area of the Old Jewish Quarter (Referred to as

the world.

*May we strengthen our attachment to Yerushalayim
and merit to see the Shekhinah in our own homes.*

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and see our Jerusalem up front and close**

Shira and Elazar Wadler

Our Kotel Compass



Always pointing in the direction of Jerusalem (and follows the halacha in Israel). A phone app and companion for your trip to Israel. The Kotel Compass App (Available in the ISTORE or ANDROID MARKET is free and you can book your tour from the App.

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the Moslem and Christian Quarters
in East Jerusalem)

For nearly four decades, the efforts of American Friends of Ateret Cohanim/Jerusalem Chai have been instrumental in meeting the social, recreational, and educational needs of the families and Yeshiva students who have returned to areas that were once predominantly Jewish.

**5775 תשע"ה- May it be the year
of "The City - Jerusalem" (עיר), of
Hashem. (ה')**

**May G-d's City - Yerushalayim, be
rebuilt and restored to its previous
glory for Am Yisrael.**

**Next year in a united Jerusalem with
flourishing Jewish life centred
around religious educational
institutes.**

Lehitraot BaAretz