

DAF TSAFON

16 August 2025
22 Av 5785

Shabbat
Parashat Ekev
ArtScroll 938 Hertz 736



“And you shall write them on your doorposts on your gates.”

In this week’s parasha we read of the obligation to place mezuzot on the doorposts of our home. As we know, the custom is to place the mezuzah at an angle on the right-hand side of the door as one enters the room.

There is an important reason for placing the mezuzah at an angle and one which has great value for each of us.

The Rabbis argue as to how one must place a mezuzah on the door. The sage Rashi explained that it needs to be vertical. His grandson, known as Rabeinu Tam, argued and said it needs to be horizontal. In what is the only case that I know of, Jewish law decided to compromise and place the mezuzah at an angle. It chose not to decide between the two.

The lesson for us is beautiful. The mezuzah is the first mitzvah that we encounter as we enter the room. We traditionally extend our hand to kiss it. What should we be thinking about while we kiss the mezuzah? I believe that we should focus on the argument between Rashi and Rabeinu Tam. An argument between a grandfather and grandson, that could have disrupted the harmony within the family. The resultant compromise led to shalom, peace in the home. That, I believe is the lesson of mezuzah.

As we enter the room, be it to greet our spouses, our children or our teachers, we pause and kiss the mezuzah. We pause and think about the concept of Shalom Bayit, peace in the home. We pause and think, “My understanding of the situation may not be as accurate as I believed. Maybe there is another way of understanding it. Maybe I need to give a little so that the home can be a bastion of peace and love.”

As Steven Covey writes in his seven habits of highly effective people, seek first to understand and then to be understood.

The mezuzah teaches us the art of compromise and is the true symbol for peace in the home.

I wish you all a beautiful and peaceful Shabbat with your families.

Haftarah -

ArtScroll 1197 Hertz 794

THE RETURN TO ZION

Isaiah XLIX, 14-LI, 3

The exiles are assured that God has not forsaken them. They will hasten back to mother, Zion which will be rid of the enemy and teem with the returning multitudes. Israel will be assisted and supported in its restoration by the people and rulers of foreign nations who will pay homage. Isaiah himself (or, perhaps, the righteous remnant) had bravely preached God’s message even though he was persecuted and humiliated, but he had been confident that God would prove him right and condemn the unbelievers. The righteous remnant need have no fear of the future, for they need only recall how a mighty nation had sprung from Abraham and Sarah. The barren wastes of Zion would be transformed into a garden of Eden where the sound of joy, gladness and thanksgiving would be heard.

מזל טוב

Mazal Tov

We extend hearty congratulations to
Geoff and Marilyn Rosenbaum
on the occasion of their
fiftieth wedding anniversary.

מזל טוב

Wedding anniversaries

Harold and Marion Ball
Geoffrey and Marilyn Rosenbaum
Michael and Kylie Rosenbaum

מזל טוב

Bar and Bat Mitzvah anniversaries

Jefferson Beder
Zac Carlin
Nathan Fisher
John Levy
Harold Marks
Norman Olbourne
Brett Ulman

Malu Aarons
Simone Katz

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday, 23 August - Shabbat Mevarchim**
Guest Speaker: Jack Aghion Topic: An interesting Life
- **Sunday, 31 August - Reverend Katz Library Open Day**
Guest Speaker: Lynda Ben-Menashe - National President of
The National Council of Jewish Women Australia
Topic: Using a Jewish Compass to Navigate This Upside-down
World.

**Our congregation acknowledges the following
yahrzeit anniversaries and wishes long life to those
who are commemorating a yahrzeit
during the coming week.**

חיים ארוכים

Chaim Agranoff
Sarolta Budai
Joseph Max Chaitowitz
Gertrude Edith Feldman
Fay Isaacs

Benchie Judelman
Rebecca Riva Kaplan
Lauren Malkin
Herbert Nachemstein
Sofie Priester
Suzanne Somlai
Fanny Suntup

father of Sidney Agranoff
grandmother of Aaron Budai
father of Bernard Chaitowitz
grandmother of Malcolm Smith
mother of Suzie Klinger, grand-
mother of Ari Klinger and
Keri Klinger.
father of Maureen Ravia
mother of Beulah Blieden
wife of Geoffrey Malkin
father of Peter Nash
grandmother of Marion Blitz
mother of Gabor Somlai
mother of Joel Suntup