



Make a donation or pay outstanding shul obligations online.

Go to www.bethaaron.org/donate

We are pleased to announce that the **Beth Aaron Boys' Choir** is available for shul functions and Beth Aaron Community's *simchas* (except on *Shabbat*). Updates on all activities are on the shul's website in the Youth section. For more information, or to join the choir, contact Benjy Rosenbluth, bdrosenbluth@yahoo.com, (201) 357-5685, or Yehiel Levy, (201) 357-5495, yehiel@optonline.net.

Congregation Beth Aaron

950 Queen Anne Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 ·
 Phone: (201) 836-6210 · Fax: (201) 836-0005
www.bethaaron.org · bethaaron@optonline.net
 Laurence Rothwachs, Rabbi

Ronnie Schwartz, President

Shabbat Announcements

Parashat Noach October 24, 2009 8 Cheshvan 5770

- Latest Candles: 5:46 P.M.
- *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat*: 5:50 P.M.
- *Shacharit. Hashkamah*: 7:30 A.M.
- Rabbi Rothwachs' *Tefillah shiur*: 8:20 A.M.
- Main *Shul*: 8:45 A.M.
- Youth *Minyan*: 9:30 A.M.
- *Sof Zman Kriat Shema*: 9:59 A.M.
- Early *Mincha*: 1:45 P.M.
- *Daf Yomi*: 4:30 P.M.
- Women's Learning Group: 4:40 P.M. We will be studying *Shmuel Bet*, Chapter 22.
- *Mincha*: 5:40 P.M., followed by a *shiur* by Rabbi Rothwachs: "Up, Up and Away - Now Who's Gonna Pay? The Balloon Boy Hoax and *Halacha*"
- *Maariv*: 6:46 P.M.
- *Havdalah*: 6:55 P.M.

Schedule for Week of October 25th:	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
	25	26	27	28	29	30
<i>Earliest Tallit</i>	6:18	6:19	6:21	6:22	6:23	6:24
<i>Shacharit</i>	6:30	6:08	6:10	6:11	6:12	6:13
	7:15	6:20	6:30	6:30	6:20	6:30
	8:00	7:10	7:15	7:15	7:10	7:15
	8:45	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00
<i>Mincha</i>	1:45					
<i>Mincha/Maariv</i>	5:40	5:40	5:40	5:40	5:40	5:40
<i>Maariv</i> :	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00
	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30

Weekly Shiurim:

- *Daf Yomi. Shabbat*: 4:30 P.M. For other *Daf Yomi shiurim*, go to www.teanekshuls.org/daf
- **Chabura on Revadim method of Talmud Study**: Sunday evening at 8:15 P.M. This *chabura* apply the *Revadim* method of Talmud study pioneered by Rabbi Pinchas Hayman.
- Rabbi Daniel Feldman's *shiur*. Monday evening at 8:45 P.M.
- **Parshat ha-Shavua shiur by Rabbi Neil Lauer**: "Testing Testing 8,9,10" - Tuesday evening, 8:45 to 9:30 P.M.
- Rabbi Rothwachs' **Bava Kama-shiur**: Wednesday evening at 8:30 P.M.
- **Chabura by Rabbi Herschel Grossman on Sefer Nefesh ha-Chaim** - Thursday evening, 8:15 to 9:00 P.M.
- **Morning Mishnah Chabura**: Monday and Thursday - 6:55 A.M.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 7:00 A.M.

Please note: for November only, *Hashkama* will begin at 7:15 A.M. and the Youth *Minyan* will begin at 9:15 A.M.

We are resuming our **Shalom Bayit/Chinuch Chabura**, led by Rabbi Rothwachs, which will meet every other week on Tuesday evenings. If interested in participating, please contact Rob Ernst, robernst@gmail.com, for more details on time and location.

We are starting a **new Parshat ha-Shavua shiur** entitled "**Chut ha-Sidrah: Studies in the Weekly Parsha**," given by Rabbi Neil Lauer on Tuesday evenings, 8:45 to 9:30 P.M. The *shiur's* goals include: offering a fresh perspective on familiar material, revealing some of the more subtle lessons of the *Torah*, demystifying the relationship between the *Chumash* and *Torah she-ba'al peh*, and discussion of the relationship between *Halakhah* and *Aggadah* in the study of *Chumash*. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Each Thursday evening from 8:15 to 9:00 P.M., **Rabbi Herschel Grossman**, *Menahel* of Ohr Yosef Torah High School of Bergen County, will be leading a *chabura* at the shul in **Nefesh ha-Chaim**, by Rabbi Chaim Volozhin, one of the foremost students of the Vilna Gaon. This *sefer*, quoting extensively from the *Zohar*, reveals the level of interaction between man and God, and how every act, word and thought of each Jew affects the direction of Creation, for good or for bad. All are welcome.

Mazal Tov

- *Mazal Tov* to Benjy and Aviva Yablok on the birth of a grandson, born to their children Asher and Shira Yablok.
- *Mazal Tov* to Mordechai and Zina Finkelstein on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Michael.
- *Mazal Tov* to Chaim and Miriam Miller on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Yehudit.
- *Mazal Tov* to Rob and Joy Sperber on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Rachel.
- *Mazal Tov* to Charlie and L'via Weisinger on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Tali.

At present, a member's *simcha* is usually included on the *shul* calendar only if a request has been made to use the *shul* for some part of the *simcha*. As a result, some *smachot* are inadvertently omitted from the *Mazal Tov* section of the weekly announcements, and several *smachot* are sometimes scheduled simultaneously. To attempt to forestall conflicts, we would request that all *smachot* of our members be added to our *shul* calendar, whether the *shul* is being used or not. To add an event to the calendar, please contact Joel Richter, joel.richter@us.hsbc.com, jrich613@optonline.net. (Please note that all *shul* rentals must follow the proper protocol, and that listing an event on the *shul* calendar does not constitute a reservation. Also, only *smachot* that are held at the *shul* will be shown on the printed calendar distributed to our members.)

Miscellaneous Shul Announcements

On Monday, October 26th, from 2:00 to 9:00 P.M., at their headquarters, 855 Windsor Road, the **Teaneck Volunteer Ambulance Corps** (TVAC) will hold its 15th Annual Memorial **Blood Drive**, dedicated to the memory of three TVAC Life Members -- **Beth Aaron member Rabbi Stanley Fisch**, Police Captain Walter Pinches and Bill Shambroom. Refreshments are provided courtesy of Chopstix and Butterflake Bakery. Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old, and should be in good general health. For more information, please call Community Blood Services, (201) 251-3705.

Beth Aaron Sisterhood will be having an **Open Membership Meeting** on *Motzaei Shabbat*, November 7th, at 8:30 P.M. We will be playing "Don't Forget the Lyrics," and there will be prizes awarded. The cost is \$36 per person at the door.

The **Young Members' Committee** is pleased to announce that our **sixth Round Town Shabbat Lunch** will be held on *Shabbat*, December 5th. The Round Town Lunch program allows young members of Beth Aaron to meet other young members with common interests. A Round Town Lunch is hosted every other month, and we rotate hosts so that, ideally, every family that signs up will have a chance to meet every other family participating in the program. Each family will ordinarily host every third lunch. If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, contact Rob Ernst, bethaaronrsvp@gmail.com, Moishe Singer, moishe@gmail.com, or Tzippy Staum, (201) 862-0307. To sign up, please contact Rob Ernst, bethaaronrsvp@gmail.com, by November 13th.

Beth Aaron is proud to be hosting a **Junior YACHAD Shabbaton** on November 6-7. It will be a memorable weekend for many! If you would like to sponsor a participant to attend the *Shabbaton*, please contact Sara Taragin. We are also in need of hosts to house the guests. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Sara Taragin, bstaragin@hotmail.com, (201) 928-1104, Valerie Kahn, (201) 530-1712, kahnclan@optonline.net, or Lisa Breen, lisahbreen@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Hashovat Avedah: Someone inadvertently took a black wool pinstripe suit jacket from the shul coat rack on *Yom Kippur*. There is a Hertz business card for Jay Eizik in the pocket. If you think that you may have taken this jacket, please contact Yaakov Eizik, jeizik@hertz.com.

The annual **Chanukah Toy Drive**, a unique opportunity to bring the joy of *Chanukah* to Jewish children less fortunate than our own, is underway. We are collecting **new, unwrapped items**, such as electronic and board games, arts and crafts supplies, books, dolls, sports equipment, and toys with Jewish themes and content. While this is called a "toy" drive, please keep in mind when selecting presents that many recipients are older children and young teenagers. Ideas for this age group include portable tape players, radios, jewelry, watches, stationery, diaries, books, posters and sports equipment. Hebrew music tapes are especially appreciated for all age groups. Please remove all price tags, and remember -- no used items! Our deadline is December 4th, so that the items can be delivered to the children in time for *Chanukah*. Please drop off all gifts at the Leifer home, 150 Chadwick Road, (201) 807-0309. Zoldan's Judaica Center and Judaica House will take 10% off the price of any non-sale item bought for the Toy Drive. Special collection boxes will be set up in both stores.

Beth Aaron Youth:

- The **learning group for 3rd grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, October 24th, at 4:00 P.M., at the Kahan home, 561 Standish Road. We will begin studying *Sefer Shmuel*. For more information, contact Doug Dubitsky, douglas_dubitsky@glic.com.
- The **learning group for 4th grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, October 24th, at 4:20 P.M., at the Felsen home, 937 Prince Street. Please bring your own *Mishnah (Masechet Beitza)*. For more information, contact Rebecca Kurz, rkurz1@yahoo.com, or Esther Klavan, eskslp@aol.com.
- Want to celebrate your child's birthday with their friends in *Shabbat* morning groups? You can sponsor a **birthday kiddush** for your child's group for \$36. For more information, please contact Erica or Jason David.

Junior NCSY (grades 6-8):

- Our next **Nosh of Torah** program will be held on *Shabbat*, October 31st, at 4:45 P.M., in the *shul* basement. There will be a special guest speaker.
- On the weekend of November 6-7, we will be going to an **NCSY Shabbaton** at Congregation Ohev Emeth in Highland Park. On Friday, November 6th, buses will be leaving from school at 2:00 P.M., and we will return to Beth Aaron about 10:30 P.M. on Saturday night, November 7th. The cost is \$42 if you register before October 26th, and \$48 afterwards. To register, go to www.njncsy.com and click on the Highland Park *Shabbaton* link.
- To RSVP, or if you have any questions about our events, e-mail Danielle, bethaaronjuniors@gmail.com, or call (201) 247-7961.

Beth Aaron Teens (grades 9-12):

- Please join us at our **Oneg**, this Friday night, October 23rd, at 8:30 P.M., in the *shul* basement. Rabbi Beni Krohn will be joining us to hang out and share some words of Torah. As usual, delicious delicacies will be provided.
- Beth Aaron Teens will be participating in the UJA's annual **Mitzvah Day** on Sunday, November 1st. We will be going to Bright Side Manor, 300 Teaneck Road, from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M., to play bingo and hang out with senior citizens. RSVP to bethaaronteens@gmail.com if you're interesting in coming, and also sign up on the Mitzvah Day web page, www.ujannj.org/mitzvahday
- Beth Aaron Teens will be having its first **"Tea and Torah"** on the afternoon of *Shabbat*, November 14th. We will join together for a *shiur*, delicious tea and snacks, and games. More details coming soon!
- If you have any questions about these events, or to RSVP, e-mail bethaaronteens@gmail.com, or call Shifty Friedman, (201) 341-6022, or Noam Friedman, (201) 937-6249.

Senior NCSY:

Teaneck Senior NCSY is having an *oneg* this Friday night, from 8:30 to 10:30 P.M., at the Steinreich home, 654 West Englewood Avenue.

Community Announcements

CareOne, the kosher rehabilitation and nursing center located at 544 Teaneck Road, needs volunteers to help make a *minyan*. This Friday, *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat* will begin at 5:55 P.M. *Shacharit* will be at 9:00 A.M., followed by a hot *Kiddush*. Youth groups begin at 9:30 A.M. *Mincha* will be at 5:35 P.M., followed by a *shiur* on *Masechet Ketubot* at 5:50 P.M. *Maariv* will be at 6:47 P.M.

This *Motzaei Shabbat*, October 24th, beginning at 8:00 P.M., there will be a **kumsitz** at the **Sheli House**, 951 Queen Anne Road (across the street from the shul), hosted by Yakov, Tzachi and Ariel. All are invited to come for a great evening of music and entertainment!

Friends of the IDF New Jersey Chapter will be having its Fifth Annual IDF **Tribute Dinner** honoring the lone soldiers of the IDF this Saturday evening, October 24th, at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel and Conference Center in East Rutherford. For more information, or to make reservations or place journal ads, please contact Benjamin Steward, (212) 244-3118, Benjamin.steward@israelsoldiers.org.

The **Libby Kolb Chapter of Emunah** will be honoring three *chesed* volunteers -- Sora Grunstein, Sharon Herenstein and Beverly Kastner -- at its annual **Shabbat Tea**, to be held this *Shabbat*, October 24th, at 4:00 P.M., at the home of Sharon Schur, 1510 Jefferson Street. The guest speaker will be Debby Flanbaum, author of "The Jewish Woman Next Door: Repairing the World One Step at a Time." For more information, or to RSVP, go to www.emunah.org, or e-mail faberronnie4@gmail.com.

Bnai Yeshurun Nursery School invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Monday, October 26th, at 8:00 P.M., at the social hall of Congregation Bnai Yeshurun, 641 West Englewood Avenue. Registration forms will be distributed at the Open House, and families can register children for both classes immediately afterwards. Registration concludes at 9:30 A.M. on Friday, October 30th. For more information, please contact Fern Amper, (201) 836-6871 (after 3:00 P.M.), fernemper@aol.com.

A new support group, **Partners in Caring**, has been established to help those who have lost a child, sibling or grandchild cope with their loss. The group will meet in Teaneck on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 27th, at 8:00 P.M., at Arzei Darom. For more information, contact Ryan Hyman, PartnersInCaring@gmail.com, (201) 833-7663.

The **Moriah School** invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Tuesday, October 27th, at 8:00 P.M., at the yeshiva, 52 South Woodland Street, Englewood. For more information, contact Erik Kessler, ekessler@moriahschool.org, (201) 567-0208 ext. 376.

UJA NNJ's Mitzvah Day will be held on **Sunday, November 1st**. Over 1,500 volunteers are expected at more than 35 sites on this special community-wide day of caring. To see all of the project choices and/or to register online, please go to www.ujannj.org/mitzvahday. For more information, please contact Alice Blass, (201) 820-3948, aliceb@ujannj.org.

On Sunday, November 1st, from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., at Congregation Beth Abraham, 396 New Bridge Road, Bergenfield, **Rabbi Yaakov Marcus of Neve Yerushalayim** will present a philosophic/*hashkafic* lecture on "**A Diamond in the Crown: Discovering the Deeper Meaning Behind Hair Covering.**" The lecture will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The **Torah Academy of Bergen County** invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Sunday morning, November 1st, at 9:15 A.M., at the yeshiva, 1600 Queen Anne Road. For more information, please call the office, (201) 837-7696, or go to www.tabc.org.

On Monday, November 2nd, at 8:15 P.M., at Yeshivat Noam, 70 West Century Road, Paramus, Yeshivat Noam's Health Committee presents **Practical Tips for Healthy Living and Adjusting One's Lifestyle**, featuring Dr. Steven Becker, pediatrician, and Pliya Plaut, holistic health counselor. For more information, please contact Jordana Becker, sbeck212@yahoo.com.

The **Rosenbaum Yeshiva of North Jersey** invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Tuesday, November 3rd, at 8:00 P.M., at the yeshiva, 666 Kinderkamack Road. For more information, contact Debbie Rosenberg, (201) 986-1414, rynjopenhouse@ynj.org.

Yeshivat Ben Porat Yosef invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Wednesday, November 4th, at 8:00 P.M., at the yeshiva. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Ruth Roth, Director of Admissions, RuthR@benporatyosef.org, (201) 845-5007 ext. 16.

Yeshivat Noam invites prospective parents to an **Open House** on Sunday, November 8th, at 7:30 P.M., at the yeshiva, 70 West Century Road, Paramus. For more information, please contact Ruchie, (201) 261-1919 ext. 113, or go to www.yeshivatnoam.org.

Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls invites prospective parents and their daughters to an **Open House** on Sunday, November 8th, at 1:30 P.M., at the school, 1650 Palisade Avenue. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Rivka Kahan, (201) 833-4307 ext. 202.

Parasha Questions for Parashat Noach:

- (a) Why does the *Torah* call *Noach* a *tzadik* "be-dorotav" (in his generations) (4 explanations)? (b) Why did *Hashem* use water to destroy the *dor ha-mabul* (*Noach's* generation) (2 reasons)? (c) Why did *Hashem* save *Noach* from the *mabul* by giving him the complicated task of building the ark (3 reasons)? (*Bereishit* 6:9,14, 17)
- (a) Which animals came to *Noach's* ark on their own? (b) (1) Which animals did *Noach* have to capture? (2) Why? (c) (1) What characteristic made an animal brought to the ark *tahor* (pure) (3 explanations)? (2) Where do we learn that a person should avoid speaking vulgar language? (3) Why does the *Torah* later use this "vulgar" word? (d) (1) Why did *Hashem* prohibit *Noach*, his family and the animals from having conjugal relations in the ark (5 explanations)? (2) Which 3 violated the prohibition by having relations, and how were they punished? (*Bereishit* 7:7-8)
- (a) How long were the *mei ha-mabul* (floodwaters) on the earth? (b) Did the *mei ha-mabul* rain down on all of the earth? (c) Since the *mabul* destroyed the world's vegetation, from where did the dove get the olive leaf that it brought back to the ark? (d) (1) After the *mabul*, where did *Noach* build an altar for *Hashem*? (2) Who else built altars there? (*Bereishit* 8:11,14,20)
- (a) (1) Which 6 of the *sheva mitzvot Bnei Noach* (7 Noahide *mitzvot*) did *Hashem* command *Adam*? (2) Which *mitzvah* did He command *Noach* after the *mabul*? (b) Why did *Hashem* use the rainbow as the sign that He would never again destroy humanity? (c) During which two generations were there no rainbows? (*Bereishit* 9:3-17)
- (a) What was *Nimrod's* other name? (b) What do these 2 names represent? (*Bereishit* 10:8-9)
- (a) (1) Before the construction of the *Migdal Bavel* (Tower of Babel), what was the *safa achat* (one language) spoken in the whole world? (2) How do we know this (2 explanations)? (b) What was the goal of each of the 3 groups who combined to build the *migdal*, and how did *Hashem* punish each group? (c) How old was *Avraham* when *Noach* died? (*Bereishit* 11:1-9,26)
- In the *haftara*, (a) to what does the *navi* compare the floodwaters of *Noach*? (b) when the *navi* says that *Hashem* "swore" that the floodwaters of *Noach* would never again pass over the earth, when did He swear? (*Yeshayahu* 54:9)

Learning Opportunities

· The **Amud Yomi shiur** meets week nights at 9:30 P.M. at Rinat Yisrael.

Motzei Shabbat

Rabbi Reisman's satellite *Navi shiur*: 9:00 P.M. at Keter Torah

Sunday

· This Sunday, October 25, Yeshiva University invites you to its **Midreshet Yom Rishon**, weekly Sunday morning learning for women. The program which will be held at the Shenk Shul in the Schottenstein Center (on West 185th Street, between Audubon and St. Nicholas Avenues) is open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, and learning levels. Admission is free, and no registration is required. This week, Midreshet Yom Rishon will feature **Mrs. Smadar Rosenswieg** and **Mrs. Chana Ginsburg**. The first *shiur* starts at 9:30 A.M.; second *shiur* starts at 10:30 A.M. For more information or to download *mar'ei mekomot*, visit www.midreshetyomrishon.org or call (212) 960-0041.

· This Sunday, October 25, Yeshiva University invites you to its **Kollel Yom Rishon**, weekly Sunday morning learning for men. The program, which will be held in Furst Hall Room

501 (500 West 185th Street, at the corner of Amsterdam Avenue) is open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, and learning levels. Admission is free, and no registration is required. This week, Kollel Yom Rishon will feature **Rabbi Meir Goldwicht** and **Rabbi Yonason Sacks**. The first *shiur* starts at 9:30 A.M., second *shiur* starts at 10:30 A.M. For more information or to download *mar'ei mekomot*, visit www.kollelyomrishon.org or call (212) 960-0041.

· The **Chofetz Chaim Women's Learning Group** will meet this Sunday, October 25th, at the Fogel home, 926 Queen Anne Road.

Monday

· Each Monday, from 9:00 to 10:00 A.M., a **Tehillim group** will meet at Rochi Lerner's home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

· The **Bergen Community Kollel for Baale Batim** meets every Monday morning in the Beth Aaron library. The schedule is as follows: 8:00-8:20 A.M. - *Mussar Classics*; 8:20-9:30 A.M. - *Gemara Ketubot*; 9:30-10:00 A.M. - *Hilchot Shabbat*. All are invited to come for part or all of the *shiur*. No previous background is required. For more information, contact Dr. Andy

Fink, (201) 833-2527.

Tuesday

· Rochi Lerner's **Tehillim shiur** takes place every Tuesday evening at 8:30 P.M. at Rochi Lerner's home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

Wednesday

· On Wednesday mornings, at 10:30 A.M., Rochi Lerner presents a **Megillat Esther shiur**, in memory of the Seidenfeld children, at the Lerner home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

· Rabbi Zvi Sobolofsky's Wednesday evening *shiur* takes place at Bnai Yeshurun at 9:15 P.M.

Thursday

· **Rabbi Yissocher Frand's** weekly *shiur* will be broadcast at 9:00 P.M. at Keter Torah.

· Each Thursday morning until January 14th, from 11:00 A.M. to 12:15 P.M., **Rochie Lerner** will be giving a *shiur* at **Yeshivat Noam**, 70 West Century Road, Paramus, which will explore the characters of *Yitzchak* and *Shimshon*. The *shiurim* are open to the entire community, and there is no charge. For more information, or if you wish to sponsor a *shiur*, please contact esteeekirsch@yahoo.com or shulamitholzer@yahoo.com.

Each Tuesday and Thursday morning, **Keter Torah** presents **Torah in the AM**: 9:00 to 9:40 A.M. - *Navi chavura* on *Sefer Shmuel Bet*; 9:45 to 10:45 A.M. - Rabbi Menachem Meier's *Talmud shiur* on *Bava Metzia*, Chapter 5; 10:50 to 11:40 A.M. - Rabbi Meier's *shiur* on Jeremiah (Thursday only); 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon - Rabbi Baum's *shiur* on *Sefer Ezra* (Tuesday only)

Answers to Parasha Questions:

- (a) (1) Since *Noach* was righteous in his corrupt generation; how much more righteous would he have been if he had lived in a righteous generation; (2) *Noach* was righteous compared to his contemporaries, but in *Avraham's* time he would have been insignificant (*Rashi*). (3) *Noach* spanned many generations and was righteous in all of them (*Abarbanel*). (4) The righteous of each generation must be judged in terms of their own time and are placed in each generation based on its needs (*Sefer ha-Parshiot*). (b) (1) The *dor ha-mabul* became arrogant because of the bounty that *Hashem* gave them, including a plentiful supply of water from rivers and springs; since they felt no need even to pray for rain, He punished them with rain; (2) each member of the generation sinned by opening his *ayin* (eye) widely and forcibly taking everything after which he lusted; *Hashem* opened every *ayin* (fountain) of water to punish them (*Sanhedrin* 108a). (c) (1) The elaborate and lengthy preparations would cause the people to question why *Noach* was building the ark and give them an opportunity to repent; (2) by fulfilling *Hashem's* difficult *mitzvah* of building the ark despite the people's opposition, *Noach* became spiritually elevated; (3) since the *tzadik* of each generation is the first to suffer for the generation's sins, *Hashem* wanted *Noach* to hide in the ark while the *Malach ha-Mavet* destroyed everyone else (*Bereishit Raba*).
- (a) (1) The species that were not *tahor* (non-kosher); (b) (1) the 7 pairs of each *tahor* (kosher) species. (2) since 6 of the 7 pairs of each species were in the ark to be later slaughtered as *korbanot* (sacrifices), these species did not come on their own (*Ramban*). (c) (1) Animals: (i) with which no sin had been committed (*Zevachim* 116a); (ii) which would later be deemed *kosher* for *Bnei Yisrael* (*Netziv*); (iii) which *Noach* could later bring as *korbanot* (*Sforno*). (2) To avoid the vulgar word "*tamei*" (impure), the *Torah* uses the longer expression "*lo tehora*" (not pure) Instead of calling the non-kosher animals "*tamei*". (2) The *Torah* later uses the word *tamei* to teach various *halachot* and describe *korbanot*, but since the *dor ha-mabul* routinely used ugly, repulsive language, *Hashem* demonstrated in the context of the *dor ha-mabul* the importance of expressing oneself in a refined manner (*Rokeach*). (d) (1) (i) Because the world was *sharui be-tza'ar* (in a state of distress) (*Rashi*). (ii) The population of the ark had to be controlled to prevent overcrowding and food shortages (*Malbim*). (iii) Since it is forbidden to engage in marital relations during a famine, even if one has food; it was forbidden to have relations while the world around them was dying (*Ta'anit* 11a). (iv) The ark, like the *Mishkan*, was a holy "tent of *Hashem*," where marital relations were inappropriate; (v) children conceived while the world was cursed would be cursed as well (*Zohar*). (2) (i) The dog, which was destined to be "tied" to its mate after relations and have relations immodestly; (ii) the raven, which was condemned to spit seed from its mouth to the mouth of its mate; (3) *Cham* had relations with his wife, and *Kush* was born in the ark with dark skin (*Sanhedrin* 108b).
- (a) One solar year – 365 days; the water began on 17 *Marcheshvan* (7:11), and the earth dried on 27 *Marcheshvan* the following year – the solar year was 11 days longer than 12 lunar months (*Rashi*). (b) No; it did not rain on *Eretz Yisrael* – the water that covered *Eretz Yisrael* flowed in from *Chutz la-Aretz*; (c) *Eretz Yisrael's* trees were not destroyed; the leaf came from *Eretz Yisrael's Har ha-Zeitim* (Mount of Olives) (*Ramban*). (d) (1) On *Har ha-Moriah*; (2) (i) *Adam*; (ii) *Kayin* and *Hevel*; (iii) *Avraham*; (iv) *Shlomo ha-Melech* (*Ramban* -- *Hilchot Beit ha-Bechira* 2:2).
- (a) (1) (i) *Dinim* (to establish courts to enforce the other *mitzvot*); the prohibitions of: (ii) *birchat Hashem* (blasphemy), (iii) *avoda zara* (idolatry), (iv) *gilui arayot* (immoral relations), (v) *shefichat damim* (murder), and (vi) *gezel* (theft); (2) *eiver min ha-chai* (eating a limb torn from a live animal), since pre-*mabul*, eating all meat was prohibited (*Sanhedrin* 56a-b). (b) The rainbow resembles a reverse bow, signifying that *Hashem* will send no more "arrows" to the world to destroy mankind (*Ramban*). (c) In the generations of: (1) *Chizkiyahu ha-Melech* and (2) *Rebi Shimon bar Yochai*, *Bnei Yisrael* were *tzadikim gemurim* (completely righteous) and did not need the sign of the rainbow to protect the world from a *mabul* (*Rashi*).
- (a) *Amrafel*; (b) he was called: (1) *Nimrod*, which means "caused rebellion," because he persuaded others to rebel against *Hashem*; (2) *Amrafel*, which means "he who cast *Avraham* into the cauldron" from which *Hashem* saved him (*Bereishit Raba*).
- (a) (1) *Leshon ha-kodesh* (the holy tongue - Hebrew) (*Rashi*). (2) (i) *Adam* called his wife *isha* from the word *ish* (*Bereishit* 2:23), showing that he spoke Hebrew; thus, the *safa achat* must have been Hebrew (*Siftay Chachamim*). (ii) The *gematria* of "*safa achat*" is the same as that of "*leshon ha-kodesh*" (*Ba'al ha-Turim*). (b) A group wanted: (1) to live on top of the *midgal* so the water would not reach them in case of another *mabul* – *Hashem* scattered them across the world; (2) to "make themselves a name" by worshipping idols on the *midgal's* top – *Hashem* confused them with different languages; (3) to wage war against *Hashem* – He transformed them into monkeys and demons (*Sanhedrin* 109a). (c) 58 years old – *Avraham* was 48 at the *haflaga* (the dispersion of the languages), and *Noach* died 10 years later (*Seder Olam*).
- (a) The flood is compared to *Bnei Yisrael's* suffering in the *galut* (exile), and the post-flood covenant is compared to the glory of the *geula* (redemption) (*Radak*). (b) When *Hashem* said twice "*lo osif*" (I will never continue) (*Bereishit* 8:21); *Shevuot* 36a says that this repetition constituted an oath (*Rashi*).