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In memory of our special friend

Shelly Leffel

All your friends of Beth Aaron

Congregation Beth Aaron

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Laurence Rothwachs, Rabbi

Ronnie Schwartz, President

Shabbat Announcements

Parashat Chayei Sarah
November 14, 2009 29 Cheshvan 5770

- Latest Candles: 4:22 P.M.
- *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat*: 4:25 P.M.
- *Oneg* with Rav Ozer: 7:45 P.M. at the Rothwachs home, 288 Schley Place
- *Shacharit. Hashkamah*: **7:15 A.M.**
- Rabbi Rothwachs' *Tefillah shiur*: 8:20 A.M.
- *Main Shul*: 8:45 A.M.
- *Sof Zman Kriat Shema*: 9:11 A.M.
- Youth *Minyan*: **9:15 A.M.**
- Early *Mincha*: 1:45 P.M.
- Rochi Lerner's *Rosh Chodesh shiur*: 3:00 P.M. at the shul. All are welcome.
- *Daf Yomi*: 3:05 P.M.
- Women's Learning Group: Will not meet this week.
- *Mincha*: 4:15 P.M., followed by a *shiur* by Rabbi Eliezer Ozer.
- *Maariv*: 5:22 P.M.
- *Havdalah*: 5:31 P.M.

The entire congregation is invited to a *Kiddush* at the conclusion of the Youth *Minyan*, sponsored by Laurie and Jerry Kasdan in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son Alexander.

Schedule for Week of Oct/November 8th:	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
	15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Earliest Tallit</i>	5:43	5:44	5:45	5:46	5:48	5:49
<i>Shacharit</i>	6:30	5:40	5:35	5:35	5:40	5:55
	7:15	6:20	6:10	6:10	6:20	6:30
	8:00	7:10	7:05	7:05	7:10	7:15
	8:45	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00
<i>Mincha</i>	1:00					
<i>Mincha/Maariv</i>	4:20	4:20	4:20	4:20	4:20	4:20
<i>Maariv</i> :	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	
	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	

Weekly Shiurim:

- *Daf Yomi. Shabbat*: 3:05 P.M.
For other *Daf Yomi shiurim*, go to www.teaneckshuls.org/daf
- **Chabura on Revadim method of Talmud Study**: Sunday evening at 8:15 P.M. This *chabura* applies the *Revadim* method of Talmud study pioneered by Rabbi Pinchas Hayman.
- **Rabbi Simon's shiur**: Monday evening at 8:15 P.M.
- **Parshat ha-Shavua shiur by Rabbi Neil Lauer**: "Soup to Nut?" - 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 and Wednesday - 6:50 A.M.; Friday - 7:00 A.M.

Mazal Tov:

- *Mazal Tov* to Jerry and Laurie Kasdan on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son Alexander.
- *Mazal Tov* to Alden and Evie Leifer on the birth of a granddaughter, born to their children Kobi and Jessie Leifer.
- *Mazal Tov* to Jerry and Rena Barta on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter Noa. *Mazal Tov* also to grandparents Josh and Naomi Siletski and Vera Barta.

The next **Multi-Sponsored Kiddush** is scheduled for November 21st, *Shabbat Parshat Toledot*. Sponsorships are \$200. If you are commemorating a *yahrtzeit*, celebrating a *simcha*, or simply want to say "thank you," please consider being a sponsor of the *Kiddush*. To sponsor, please contact Bryan Stern, (201) 965-5820, or David Goldberg, (201) 530-0996, goldberga@yahoo.com.

We welcome **Rabbi Eliezer Ozer**, *Rosh Yeshiva* of the Lomza Yeshiva in Petach Tikva, who will be joining us this *Shabbat*. Rav Ozer will be speaking at an *oneg* on Friday night, beginning at 7:45 P.M., at the Rothwachs home, 288 Schley Place. Rav Ozer will also be speaking at the *shul* on *Shabbat* afternoon between *mincha* and *maariv*, at approximately 4:35 P.M. All are invited to hear Rav Ozer at both occasions.

Please take a moment from your busy schedule and strongly consider participating in the upcoming **Project Ezrah Dinner**, to be held on Saturday night, December 5th, at Keter Torah. Among the honorees at this year's dinner, receiving the *Ahavas Chesed Award*, are our own **Chaviva and Rabbi Rothwachs**. Project Ezrah is a unique organization that continues to offer considerable support to many members of the greater Teaneck community. Besides the many hundreds of thousands of dollars distributed annually, they offer many other forms of support and relief and they have assisted many families through extraordinarily challenging times. This exemplary organization has raised the collective consciousness of the greater community, serving as a model for what *chesed* truly is. I can personally think of NO more important cause towards which we, as a community, should focus our efforts at this time.

If you have not received an invitation in the mail or if you have misplaced it, please take the time to respond by emailing Susan Alpert at susan@ezrah.org. Needless to say, even if you are unable to attend the dinner, donations can be always made directly to Project Ezrah or through the shul's discretionary fund.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and consideration.

--Ronnie Schwartz

Miscellaneous Shul Announcements

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.

Our next **Sisterhood Book Club** meeting will be on Saturday night, December 5th, at 7:30 P.M., at the home of Pearl Markovitz, 201 Grayson Place. We will be reading "The Zookeeper's Wife," by Diane Ackerman, a nonfiction book about a Polish woman who saved Jewish lives during the Holocaust by hiding people in the zoo. All Beth Aaron women are welcome to join us. For more information, please contact Diane Fogel, (201) 837-0651, difogel@aol.com.

We are pleased to announce that the **Beth Aaron Boys' Choir** will be presenting the following *Chanukah* performances at the shul: On Sunday, December 6th, at 2:00 P.M., the choir will perform at the Youth Department *Chanukah Chagiga*. On *Shabbat Chanukah*, December 12th, the choir will be singing *An'im Zemirot* and *Adon Olam* on the *bimah* at the conclusion of the *main minyan*. All are invited to attend.

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. For more information, go to www.bctoydrive.com.

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.)

Beth Aaron Youth:

- The **learning group for 3rd grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, November 14th, at **3:15 P.M.**, at the Bolton home, 606 Wyndham Road. We will continue studying *Sefer Shmuel*. For more information, contact Doug Dubitsky, douglas_dubitsky@glic.com.
- The **learning group for 4th grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, November 14th, at **3:00 P.M.**, at the Friedman home, 11 Edgemont Place. Please bring your own *Mishnah (Masechet Beitzah)*. For more information, please contact Rebecca Kurz, rkurz1@yahoo.com, or Esther Klavan, esksp@aol.com.
- The first **Parent-Child Learning** will take place this Saturday night, November 14th, at 6:00 P.M., at the *shul*. Children and parents are invited to learn together, enjoy snacks and participate in a raffle for great prizes.
- On Sunday, December 6th, at 2:00 P.M., we will have a **Chanukah Fun Day** at the shul.
- 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):

- On Sunday evening, November 22nd, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M., we will be having an **After-BJE Party** at the shul, for 8th graders only. Come and join your friends! We will be making ice cream sundaes, and the cost is \$5.
- On Friday evening, November 27th, we will be having a **Turkey Stuffed Oneg** at the shul at 8:30 P.M.
- On Sunday, December 13th, we will be having a **Chanukah Party** with *Yachad* from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. More details to follow.
- 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):

- Beth Aaron Teens will be having its first "**Tea and Torah**" this *Shabbat* afternoon, November 14th. We will join together for a *shiur* and shmoozing from 3:00 P.M. until *mincha* at 4:15 P.M. The boys' *shiur* will be led by Noam, and the girls' *shiur* will be led by Shiffy. The *shiur* will be followed by snacks and games.
- We will be ending off Thanksgiving-weekend with a bang at a **Movie Night** at the shul. Join us on *motzaei Shabbat*, November 28th, at 8:30 P.M., for a night of popcorn, pizza and a movie, of course! The cost is \$8, and RSVPs are requested. If you have a favorite movie you would like to see, suggestions are welcome.
- We hope to see you (and your friends) at our events. We'd love to hear feedback about past events and ideas for future events. We can be contacted at bethaaronteens@gmail.com, or by calling Shiffy (Staiman) Friedman, (201) 341-6022, or Noam Friedman, (201) 937-6249.

Senior NCSY:

- This Friday evening, November 13th, at 8:00 P.M., at the Farkas home, 43 Westminster Avenue, Bergenfield, Senior NCSY is having an **Oneg**. Please come and bring your friends!

Community Announcements

CareOne, the kosher rehabilitation and nursing center located at 544 Teaneck Road, needs volunteers to help make a *minyán*. This Friday, *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat* will begin at 4:30 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 4:10 P.M., followed by a *shiur* on *Masechet Ketubot* at 4:25 P.M. *Maariv* will be at 5:23 P.M.

Directed by the Rosh Yeshiva of the highly regarded Ner Israel Yeshiva, Rabbi Aaron Feldman, **Yeshivas Ohr Yosef**, which is moving to a new, permanent building in Teaneck, seeks to inspire young men of diverse backgrounds to achieve a rich Torah experience and excellence in secular studies. This yeshiva high school seeks to nurture emotional, spiritual, social and intellectual maturity, while respecting students' individuality of learning styles, interests, dress and lifestyles. It is currently recruiting 7th and 8th grade boys to enter the school in 2010 and 2011. For more information, please contact Shmuley Brodsky, SJBrodsky@aol.com, (212) 726-2390, or call the *menahel*, Rabbi Herschel Grossman, rabbihg@yahoo.com, (201) 921-4921.

The **Frisch School** invites prospective parents and students to an **Open House** this Sunday, November 15th, from 9:45 A.M. to 12:00 noon, at the school, 120 West Century Road, Paramus. For more information, go to admissions@frisch.org.

On Sunday, November 15th, at 8:00 P.M., Rabbi Sender Shizgal will be speaking in Teaneck about the latest happenings at **Mossad HaRav Kook**, the Jerusalem-based Torah research institute and publishing house, which is one of the most respected publishers of Torah literature in the world. For more information, contact Moshe Fuksbrumer, (201) 530-0034, mfuksbrumer@gmail.com.

There will be a **Rosh Chodesh Shiur** for women on Tuesday evening, November 17th, at 8:30 P.M., at the Pudell home, 166 Edgemont Place. The *shiur* will be given by Adeena Mayerfeld. Please join us for an interactive and inspirational evening of *Torah*. For more information or to volunteer to give a *shiur* or to host, please contact Tzippy Staum, (201) 862-0307.

Registration for the 2010 season of the **Teaneck Baseball Organization** (TBO) is now open. Children ages 5 to 14 (as of July 31st) are eligible to participate in our baseball/softball programs. To register, go to www.teaneckbaseball.org. Registration ends November 30th.

The **Jewish Learning Experience Torah in Action** series invites the community to a special presentation on **Business Laws and Ethics** at Congregation Keter Torah. On Thursday, November 19th, Rabbi David Pietruszka will give a presentation on "Damage Caused by Property" and "Landlord and Tenant Relationships." For more information, contact Rabbi Pietruszka, (201) 966-4498, rabbip@jle.org, www.jle.org.

Sharsheret is sponsoring a **Pre-Thanksgiving Bake Sale** that will help support the development of new programs and services addressing the needs of Jewish women and their families living with ovarian cancer. Please place your orders by Monday, November 16th. Pick-up will be on Wednesday, November 25th in Teaneck. All ingredients are certified kosher. To place your order, or for more information, go to www.sharsheret.org/PiesForPrevention.php, or call Sharon Wieder, (201) 837-7837.

On *Motzaei Shabbat*, November 21st, at 8:00 P.M., at Bnai Yeshurun, **Rabbi Zev Leff**, Rav of Moshav Mattisyahu, will be giving a *shiur*, "**Chinuch in Difficult Times**" on behalf of **Be-Lev Echad**, an organization that strengthens Jewish observance throughout Israel.

Next Saturday night, November 21st, at 7:45 P.M., the **Jewish Learning Experience of Bergen County** will be holding its 24th **Annual Dinner** at the Jewish Center of Teaneck. Among the honorees are **George and Ellen Friedman**. The couvert is \$140 per person, \$280 per couple. To make reservations, please contact Rabbi David Pietruszka, (201) 966-4498, rabbip@jle.org.

On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th, following the 8:00 A.M. *minyán* at Congregation Rinat Yisrael, **Rabbi Moshe Bernstein**, Professor of Bible at Yeshiva University, will speak on "**How Did We Read the Bible Before There Were Commentaries? The Early Stages of Biblical Interpretation: From the Second Temple Period to Chazal.**" All are invited to attend.

On Sunday, November 29th, at Congregation Keter Torah, 600 Roemer Avenue, ATARA (the Sisterhood of Keter Torah) will be having a **Chanukah Mini Mall** as well as a **children's show by Jay Jay the Balloon Guy**. The Mini Mall will be held from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M., and the children's show will take place from 4:00 to 5:30 P.M. The cost of the show is \$7 per child if reserved by November 22nd, and \$9 per child at the door. There will be food for sale after the show. For reservations for the children's show, please e mail rtjzme@gmail.com.

On Sunday, December 6th, at Keter Torah, 600 Roemer Avenue, from 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., the **National Association of Chevra Kadisha** is sponsoring a special **Yom Iyun** for the North Jersey Jewish community. The topics covered will include: Expanding the horizons of the *Chevra Kadisha*; preparing for the inevitable: purchasing plots; pre-need vs. at-need; *viduy* and *gesisa*; burial in a distant location; procedures in the home and hospital at the time of death; *Shabbat* and *Yom Tov*; issues of time; chapel vs. graveside service; review and explanation of the basic *tahara* process. Light refreshments will be served. Although primarily intended for members of the *Chevra Kadisha*, the program is open to the entire community. To RSVP, contact Arnon Hiller or Warren Levie, YomIyun2009@yahoo.com.

Parasha Questions for Parashat Chayei Sarah:

- (a) What caused Sarah's death (4 explanations)? (b) Why was Sarah's burial site called "Me'orat ha-Machpeila" (the "double cave") (4 reasons)? (c) Which 3 places in *Eretz Canaan* were purchased for *Bnei Yisrael* for high prices? (*Beresheet* 23:2,6, 9)
- (a) When the *Torah* states that "Hashem blessed Avraham 'ba-kol' ('with everything')," to what does "ba-kol" refer (10 explanations)? (b) Since the people of *Charan* (where Avraham sent *Eliezer* to find a wife for *Yitzchak*), like the *Canaanites*, were idol worshippers, why did Avraham forbid *Eliezer* from (1) seeking a *Canaanite* woman as *Yitzchak's* wife (4 reasons)? (2) bringing *Yitzchak* to *Charan*? (*Beresheet* 24:1-8)
- (a) From where do we learn that: (1) if a father insists that his son marry a particular woman, the son is not duty-bound to listen? (2) although the *Torah* prohibits divination or fortunetelling, one may seek out certain kinds of omens? (3) if a person has a defect, he should admit it, rather than wait until others accuse him? (4) we must thank *Hashem* for good happenings? (b) After *Rivka* gave *Eliezer* water to drink, why did he not help her water the camels? (*Beresheet* 24:2,12-14,20-21,34,52)
- (a) Since Avraham was so wealthy, why did *Eliezer* ask *Lavan* and *Betuel* to do Avraham "kindness" by letting *Rivka* marry *Yitzchak*; was it not a kindness to them for *Rivka* to marry him? (b) What did *Eliezer* mean when he told *Lavan* and *Betuel* that if they did not let *Rivka* go with him, "ve-efneh al yamin o al semol" (I will turn to the right or to the left)? (c) How does the response of *Lavan* and *Betuel*, "me-Hashem yatza ha-davar" (the matter stemmed from *Hashem*), show that *Lavan* was evil? (*Beresheet* 24:49,50)
- (a) Why was *Yitzchak* in *Be'er la-Chai Ro'iy* (3 reasons)? (b) In which field did he pray (2 opinions)? (*Beresheet* 24:62-63)
- (a) Why did *Hashem* want Avraham to remarry after Sarah's death (3 reasons)? (b) How do we know that *Yishmael* did *teshuva* for his life of sin (4 explanations)? (*Beresheet* 25:1,9,12-18)
- In the *haftara*, how do we know that *Avishag*, who had been brought before *David ha-Melech* because she was exceedingly beautiful, was not as beautiful as Sarah? (I *Melachim* 1:4)

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*: 7:30 P.M. at Keter Torah.

Sunday

· This Sunday, November 15th, 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. Shani Taragin** and **Rabbi Aryeh Handler**. 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*, call (212) 960-0041, or visit www.midreshetyomrison.org.

· This Sunday, November 15th, 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, back-

grounds, and learning levels. Admission is free, and no registration is required. This week, Kollel Yom Rishon will feature **Rabbi Aryeh Handler** and **Rabbi Jeremy Weider**. 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*, call (212) 960-0041 or visit www.kollelyomrison.org.

· The **Chofetz Chaim Women's Learning Group** will meet this Sunday, November 15th, at the Cohen home, 630 Tilden Avenue, Teaneck.

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 welcome. 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 evening, at 8:30 P.M., at the Yeshiva Gedolah, 1443 Palisade Avenue, **Rabbi Roberts** gives a **Parasha Shiur**, which is followed by *maariv* at 9:30 P.M.

· 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*.

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:

1. (a) (1) *Satan* told *Sarah* that *Avraham* and *Yitzchak* went to *Har ha-Moriah* to slaughter *Yitzchak*; the shock was too great for her (*Targum Yonatan*). (2) *Yitzchak* returned to *Sarah* and told her about the *akeida*; the thought of what would have happened if the angel had not intervened killed her (*Vayikra Raba*). (3) When *Sarah* was told that *Yitzchak* was returning with *Avraham* from *Har ha-Moriah*, she believed that *Avraham* had failed the test of the *akeida*; this pain caused her death; (4) *Sarah* was so upset that *Avraham* did not consult her before taking *Yitzchak* to be killed, it killed her (*Medrash Tanchuma*). (b) (1) It contained an upper and lower story; (2) it was named for the couples, beginning with *Adam* and *Chava*, who would be buried there (*Rashi*). (3) it was a double cave, one inside the other (*ibn Ezra*). (4) Because *Adam* was too tall to fit in the cave, *Hashem* folded him in half when He buried him (*Ramban*). (c) (1) *Avraham* bought *Me'orat ha-Machpeila* in *Chevron* for 400 silver *shekalim* (*Beresheet* 23:16); (2) *Ya'akov* bought the site of *Yosef's* tomb in *Shechem* for 100 *kesitas* (*Beresheet* 33:19); (3) *David ha-Melech* bought the site of the *Beit ha-Mikdash* in *Yerushalayim* for 600 gold *shekalim* (*I Divrei ha-Yamim* 21:25) (*Beresheet Raba*).

2. (a) (1) The *gematria* of *ba-kol* is 52, the same as *bein* (son); *Avraham's* blessing was his son, for whom he now needed to find a mate (*Rashi*). (2) He had all of the essential treasures to which a man aspires – riches, possessions, honor, longevity and children (*Ramban*). (3) He had a daughter named *Ba-kol*, through whom he was blessed to fulfill the *mitzvah* of *peru u-revu* by fathering a son and daughter; (4) he was blessed by not having a daughter, since there was no appropriate man available whom she could have married; (5) he was blessed with the skill and power of astrology and was consulted by kings far and wide; (6) he owned a precious stone that would cure any sick person who saw it; (7) he saw *Yishmael* do *teshuva*; (8) the *yeitzer hara* had no domination over him; (9) he was blessed by having his lifespan shortened by 5 years, from 180 to 175 years, so he would not see his grandson *Eisav* sin (*Bava Batra* 16b); (10) the *Shechina* dwelt within him (*Zohar Chadash*). (b) (1) (i) By marrying a woman from *Charan*, *Yitzchak* would have a wife far away from her family, and she would not be influenced by them (*Kli Yakar*). (ii) Since the *Cana'anites*, unlike the people of *Charan*, were cursed, they were unsuited as mates for *Avraham's* blessed descendants (*Ohr ha-Chaim*). (iii) The *Cana'anites*, unlike the people of *Charan*, were morally corrupt; *Hashem* gave *Eretz Yisrael* to his descendants so that they would live according to the *Torah's* morality, and the *Cana'anites'* immorality could not seep into *Avraham's* family (*Meshech Chochma*). (iv) *Avraham* wanted all to know that his offspring acquired *Eretz Yisrael* through *Hashem's* promise, not through intermarriage with the *Cana'anites*; (2) As a result of the *akeida*, *Yitzchak* had become an "olah temima" (a perfect offering to *Hashem*), who could not leave the holy land (*Chizkuni*).

3. (a) (1) *Avraham* gave instructions and administered an oath to *Eliezer* about a wife for *Yitzchak* but did not command *Yitzchak* himself (*Meshech*

Chochma). (2) *Eliezer* sought a sign to indicate that he had found the right partner for *Yitzchak*; (3) *Eliezer* began by saying, "I am *Avraham's* slave," rather than claiming to be his agent, friend or relative, even though no one could have contradicted him; (4) when *Eliezer* heard that *Rivka* was *Avraham's* relative, he bowed and thanked *Hashem* (*Bereishit Raba*). (b) *Eliezer* wanted to be sure that *Rivka's* actions were *Hashem's* sign that she was a worthy mate for *Yitzchak* (*Sforno*).

4. (a) Since they knew that *Hashem* had decreed that *Yitzchak's* descendants would be enslaved for 400 years, they logically could have refused to let *Rivka* marry *Yitzchak* (*Bereishit Raba*). (b) *Eliezer* would turn to *Yishmael's* family, who lived in the south, or to *Lot's* family, who lived in the north, to seek a wife for *Yitzchak*. The *gematria* of the initial letters of these words is the same as "Yishmael," meaning that if *Rivka* did not come with him, *Eliezer* would turn to *Yishmael's* family to find *Yitzchak's* mate; the *gematria* of this phrase is the same as "this is *Yishmael* or *Amon* and *Moav*," meaning that *Eliezer* would also look for a mate for *Yitzchak* among *Lot's* relatives (*Ba'al ha-Turim*). (c) *Lavan* responded before his father (*Rashi*).

5. (a) (1) It was where *Hagar* lived, and *Yitzchak* brought her to remarry his father (*Rashi*). (2) He was overseeing his cattle which grazed there (*Radak*). (3) This is where *Hagar's* prayers had been answered, and *Yitzchak* went to the same place to pray for a wife for himself (*Sforno*). (b) (1) *Har ha-Moriah* (*Tosafot – Berachot* 34b). (2) *Me'orat ha-Machpeila* (*Zohar Chadash*).

6. (a) (1) To teach us that a man who has children should remarry when he is old because he can never know which of his children will be virtuous; (2) to publicize *Hashem's* greatness in changing the course of nature; although *Avraham* could not have children when he was young, he had many children when he was more than 140 years old; (3) *Hashem* wanted 30 nations to descend from *Avraham* (12 through *Yishmael*; 2 through *Yitzchak*; 16 through *Ketura*) to replace the 30 families that perished when He destroyed *Migdal Bavel* (*Bereishit Raba*). (b) (1) *Yishmael* gave *Yitzchak* precedence in *Avraham's* burial, showing that he recognized that it was *Hashem's* will for *Yitzchak* to be *Avraham's* heir (*Rashi*). (2) The *Torah* uses the same phraseology (100 years, 30 years and 7 years) for *Yishmael's* age as it had used for *Avraham's* and *Sarah's* ages, to show that *Yishmael's* sins were wiped out because he had become a *tzadik* (*Da'at Zekeinim*). (3) When *Yishmael* died, the *Torah* uses the terms *va-yigva* (and he expired) and *va-ye'aseif el amov* (and he was gathered to his people); these words are used only to describe the death of a *tzadik* (*Rashi*). (4) *Avraham* was blessed with everything (24:1), including *Yishmael's* *teshuva* (*Bava Batra* 16b).

7. *Avishag* is described as "yaffa ad me'ode" (beautiful until, but not including, "me'ode"); whereas, *Sarah* is described in *Beresheet* 12:14 as *yafa hee me'ode* (her beauty included the highest degree of "me'ode") (*Sanhedrin* 39b).