



DAY 1 SUNDAY, TAMMUZ 17 - JULY 13

Today is Shivah Asar B'Tammuz, a fast day. That means many people around you like your mommy, totty, older brothers and sisters, and your counselors are not eating today. It's a day when we remember something very sad that happened long ago: the Romans broke through the walls of Yerushalayim, which led to the destruction of the Second Beis HaMikdash. That's why today begins a time called The Three Weeks, a period of mourning when we remember the destruction of the Beis HaMikdash.

The Rebbe teaches us something very speical, that even in the middle of darkness, there is a hidden light. What is that hidden light?

The Tanya explains that there are two types of good. One is a revealed good, things that make us feel happy and safe. The other is a hidden good so high and deep that we can't always see it or understand it. The Rebbe gives us an example: imagine a man from a jungle walks into a hospital and sees doctors doing surgery. To him, it looks scary they're cutting someone open! But we know they're actually helping that person get better. The man just doesn't understand medicine.

In the same way, Hashem is much, much wiser than we are. Sometimes He does things that feel sad, but they are really for our good.

This helps us see Shivah Asar B'Tammuz differently. Because the number seventeen, the date of this fast, has the same gematria as the word "tov", which means good. So even though it looks like a sad day, there is a secret goodness hidden inside.

One day, when Moshiach comes, this very day will turn into a Yom Tov!

Even if you're too young to fast, you can say extra Tehillim, give some tzedakah, learn about the Beis HaMikdash, and do mitzvos with a big smile.

Every little bit helps turn hidden good into revealed good which brings the world closer to Moshiach. Source: Chabad.org

MONDAY, TAMMUZ 18 - JULY 14

When the Yidden were in the Midbar, Moshe Rabbeinu helped build the very first place for Hashem's shechina to rest- it was called the Mishkan.

The Mishkan was special because it could be taken apart and moved wherever the Yidden traveled. Later, almost 400 years after the Yidden entered Eretz Yisrael, Dovid HaMelech made plans to build a beautiful, permanent Beis Hamikdash for Hashem in Yerushalayim. But it was his son, Shlomo HaMelech, who actually built it.

This was the First Beis Hamikdash, and it stood in Yerushalayim for 410 years! Sadly, the First Beis Hamikdash was destroyed by Nevuchadnetzar of Bavel, and the Yidden were sent into galus.

After 70 years, Hashem helped the Yidden return to Eretz Yisrael. The builing of the Second Bais Hamikdash was led by the great tzaddik Ezra HaSofer.

He helped build the Second Beis Hamikdash, not long after the story of Purim. The Second Beis Hamikdash was even bigger than the first and stood for 420 years, until it was destroyed by the Romans, led by a man named Titus.



Now it is time for Moshiach to come and finally have the Third and final Bais Hamikdash!!

DAY 3 TUESDAY, TAMMUZ 19 - JULY 15

Did you know that just by learning about the Beis HaMikdash, you're actually helping to rebuild it?

At Farbrengens during the Three Weeks the Rebbe would speak with passion and urgency to all the Chassidim. The Rebbe emphasized how important it is to learn the laws of the Bais Hamikdash- which is called *Hilchos Beis HaBechira*!

The Rebbe encouraged us to use models, diagrams and pictures to make it easier and better to understand.

And guess what? When we learn these halachos, we bring spiritual light into the world and help get ready for Moshiach to come.

It's as if we are actually building the Bais Hamikdash!

One time on Erev Tisha B'Av the Rebbe walked by a group of chassidim who were waiting for the Rebbe's arrival to 770. The Rebbe turned to them and said:



"The time spent waiting here could have been used [better] to learn Hilchos Beis Habechira and [thereby] help in the building of the third Beis Hamikdosh."

Source: Derher

WEDNESDAY, TAMMUZ 20 - JULY 16

The Beis HaMikdash was the holiest place in the whole world, the place where Hashem's Shechinah rested.

The Rebbe explains that the Torah calls it "the place that Hashem will choose for His name to rest."

That means Hashem didn't just pick the building, He chose the exact spot where the Beis HaMikdash would stand.



Even more amazing, the kedushah of the Beis HaMikdash doesn't come just from the walls or the keilim; The ground itself is holy, because Hashem chose that place forever!

So even though the Beis HaMikdash isn't built yet, the place is still full of kedushah.

We are waiting for the day when it will be rebuilt!

Source: Rabbi Aryeh Citron

DAY 5 THURSDAY, TAMMUZ 21 - JULY 17

In the time of the Beis HaMikdash, korbanos were brought every day. Some parts of the korban were burned on the Mizbeach, and some parts, like the korban shlamim, were eaten by the owner.

Even though the meat sometimes stayed for a while, like the shlamim, which could be eaten for two days and the night in between it never spoiled- not even in the hot Yerushalayim summers!!

Today, without a fridge, meat would go bad very quickly. But in the Beis HaMikdash, this never happened.

Hashem made a miracle so that the meat of the korbanos always stayed fresh and pure.



Source: Rabbi Aryeh Citron

DAY 6 FRIDAY, TAMMUZ 22 - JULY 18

In the Second Bais Hamikdash all the doorways (except for the one to the Ulam which was twice the size of all the other doorways) were 20 amos high and 10 Amos wide.

That is about 31 ½ feet high and 15 ½ feet wide, which is about 5 ½ times the height of a person that's 5'10" tall and as wide as 9 people!!



Source: Chabad.org

DAY 7 SHABBOS, TAMMUZ 23 - JULY 19

In the Beis HaMikdash, there was a special room called the Lishkas HaShemanim, the Chamber of the Oils.

This is where they kept the oil, wine, and fine flour used for korbanos.

When someone brought a korban that needed these ingredients; like a korban minchah, they couldn't use their own ingredients. He had to buy them from the Beis HaMikdash supplies, which were kept in this chamber.

First, he would go to the Lishkas HaChosamos (the place they sold the ingredients). There, he would tell them what kind of korban he was bringing. After he paid, the attendant would give him a chosam (a special token or receipt) that listed what he bought.

Then, he would go to the Lishkas HaShemanim, and hand the chosam to the attendant there. Then they would give him the exact amount of oil, wine and flour that he needed.



DAY 8 SUNDAY, TAMMUZ 24 - JULY 20

In the Beis HaMikdash, there was a special room known as the Lishkas HaGazis. This is where the Sanhedrin would sit.

The Sanhedrin was made up of 71 Zekanim.

This chamber was built with special stone seats carved directly from solid stone. The greatest and most righteous Chachamim and Dayanim of Bnei Yisrael would gather there to judge the most serious halachic questions.

Why was this chamber in the Beis HaMikdash?

So that when the Sanhedrin made decisions, they would always be in a place of Kedushah, surrounded by the presence of Hashem, and would rule according to the way of the Torah.

And very soon, when Moshiach comes and the Third Beis HaMikdash is rebuilt, the Sanhedrin will return to the Lishkas HaGazis.

Then there will be true peace in the world, and Yerushalayim will spread out to fill the entire Eretz Yisrael, as promised in the words of the Nevi'im.



MONDAY, TAMMUZ 25 - JULY 21

In the Beis HaMikdash, the Kohanim had to be completely pure before doing the Avodah.

Before they began, they would go to the Kiyor, a large wash-basin filled with water to wash their hands and feet.

At first, the Kiyor had only two spouts, but later, a Kohen Gadol named Ben Katin made a big improvement. He added twelve spouts, so that all twelve Kohanim who did the Korban Tamid could wash at the same time, quickly and properly, before starting the Avodah.

Everything in the Beis HaMikdash was done with kedushah, taharah, and kavod, and the Kiyor helped the Kohanim prepare themselves to serve Hashem in the holiest and purest way.

DAY 10 TUESDAY, TAMMUZ 26 - JULY 22

The Menorah in the Beis HaMikdash was made out of pure gold, and was one solid piece. It had three legs and seven straight branches.

Each branch had three upside-down cups, and near the bottom was another cup for a total of 22 cups, just like the 22 letters of the Alef-Beis.

The Menorah was also beautifully decorated with 9 flowers and 11 egg shaped bulbs. The flowers showed that the world is full of growth and potential, and the bulbs reminded us of the deep spiritual joy a Yid can feel when connected to Hashem.

Every evening, the Kohen Gadol (or another Kohen) would light the Menorah as part of the daily Avodah.

All the flames of the Menorah were turned toward the middle lamp, called the nair ma'aravi (the western lamp), because it faced the Kodesh



HaKodashim.

This special lamp was always lit first and stayed burning miraculously even after the others went out until it was time to light them again the next day.

This was an open miracle that showed the whole world that the Shechinah was with Bnei Yisroel.

WEDNESDAY, TAMMUZ 27 - JULY 23

In the Beis HaMikdash, there was a golden table called the Shulchan, where the Lechem HaPanim, the special holy bread, was placed.

Every Erev Shabbos, the Kohanim would carefully place twelve specially baked loaves on the Shulchan. They were set in two rows of six, with special golden trays separating each loaf to keep air spaces between them.

These loaves were not shaped like regular challah they were curved like a boat, designed to face in two directions. That's why they were called Lechem HaPanim, meaning "bread of faces."

> Even though the bread sat on the Shulchan for an entire week, it stayed fresh and warm until the next Shabbos — another one of the amazing miracles of the Bais Hamikdash.

THURSDAY, TAMMUZ 28 - JULY 24

During the Yomim Tovim, the crowd in the courtyard of the Beis Hamikdash was so so big that they would overflow into areas that were usually off limits.

In addition, the crowd was so packed that people's feet would be lifted from the floor (like they were floating).

Yet when it was time to bow to Hashem everyone miraculously had plenty of room to bow in their own private space. How cool!



Source: Rabbi Aryeh Citron

DAY 13 FRIDAY, TAMMUZ 29 - JULY 25

Next to the Aron in the Kodesh Hakedoshim, was three precious items:

The staff of Aharon HaKohen

This is the staff (stick) that once blossomed with almond flowers overnight, showing Hashem's choice of Aharon as Kohen Gadol.

A jar of Man

Reminding us that Hashem fed us in the Midbar for 40 years.

A small container of the Shemen Hamishchah

The special oil used to anoint kings and Kohanim.

When Shlomo HaMelech built the first Beis HaMikdash, he knew it would one day be destroyed. So he built secret underground chambers to hide the Aron, Aharon's staff, the jar of man, and the shemen hamishchah. Before the Churban Bayis Rishon, King Yoshiyahu had these holy items hidden away and they were never found again, not even during the time of the Second Beis HaMikdash.

But when Moshiach comes and the Third Beis HaMikdash is built, all these treasures will return to their place in the Kodesh HaKadashim, where the Shechinah will rest once again among the Yidden forever.



DAY 14 SHABBOS, AV 1 - JULY 26

The Mizbeach HaOlah, 'the Great Altar', stood proudly in the courtyard of the Beis HaMikdash. It was built out of stone, and it was used for bringing up korbanos.

There were three fires always burning on top of the Mizbeach:

- 1. One for the korban tamid and other daily offerings.
- 2. One for hot coals used to burn ketores on the Mizbeiach Hazahav inside the Heichal.
- 3. One extra fire, just to fulfill the mitzvah of keeping a constant flame.

The Kohanim weren't allowed to use stairs to go up to the Mizbeach. Instead, they used a long ramp because going up by steps would not be respectful to the Mizbeach.

The Mizbeach was built in the holiest spot in the world a place that can never be changed. Even non-Jews recognized how special this place was, and no idol was ever worshipped there.

DAY 15 SUNDAY, AV 2 - JULY 27

This spot in the Bais Hamikdash where the Mizbeiach stood was also the same spot where the following took place:

- 1. Where Adam HaRishon brought his korban,
- 2. Where Noach offered korbanos after the Mabul,
- 3. Where Avraham Avinu brought Yitzchak as a korban at the Akeidah,
- 4. And where Hashem took the earth to create Adam HaRishon.

When Moshiach comes this is also where the Mizbeach of the Third Beis HaMikdash will stand as well!



DAY 16 MONDAY, AV 3 - JULY 28

To have a constant fire on the Mizbeach it needed a lot of wood.

Kohanim who weren't able to do regular Avodah - either because of age or other reasons- still had a special job: they would check all the wood to make sure it was clean and free of worms, to make sure only the best was used for Hashem.



DAY 17 TUESDAY, AV 4 - JULY 29

Did you know the Beis Hamikdash wasn't built on flat ground?

It was actually built on a mountain. That means when people came to the Beis Hamikdash, they had to walk up the mountain, going higher and higher as they got closer to Hashem's special place.

This teaches us a very important lesson: When it comes to Torah and mitzvos, we should always try to go up, just like climbing a mountain.

We don't want stay in one place, we always try to learn more and do more mitzvos.

DAY 18 WEDNESDAY, AV 5 - JULY 30

Did you know there was a special mitzvah to have guards around the Beis Hamikdash every night?

It wasn't because Hashem needs protection; Hashem is stronger than any army in the world! They had guards around the Beis Hamikdash to show honor and respect, just like a king's palace is guarded with great care.

Every night, 24 guards stood around the Beis Hamikdash:

Three Kohanim were inside and 21 Levi'im stood outside each in their own special place. These guards helped remind everyone how holy and special the Beis Hamikdash was.



DAY 19 THURSDAY, AV 6 - JULY 31

In the Beis Hamikdash, the Levi'im stood on a special platform called the Duchan and sang songs to Hashem every day especially during the korban tamid.

They didn't only sing, they also played special instruments like harps, trumpets, and flutes.

The music of the Levi'im wasn't just background, it was a spiritual avodah that helped elevate the korbanos to higher worlds.



DAY 20 FRIDAY, AV 7 - AUGUST 1

The holiest part of the Beis HaMikdash was the Kodesh Hakedoshim. Inside stood the Aron HaKodesh, which held the Luchos.

The Aron was made of three boxes: a wooden box inside two boxes of pure gold. It was exactly the same size as the Luchos, showing that the Torah fits perfectly into our lives. On top of the Aron was the Kapores, a solid gold cover, over six inches thick.

From the Kapores rose two golden Keruvim, a boy and a girl facing each other like guards standing over the Torah. Hashem's voice would come out from between their wings when He spoke to Moshe.

Our Chachamim tell us that when Hashem was pleased with the Yidden, the Keruvim would turn to face each other lovingly, showing Hashem's love for His people.

No one was allowed into the Kodesh HaKadashim except for the Kohen Gadol, and even he could only enter once a year, on Yom Kippur, to daven for all of Klal Yisrael.



Even when it needed cleaning, men were lowered in baskets from above, facing the wall so they wouldn't look into the Kodesh HaKadashim. That's how holy it was!

DAY 21 SHABBOS, AV 8 - AUGUST 2

The Rebbe and the Beis Hamikdash Model

In 5752 Reb Dov Lavnuni took it upon himself to build a 3-D model of the Beis Hamikdash. He worked to make sure that the details were perfect and precise down to the very last detail.

On Sunday, 26 Adar 1 5752 he had the great privilege to bring his hard work to the Rebbe. He handed the Rebbe his binder full of pictures and then held up the model, pointing out all the parts of the Beis Hamikdash. The model was made with a lot of care and detail. Even the roof could come off so people could see inside!

The Rebbe smiled and gave him a bracha for success. Just as Reb Dov was about to move on, the Rebbe suddenly asked something unexpected: "Where is the ramp? The ramp for the Mizbeiach?"

Reb Dov was surprised! He pointed to the two mizbeiachs in the model and showed the ramp leading up to the Mizbeiach. He explained that he had measured everything carefully, making sure the whole model was 200 times smaller than the real thing.

The Rebbe gently replied, "It must be much bigger..."

Reb Dov again said he had measured it, and the Rebbe said kindly, "You probably measured it...", and gave him another blessing, that he should one day see the Third Beis Hamikdash! Afterward, Reb Dov decided to double-check the measurements—just in case. And guess what? The Rebbe had been right! The ramp was too small by just 3 millimeters, less than the width of a pinky nail! But in real size, that would be about half a meter long, a pretty big mistake for such an important detail.

The Rebbe had noticed even the tiniest error, not to embarrass Reb Dov, but to help him make it the best it could be. That's how careful and caring the Rebbe was even with the smallest details!

Source: Chabad.org

DAY 22 SUNDAY, AV 9 - AUGUST 3

Today is Tisha B'Av, a fast day. Just like we began the Three Weeks with Shivah Asar B'Tammuz, today we reach the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. On this day, both the First and Second Bais HaMikdash's were destroyed.

But Chassidus teaches us something amazing: When Moshiach comes, this very day will become the happiest day of the year, a day of great celebration and the biggest Yom Tov of all!





Wow, you gave so much Nachas Ruach to the Rebbe, as you learned a daily lesson about the Bais Hamikdash during the Nine Days, definitely bringing Moshiach closer.

Now, email us at kids@derher.org with a picture of your filled out checklist, in order to be entered into a raffle to receive a:

