

ביה

Dear Ellie

Imagine that the owner of a wide network of factories would send his representative to a new country to see if he could expand his operations and build a new factory there. The representative goes to the new land, checks out the conditions, and **returns to his boss with a full report**, suggesting that it is not a good idea to build there, and that the land will not suit the boss's purposes. What does the factory owner do? He punishes him for bringing head; a postity report bringing back a negative report.

When we look at this week's Torah portion, Shelach, it seems as if we have a similar situation. Moses sent spies to the Land of Israel in order to get a report on the conditions there. The spies returned with the gloomy news: "The people dwelling in the land are strong, the cities are very strongly walled and great, and we also saw the children of giants there." The spies were harshly punished by G-d for their message, and the Torah describes them as having "brought an evil report against the land."

Why were they punished at all? Were they not merely fulfilling their mission? Their job was to check out the land, "What it is, and whether the people dwelling in it are strong... the cities, if they are open places or fortified," and this is what they did. Is it their fault that the land was occupied by giants and the cities were reinforced? Should they have given a false report upon their return?

The true sin of the spies was that they digressed from their mission. They were only required to describe the Land of Israel, in order for the Jews to know how best to approach and conquer it in a natural manner. The spies were not satisfied with a mere description; they had to editorialize as well and added their opinion as to the likelihood of it being conquered. When they added their own deductions, this caused the Children of Israel to lose faith in G-d and begin to despair. The sin of the twelve spies lies in their comment, "We will not be able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than us." The spies' transgression was that their faith in G-d's commandment was not great enough. When G-d commands that something be done, a **Jew must have faith that it is possible**. G-d does not require anything of man which is above his capabilities. Even a mortal, possessing the minimum of understanding and responsibility, will not ask a person to do something which is impossible. Every artisan who fashions a vessel creates it so that it will fulfill its purpose and not break. How much more so is this true about G-d. When the

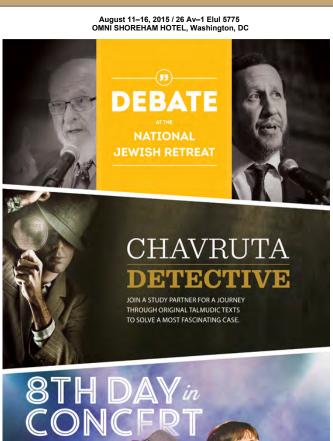
King of Kings commands us to do something, there is no doubt that it is within our grasp, or else it would not have been commanded.

However, we must remember that although man must be sure of his ability to perform mitzvot, he must not rely on miracles to accomplish them. Indeed, mitzvot must be done through natural means, as this is the will of G-d. A Jew must find the best way according to the laws of nature, to succeed in his tasks. That is why Moses sent the spies; to discover the best approach to conquer Israel militarily. The sin of the spies was that **they put all their faith in nature itself**, and forgot Who created that very nature.



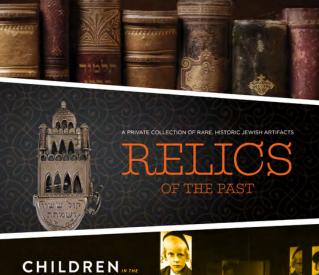
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> Join us on Friday June 12 for 7:00 pm Shabbat services.











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Weekly Torah study Please join us for "A Journey into the Soul of Torah", a weekly Torah study. The class will continue on Thursdays at 30 pm at The Lori chottenstein Chadbad Center. Open to all and free of

Looking for a meaningful way to recognize a special day? Consider sponsoring a Kiddush. For more information, please contact the Chabad office at 614-939-0765.

## **זמני**הדלקת הנרות

Candle Lighting Times for lbany, OH [Based on Zip Code

Shabbat Candle Lighting: 8:43 pm

Friday, Jun 12 Shabbat Ends: Shabbat, Jun 13 Torah Portion: Shlach

9:51 pm

## Schedule of Services

The Lori Schottenstein Chabad Center offers a full schedule of Shabbat services.

Come and be inspired for the rest of the week! For more information, please call us at 614-939-0765.

Morning Services: 9:30 a.m

CKids - ages 5-12: 10:45 a.m.

Torah and Tea\*: 10:00 a.m.

\*this class is now Dedicated in Memory of Rashi Minkowitz, ob "m, a community leader, mother and Shlucha

Shachrit: 9:45 a.m.

Chabad

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## Parshat Shlach

Moses sends twelve <u>spies</u> to the land of Canaan. Forty days later they return, carrying a huge <u>cluster of grapes</u>, a pomegranate and a fig, to report on a lush and bountiful land. But ten of the spies warn that the inhabitants of the land are <u>qiants</u> and warriors "more powerful than we"; only <u>Caleb</u> and <u>Joshua</u> insist that the land can be conquered, as G-d has commanded.

The people weep that they'd rather return to Egypt. G-d decrees that Israel's entry into the Land shall be delayed forty years, during which time that entire generation will die out in the desert. A group of remorseful Jews storm the mountain on the border of the Land, and are routed by the Amalekites and Canaanites.

The laws of the menachot (meal, wine and oil offerings) are given, as well as the mitzvah to consecrate a portion of the dough (challah) to G-d when making bread. A man violates the Shabbat by gathering sticks, and is put to death. G-d instructs to place fringes (tzitzit) on the four corners of our garments, so that we should remember to fulfill the mitzvot (divine commandments). commandments).



Chabad Hebrew School For more information: www.chabadhs.org Call 614-939-0765 or 614-578-9318 or email hebrewschool@chabadhs.org

tribute to rabbi binyomin klein, longtime aide to the



Dedication
He served as a liaison to Israeli leadership and as a mentor to Why Are the Mirrors

vered in a House of

What Was Written on the 2,700-Year-Old Scroll?
What is our task as Jews?



What the Three Definitions of Challah Taught Me

Taught Me
When we do good, lots of good,
we may be lured into a sense of
entitlement. I gave 20% to charity.
I can now buy whatever I want
with the rest, without regard for
social responsibility. I volunteered
at the school for two hours; I am
now entitled to laze around for the
rest of the week rest of the week .

Tot Shabbot for 4 and under: 11:00 a.m.

27 Sivan, 5775 Sunday, June 14, 2015

**לוח**מודעות

More Info »

**פרשת**השבוע





Mourning?

