

Tell a story **Parsha Nasso**

by Julie Zhuk on 2024-06-15

This week's Parsha is all about G-d instructing the priests to bless the Jewish people and shine His grace upon the Jews. The other thing G-d wanted to share with the Jews was to make sure they had peace. In this week's Parsha we find out about three stages of blessings, the first blessing is wealth. After this, G-d gives the Jews security and wealth, this is G-d's way of looking after the Jewish people and blessing them. We find out in this week's Parsha that the wealthy are not always liked in their community, the next blessing G-d gives the Jews is He is gracious to them. He gives them, a sense of grace, charm, or charisma. This makes people want to warm up to them and be in their company. G-d causes His countenance to shine upon them. The last blessing G-d gives the Jews is shalom meaning peace.

We learn the more wealth that people get, the more people want meaning if they have 100 of something they will wish to have 200 of something. These things can even grow to be more, the competition between people never seems to end and it causes stress and anxiety for people. The problem is people never get to enjoy a sense of inner peace, which is why G-d has promised us a sense of inner contentment and peace. The last thing we should take away in this Parsha is for G-d to grant all Jews His countenance towards us and grant us a sense of peace.

Haftara Nasso

This week's Haftara comes from the book of Judges and it is based on the story of Samson. When Samson was born, G-d had a plan for him he was to be a Nazirite. His parents had a hard time having children, from the beginning Manoah and his wife who were members of the tribe of Dan had trouble having children. At some point, an angel appeared to the wife and told her she would have a child and he would be a Nazirite. The angel told the wife to make sure this child was to not drink any alcohol, or eat any impure food, from the moment she was to have a baby. On top of hearing this bit of the news, the angel told the wife that this child of hers would save the Jewish people from the Philistines endangering the rest of the Jewish people. The wife heard this news and ran to her husband to tell her the news. Since the husband didn't hear this bit of news himself, it was hard for him to believe it.

So, he asked G-d to send the angel again to hear the message. The husband wanted to hear the bit of news himself, G-d sent the angel a second time and the angel repeated the news a second time. Manoah and his wife were happy to hear this bit of news, they were finally going to have a baby, and they wanted to do something nice for this angel. They asked the angel if he could stick around for some food that they prepared. The angel said no, instead the angel encouraged Manoah to take a goat and kill it for the meal. This would be a sacrifice to G-d and with that, the angel went back up to G-d in the same flame that devoured taking the sacrifice of the goat. At this point, the Haftara comes to the end the boy that was born to the couple grew up. The couple named him Samson and G-d had blessed him.