



RABBI TZVI FISHMAN

## Living Rosh Hashanah

AS THIS SHABBOS BEGINS, WE STAND 48 hours away from Rosh Hashanah. Some people may feel anxious about the coming judgment, while others worry how they will get through two long days of *davening* (prayer). The nature of Rosh Hashanah makes it difficult to look forward to.

Rather than focusing on how to just survive these two days, let's listen to the following thoughts, which will open up a whole new perspective on Rosh Hashanah.

The Torah, in *Parashas Emor* (Vayikra 23:24) calls Rosh Hashanah *zichron t'ru'ah*, a day of remembrance with shofar blasts. Rashi explains that the shofar recalls *Akeidas Yitzchak*, the Binding of Yitzchak (see B'reishis 22), which is a source of merit for the Jewish nation. We find the same idea in the Rosh Hashanah *davening*, where we call Rosh Hashanah *Yom haZikaron*, the Day of Remembrance.

Shouldn't it be named the Day of Judgment—isn't judgement the most defining element of Rosh Hashanah?

The *mashgiach*\* of Lakewood, Rabbi Matisyahu Salomon, said in the name of the Alter from Kelem that in His tremendous love for us, our merciful Father, the Holy One, blessed be He, called Rosh Hashanah the Day of Remembrance to show us how Hashem will

deal with us on that day: He will recall the greatest merits of the Jewish people, including the *Akeida*, the work of our forefathers. Through that, He will have mercy on us, even on the Day of Judgment. The holiday is specifically called the Day of Remembrance to impress us with the love that Hashem has for us.

For You do not want the death of [someone whose guilt would warrant his] death; [You wish] only that he repent from his ways and live. (Rosh Hashanah service)

On the very day that Hashem judges us, He showers mercy on us. How can we not see this as an opportunity to try to improve ourselves, to use this day to its fullest? Praying on this day isn't just an obligation; it is an *opportunity* to beseech Hashem for life and its blessings!

*Nefesh haChayim* writes that since the time of Adam, there has never been a prayer that was the same as any prayer that came before it, and there will never be another prayer like it ever again. Every prayer is unique, and it has the power to bring enormous bounty and blessings into the world.

The services on Rosh Hashanah may seem long, but when we are imbued with the knowledge that each prayer is that powerful, we can look forward to the

*davening* with excitement.

[Hashem] will turn toward the prayer of the person who has cried out, and He will not despise their prayers. (T'hilim 102)

The Midrash (*Yalkut T'hilim* 102) explains that this refers to a time when the Jews will not have priests, prophets, or a Holy Temple to atone for them. But even in such times of *galus* (exile), they are yet left with the special prayers of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

With this in mind, Rosh Hashanah is an opportunity to pour out our hearts to Hashem and beg for His great mercy. Don't just survive Rosh Hashanah. *Live* Rosh Hashanah!

By strengthening ourselves in *t'shuva* (repentance) and prayer, may we merit to see the time when Hashem will, as we say on Rosh Hashanah, "rule over in the entire world in His glory," when Hashem will reveal His kingdom to all through His righteous Moshiach. *K'siva v'chasima tova*—may we all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life—and a good Shabbos to all. 🕊

This week  
at the Kollel ➡

\* Literally, "supervisor." In a yeshiva, the *mashgiach* provides spiritual guidance.

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# At the Kollel

**KEY:** 🖐️ Beginners 🖐️ Intermediate 🖐️ Advanced 🚺 for men and women

**Looking for a chavrusa?** See Coordinator Rabbi Chaim Heinemann!  
Chavrusos are available noon–1 PM on weekdays, and 8–9:45 PM Sun.–Thurs.

## Sunday *Free brunch!*

🖐️🖐️ **America Runs on Torah**  
(Jewish Law & Parasha)  
Rabbis Dani Schon  
and Yisroel Kaufman.....10 AM  
*Grand Deluxe breakfast served*

## Tuesday

🚺🖐️ **Partners in Torah  
at the Mayerson JCC**  
Rabbi Binyamin Teitelbaum.....8 PM

## Wednesday

🚺🖐️ **Torah Treasures for  
Seniors at the Mayerson JCC**  
Rabbi Yitzchok Preis.....10:30–11:15 AM

🚺🖐️ **Downtown Lunch-n-Learn  
at Strauss & Troy**  
Rabbi Yitzchok Preis.....12–1 PM

## Thursday

🖐️🖐️ **Halacha** (based on the parasha)  
Rabbi Chaim Heinemann.....9:10–10 PM  
*Homemade refreshments served.*

## Minyanim Daylight Time

**Shacharis**  
Sunday .....8:15 AM  
Monday–Friday .....7:20 AM  
Shabbos .....N/A

**Mincha**  
Sunday .....7:45 PM  
Monday–Thursday .....5:45 PM  
Shabbos .....6:30 PM

**Ma'ariv**  
In the Beis Midrash:  
Sunday–Wednesday .....9:45 PM  
Thursday .....10 PM  
Shabbos .....N/A

## Every Day

🖐️ **“Dirshu” Gemara Shiur**  
(Maseches B'choros)  
Rabbi Yitzchok Preis.....  
Sunday 7:15–8:15 AM  
Monday–Friday 5:50–6:45 AM

🖐️🖐️ **Kollel Yisgaber K'ari**  
(amud-a-day of Mishnah B'rurah)  
Rabbi Chaim Heinemann.....  
Monday–Friday 6:55–7:20 AM

🖐️🖐️ **Kitzur Shuchan Aruch**  
Live video conference!  
Rabbi Dani Schon.....  
Monday–Friday 12:05–12:20 PM

🖐️ **Daf Yomi**  
Rabbi Meir Minster.....  
Sunday–Thursday 8–8:45 PM  
Shabbos (at CZE) 1:00 pre-mincha

🖐️🖐️ **Nightly Halacha Chabura**  
Rabbis Dani Schon  
& Binyamin Teitelbaum .....  
Monday–Thursday 9–9:45 PM

**Chavrusa Learning**  
(private & small groups).....times vary



*This week  
at the Kollel*