









## “נַחֲמוּ נַחֲמוּ עַמִּי יֹאמַר אֱלֹהֵיכֶם”

This שבת is also known as שבת נחמו. This is due in part to the הפטרה of “נַחֲמוּ נַחֲמוּ עַמִּי יֹאמַר אֱלֹהֵיכֶם” as well as to the fact that this שבת is the first of the שבעה שבטא, the seven weeks of comfort. In each of next seven weeks we read a הפטרה that involves words of נחמה, comfort, consoling us over our great loss, the tragedy over the חורבן.

However a close look at this week’s פרשה פרשת ואתחנן, reveals that the נחמה does not only take place in the הפטרה but in the תורה reading as well. It is well known that the second giving of the לוחות takes place in פרשת ואתחנן. This has major significance. The ימי המצרים, the three weeks, started on שבעה עשר בתמוז. One of the five tragic events that took place on שבעה עשר בתמוז was, משה רבינו breaking the first לוחות. This was a huge blow to בני ישראל and the future looked bleak. משה רבינו after much davening and pleading was able to gain רחמים for בני ישראל and not only were they not wiped out but they were given a second chance.

When בני ישראל received the second לוחות it was a sign that no matter how far we fall, and no matter how bleak things look, הקדוש ברוך הוא, will one day allow us to rebuild. It is obviously not coincidental that the week we read about the second לוחות, is the week immediately after תשעה באב, the climax of the ימי המצרים. We are receiving a clear message of נחמה. “Don’t despair” the תורה is telling us, “just like there was a second לוחות so to there will be a גאולה, and like the second לוחות this גאולה will be permanent.

It is with this נחמה in mind, that we, in Camp Chevra, look on with pride as our תלמידים made such great strides during the nine days. Despite the camp spirit we were able to channel the true feelings of this bleak period and learn the proper lessons. May we be זוכה to the ultimate נחמה, the גאולה שלימה speedily in our time.

Sincerely

Noam Peikes

**CAMPER OF THE WEEK**

1A	Gavi Rosen	
1B	Levi Balsam	Yaakov Drillman
1C	Zevi Goldstein	Eitan Spillman
Avraham	Shlomo Toporowitz	Yaakov Bromberg
Yitzchok	Ari Levin	
Yaakov	Aryeh Rosenfeld	Shimmy Parnes
Moshe	Zorach Schnied	Yishai Beller
Ahron	Aryeh Schiffman	
Dovid	Mordy Silberberg	
Reuven	Yosef Benisti	Dovi Friedman
Shimon	Yoni Rab	Yossi Pomerantz
Levi	Yomo Gutman	Shmuel Schwarz
Yehuda	Soli Gordon	
Yissachar	Dovi Kaplovitz	Daniel Gotesman
Zevulun	Daniel Greenfield	
Extreme A	Shaya Frank	Mayer Freund
Extreme B	Tzvi Eli Kaufman	Abie Shenker

"you actually got to Monday this time"- yitz/ "...camp *has* been putting more emphasis on the lunch games than special activity..."- anonymous  
"nothing causes change like art"- bentzi Weiss/ "hey you gave me a shoutout?"- yitzzy friedman/ "are you out of your mind?"- rabbi peikes/ "I saw you gave me a shoutout, but I didn't get it"- Daniel greenfield/ "I apologize"- rabbi weezel/ "this is just part of me becoming more of a realist"- anonymous  
Lets start from the beginning. One of my initial concerns with being in the same building two years in a row was that this year would be a repeat of last year. To my chagrin, I found myself trying to recreate the experience of last year, and upon analysis I realized that ironically the part of last year that I was trying to simulate was in fact the originality of it.

I was perplexed what could be causing so little to stand out this year (I have seen very few new themes to this year, such as rabbi Sherman writing new camp songs on a semi daily basis, (which dani Ginsberg poignantly made reference to in his Olympic play) the prevalence of golf balls (ibid) as well as zisha's curly payos which though not new themselves, have been a new target of humor, and of course acknowledging the old music in camp, which has always been a go-to joke, but only now have I begun calling myself out about that (and that is already overused.)

Overall, what is it that makes this year different than other years?

# I Present You The Chocolate Bar Analogy

By CPDubbs TM

It feels good to be able to go back to the days where I was able to write things that were meaningful to me and no one else understood- but yet in attempt to make sense of it, everyone came out with their own unique interpretation, all of which being funny enough (or satisfying- you know it's supposed to mean something funny- so let's figure it out) to keep a following, as opposed to the generic camp article designed to inform you of the events of the week (as though you don't know) and if you're lucky throw in some (forced) humor and impersonal shoutouts.

To my disgust (and as I'm sure the discerning reader has noticed) my articles this year have at times taken that easy route (likely what has caused the drop in readership, much like the statistic of the generic article) the reason for this, I have come to the conclusion, is due to the schedule change this year, splitting special activity up, and requiring me to be at swikers during both special activities, thereby leaving me wondering at the end of the week why the articles that used to write themselves (Baruch Hashem) are now lacking experiences to fill them, at best vague recollection of what the day's activity was supposed to be. (I also noticed that I would often attempt to replace genuine humor with humorous typos. I think that is very shameful too.)

For this I apologize and intend to improve... somehow.

("man, it's more my style to get all serious in an article"- dani g.)

## The Second Title

Cuz Why Not

Ok Big font this week. I know you all wanted to hear about wenzay etc but its Friday and my rides here in twenty minutes so lets see. Monday we all came and it was fun as always but what stood out was rabbi sherm was writing a new song together with Dovid renzoni. Apparently tani kahana was the only one who knew the old song, so instead he chose a much catchier tune, which coincidentally was written after I was born. I wrote a song to the tune of soon the days will come. I also got a shoutout. Thanks rabbi.

New guys came, like juda hinamin ("good song"- him) and MORDY SILBERBERG welkom back) and like every single sharei torah guy left cuz sharei torahs camp starts now in passaic. (Blaker) these guys didn't know whats in store (I didn't either but then again I never get told the schedule, if there is one) also in the canteen we had our prime canteen manijjer, pinni jo, and it was hot in the whole room. Also the canteen sells squid.

Rabbi shermingot up to announce some activity but most guys just left the room thinking it was another rabbi borsht. We then had competitive game of freeze dance won by avrumi Ginsberg and meir leib. Later this week was whisper contest rocked bi zevi baum who shouted zisha in such a loud whisper it made it into a raffle. The fire drill activity continued to happen in camp, and rabbi wexel was nowhere to be found, (it mayhavbeen set off by the stain smell in the swiker room) we got to experience slipnslide on a 1 degree angle which got us all wet yum (awk I tried to drink from the hose and it almost ripped my lips off- true story) next

By the brother game, shua shanker knew abie better than bermans and hinanin, and then wed (this week) rabbi sherm had a HUGGE scale he had to fix (not cuz he stepped on it) and I got to see avi haas in a talis for the second time in a week. We all held our nose as harry took off his shoes and rabbi pikes finally let erez get led away to his carpool. Then Tisha b'av. Maybe ther'll be a special activity today (fri) like last week (we actually had two)- we'll just have to see. Have a NUTZ Shabbos and seeyu necks time (ps sorry again my article is so rushed)

# Chaim Pesach Weiss Gabbai