



Young Israel of Sunny Isles Beach

Rabbi Meir M. Haber



George Kohn, President

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tammuz 15 - 22, 5785 | July 11 - 18, 2025

Shabbat Balak

Shabbat Schedule

Friday, July 11		Weekly Davening Schedule	
Candle Lighting	7:57 PM	Shacharit	8:00 AM
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	7:00 PM	Rabbi Haber's Shiur	6:45 PM
Saturday, July 12		Mincha/Maariv	7:00 PM
Shacharit	8:45 AM	Sunday, July 13 - Shiva Asar B'Tammuz	
Mincha	8:00 PM	Fast Begins	5:19 AM
Rabbi Haber's Shiur: "Listening Carefully to Bilam's Words of Prophecy"		Fast Ends	8:49 PM
Maariv/Shabbat Ends	8:54 PM	Candle lighting next Shabbat	7:55 PM

This week's kiddush is being sponsored by

- **Sheila Birnbaum** in memory of her beloved husband Yoseph David ben Michael. Z'L
- **Renee and George Kohn** in memory of George's beloved mother Gitl bat Zev HaKohen. Z'L

Parasha tidbits from the Rabbi

"וַיִּרָא בָלָק בֶּן-צִפּוֹר" (Bamidbar 22:2) *"And Balak the son of Zippor saw..."* Our Torah portion is named after Balak, not after Bilaam. This is because Balak was the advisor and the initiator—he was the one who brought Bilaam into the matter. This teaches us an important lesson: even when offering advice, one must be extremely careful. In many cases, giving advice that is not based on wisdom, experience, or proven outcomes can lead to very negative consequences. The blind hatred of the Jewish people, which began in the times of Balak and Bilaam, continues to exist in various forms to this very day.

Yet, with G-d's help, we have continuously overcome these challenges throughout our history.

שבת שלום ומבורך/Shabbat Shalom

Parasha thought from Rabbi Arthur Kirsch

When Bilaam realizes that there is a *malach* (angel) in the road, he says: "I have sinned." What kind of sin is this? He simply didn't see the angel! But the sin is that he *should have* realized an angel was standing there. A similar idea occurred in 1967, when—for the first time—Israeli soldiers reached the Kotel. The *frum* (religious) soldiers began to cry. A *chiloni* (secular) soldier also began to cry. When someone asked him, "Why are you crying? To you, it's just another wall," he responded: "I'm crying because I don't know why I should be crying." The Alter of Slabodka teaches that both Bilaam and Balak were ingrates, and ingratitude is a terrible character trait. Balak descended from Lot, who was saved by Avraham. Bilaam came from Lavan, who had children only in the merit of Yaakov. They owed their very existence to the forefathers of the Jewish people, yet they turned against them. My Rosh HaYeshivah emphasized three core values—**Torah, chessed, and hakaras hatov**—in no particular order.

Have a lichtiger Shabbos!

Shul Notes

- Thank you to the volunteers who organized the Shabbat kiddush.
- **Shabbat Group for Children:** We are happy to announce that we are now offering a morning Shabbat group for our children. The group will start at 9:30 AM and will conclude after davening. It will be fully supervised, and we hope you will bring your children for a fun and learning experience. Please bring the children to the Social Hall.
- **New Payment Option Available!** We are excited to inform you that our shul now accepts payments via Zelle! This convenient option allows you to make contributions, pay dues, and support our shul with ease. To make a payment, simply use the following email address: youngisraelofsib@bellsouth.net.
- **To Sponsor a Kiddush:** Anyone wishing to sponsor a Kiddush should notify the office (the earlier, the better). Do you have a family simcha or any special occasion you'd like to include in the bulletin? Please notify the office by Thursday.
- For any questions regarding kashrut, the eruv and other halachic issues contact Rabbi Haber.

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