



# Carnegie Shul Chatter

## November 17, 2022



Light candles 4:48pm

Shabbat Services 9:30am

## Shabbat Services

The Carnegie Shul continues to offer hybrid Shabbat services. Please join us in the sanctuary, providing you have been vaccinated for Covid 19. Masks are optional. To attend virtually, watch for a Zoom link in your email. If you don't receive it, contact Rosalyn Hoffman at [rjlynman@yahoo.com](mailto:rjlynman@yahoo.com). The complete Torah reading, in Hebrew and English, can be found on line at [https://www.chabad.org/parshah/torahreading\\_cdo/aid/2492499/jewish/Chayeisarah-Torah-Reading.htm](https://www.chabad.org/parshah/torahreading_cdo/aid/2492499/jewish/Chayeisarah-Torah-Reading.htm)

## We're All Human

We have talked in the past about the fact that our patriarchs and matriarchs, as great as they were, were also human and sometimes made mistakes. We know that even Moses, our greatest prophet, was not perfect and was denied entry into the promised land.

In this week's haftarah we read about King David, another one of our greatest leaders. The first thing that most of us learn about David is that he slew the Philistine giant Goliath with his slingshot. We also know David by the many beautiful psalms that he composed. And we know that his son, King Solomon, is considered one of the wisest men ever.

But David, too, was far from perfect. We know that David fell in love with Bathsheba, who he saw bathing nearby, and that he had Bathsheba brought to him in his palace. Bathsheba became pregnant to David even though Bathsheba was married to one of David's best soldiers,

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Uriah the Hittite. So David had Uriah placed in a precarious position on the battlefield that led to Uriah's death, leaving Bathsheba for David.

And, despite his many accomplishments, David lived a troubled life following the affair with Bathsheba and the death of Uriah.

Yes, King David was a great man, but he was also a man with flaws. But who

among us does not have flaws? We may aspire to greatness, and some of us will achieve greatness, but none of us is flawless. We are all, after all, only human.

## Chaya Sarah in a Nutshell

**Genesis 23:1–25:18**

From Chabad.org



Sarah dies at age 127 and is buried in the Machpelah Cave in Hebron, which Abraham purchases from Ephron the Hittite for four hundred shekels of silver.

Abraham's servant Eliezer is sent, laden with gifts, to Charan, to find a wife for Isaac. At the village well, Eliezer asks G-d for a sign: when the maidens come to the well, he will ask for some water to drink; the woman who will offer to give his camels to drink as well shall be the one destined for his master's son.

Rebecca, the daughter of Abraham's nephew Bethuel, appears at the well and passes the "test." Eliezer is invited to their home, where he repeats the story of the day's events.

Rebecca returns with Eliezer to the land of Canaan, where they encounter Isaac praying in the field. Isaac marries Rebecca, loves her, and is comforted over the loss of his mother.

Abraham takes a new wife, Keturah (Hagar), and fathers six additional sons, but Isaac is designated as his only heir. Abraham dies at age 175 and is buried beside Sarah by his two eldest sons, Isaac and Ishmael.

# Haftorah in a Nutshell

I Kings 1:1-31



This week's haftorah describes an aging King David, echoing this week's Torah reading, which mentions that "Abraham was old, advanced in days."

King David was aging, and he was perpetually cold. A young maiden, Abishag of Shunam, was recruited to serve and provide warmth for the elderly monarch.

Seeing his father advancing in age, Adoniah, one of King David's sons, seized the opportunity to prepare the ground for

his ascension to his father's throne upon the latter's passing — despite King David's express wishes that his son Solomon succeed him. Adoniah recruited two influential individuals — the High Priest and the commander of David's armies — both of whom had fallen out of David's good graces, to champion his cause. He arranged to be transported in a chariot with fifty people running before him, and invited a number of his sympathizers to a festive party where he publicized his royal ambitions.

The prophet Nathan encouraged Bat Sheva, mother of Solomon, to approach King David and plead with him to reaffirm his choice of Solomon as his successor. This she did, mentioning Adoniah's recent actions of which the king had been unaware. Nathan later joined Bat Sheva and the king to express support for Bat Sheva's request. King David acceded to their request: "Indeed," he told Bat Sheva, "as I swore to you by the Lord God of Israel saying, 'Surely Solomon, your son, shall reign after me and he shall sit on my throne in my stead,' surely, so will I swear this day."

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## Haftorah Commentary

*Excerpted from an article by Rabbi Reuben Ebrahimoff*

**The connection of the Haftorah to the Parsha:** In this week's Torah reading of Chayei Sarah, we are told of Avraham's (Abraham) old age and the Haftorah speaks of King David's last years.

**The storyline of this week's Haftorah:** In return for tearing off the corner of King Saul's (Saul) robe, King David always felt a chill in his bones. The Haftorah begins with the story of King David being brought a beautiful woman named Avishag in order to warm him in his elder years. She came from the city of Shunem and possibly was the sister of the Shunamite Woman mentioned in last week's Haftorah, although there was at least 100 years that separated the two sisters). Even though it is not his place, King David's eldest son, Adoniyahu (it was common to end Hebrew names with Ya'hu. Translated, it means "the [Jewish] G-d is the one")

was trying to seize the throne away from his younger brother Shlomo. One of the wives of King David, Queen Batsheva (Bathsheba), Shlomo's mother and the Prophet Natan (Nathan), confer regarding Adoniyahu's will to become king. They decide to bring it to King David's attention. Natan confirms to David the news that Batsheva has told him regarding Adoniyahu's ambition. Bathsheba pleads with David to fulfill his promise of her son Shlomo (Solomon) being heir to the throne. King David promises Bathsheva to rectify the situation. He takes action by anointing Shlomo as the next King of Israel.

## **King David's Biography:**

- ◆ The meaning of his name is "beloved."
- ◆ Was a descendant of Ruth the Moabite. David's father's name was Ishay; his mother's name Nitzevet bat Adel. David was a "Gingie" (a redhead). As a youth, David was a shepherd, tending to flocks of sheep.
- ◆ A warrior, David killed lions with his bare hands and is famous for killing Goliath with a single slingshot.
- ◆ Was a musician who played music to calm Shaul (former King of Israel, and David's father in law). David was the faithful friend of Jonathan, King Saul's son.
- ◆ Cleared the way to build the first Beit Hamikdash (Holy Temple).
- ◆ His son was King Shlomo (Solomon) known as the wisest man that ever lived and ruled.
- ◆ Composed Tehillim (Psalms), the most popular words worldwide used to pray.
- ◆ The "fourth" meal of (after) Shabbat is called the meal of David. David was told by G-d that he was going to pass away on Shabbat. With the knowledge that the angel of death can't attack while you are learning torah, David would learn Torah all Shabbat long, from beginning to end. Once Shabbat would end, he would have a meal celebrating his extension of life for another week. This meal is called Melaveh Malkah. King David died when he was 70 years old.
- ◆ The Mashiach (Messiah) will be a descendant of King David.



# **Updates Needed**

## **Yahrzeit Reminder**

As a service to our members, the Carnegie Shul sends out Yahrzeit reminders to those who have requested them. From time to time it is necessary for us to update our address list for these reminders. If your address has changed, please let us know by emailing our secretary Rosalyn Hoffman at [rjlynman@yahoo.com](mailto:rjlynman@yahoo.com).

## **Mi Shebeirach Prayers**

We also say Mi Shebeirach prayers for the sick at our Shabbos services. Our list of those for whom we say these prayers is also in need of updating. Please email Rosalyn and let her know if you have any loved ones on our list who no longer require these prayers. Thank you.

# **Yahrtzeits**

*This week the Carnegie Shul acknowledges the yahrtzeits of:*

**Nathan Bernard Kalson**

**Milton O. Peresman**

**Jack Schutte**

**Isadore A. Moskovitz**

**Dorothy S. Moskovitz**

**Sally Kreisberg Olszewski**

**Max Horovitz**

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## **Donations**

### **In Memory**

**Rick D'Loss**

*In memory of Sally Kreisberg*

**Lois Metilika**

*In Memory of Eric Wechsler and Sadie Ash*

### **High Holiday Donations**

**Rick D'Loss**

**Danny And Michele Wilk**

**Jeff and Wendy Wilk**

**Roger and Ronnie Wilk**