



July 17-18, 2026

ד אב תשפ"ו

Candle Lighting 8:06 PM

Parashat Devarim

Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22 דברים

Stone - p 938

Hertz - p 736

Etz Hayim - p 981

Haftarah - Isaiah 1:1-27 ישעיהו
(3rd of The Three Weeks)

Stone - p 1195

Hertz - p 750

Etz Hayim - p 1000

Kiddush following services is
sponsored by the congregation

Shabbat ends 9:05 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

Rabbi Seth D Gordon - Rabbi.Gordon@yahoo.com

Marian S. Gordon, Executive Director -
traditionalcong@gmail.com

WEEKDAY AND SHABBAT SERVICES

Tuesday - 6:30 PM

Shabbat - 9:30 AM

Board of Directors:

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We welcome new members!

If you or someone you know would like to receive
membership information,
please contact our office at 314-576-5230
or traditionalcong@gmail.com

On This Week's Parashah - Devarim

What does it mean to be visionary, to have a vision for your life and pursuits?

In a basic sense, this means conceptualizing goals and objectives; it means considering future potential and focusing on a target for growth. It means recognizing that "now" isn't all that there is.

"Now"—disconnected from the future and its possibilities—can be stale and aimless.

"Now" is our reality; but vision can breathe commitment, animation and hope into that reality.

Vision brings optimism and direction. It is the North Star which guides the efforts that actually bring our dream to life.

With the passage of time, it becomes difficult for the realistic person to continue dreaming. The problem is that with the passage of time it becomes more difficult for the realistic person to continue dreaming. Disappointments eventually take their toll on the human psyche.

Which raises the question: When does one learn to adjust one's expectations and recognize that that dreams are . . . just dreams?

Never.

While we should always be acutely aware of reality, warts and all, we can never stop believing in—and working toward—a brighter future.

Consider this: Our Holy Temple, along with our entire Jewish commonwealth, was destroyed by the Romans almost two thousand years ago.

It's been rough ever since, and we're fully aware of our reality. Every year, on Tisha B'Av, the 9th of Av, we mournfully remember the destruction and recognize the pain of our own times.



Yet, interestingly, the preceding Shabbat is always observed as a "Shabbat of Vision." The Shabbat's reading from the Prophets begins with the words Chazon Yeshayahu, the "vision of Isaiah" regarding the destruction of the Holy Temple.

Rabbi Levi Yitzchak of Berdichev, an eighteenth-century legendary chassidic master, taught a deeper reason for the moniker "Shabbat of Vision." Every year, he explained, on the Shabbat before our collective day of mourning, G-d shows us a Vision of the Future. We are shown a vision of a rebuilt Temple, a reconstituted people and a better world.

G-d equips us for the mourning by ensuring that hope—the Vision—never dies; this Shabbat ensures that our sobering recognition of "now" doesn't smother our hope for the future.

I can't see this divinely granted vision with my physical eyes. But if G-d is showing it to me, it must be resonating somewhere in my soul.

So this Shabbat, I'll prepare to tackle reality on Tisha B'Av by first searching myself to find G-d's vision of a beautiful future.

Will you join me?

**Shabbat Shalom,
Rabbi Mendy Herson**

Rabbi Mendy Herson is director of the Chabad Jewish Center
in Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE 5787

THE GIFT OF MEMORY

"It has been taught -- 'All people must die, and death must come to all.' Happy, then, that person who departs this world with a good name."

Ruth Rabbah 11:7

Don't Be Left Out!

Yizkor Memorial Book orders are due by **July 20.**

RH Greetings Card orders are due by **August 10.**

Please send in your forms and donations.

Thank you for your participation and support!

PRAYER

I walked a mile with pleasure

She chatted all the way

But left me none the wiser

For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with sorrow

And ne'er a word said she

But, oh, the things I learned from her

When sorrow walked with me!

Robert Browning

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

Every age needs men who will redeem the time by living with a vision of things that are to be.

Adlai Stevenson



YES, PLEASE
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5787
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Orders must be received by August 10, 2026

Questions? Contact Marian - 314-576-5230 or traditionalcong@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!!