**Questions for Understanding and Reflection**

1. From all the readings for this Shabbat which verse or verses impressed your heart and fired your imagination?

I was fired by a line from the Nazarean commentary: The middle wall is not the Soreg[[1]](#footnote-1) of the Temple. This “wall of partition” is the dogma of Shammai separating the Jewish people from the Gentile.

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 39:3?

**that the Lord was with him** – How as this made manifest?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 39:6?

**and he knew nothing about what was with him** – How is this to be understood?

**except the bread** – What was special about the bread?

**and Joseph had handsome features** – How did Yosef use these attributes?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 39:10?

**to lie beside her** – was this involving intercourse?

**to be with her** – When was he to be with her?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 39:11?

**And it came about on a certain day** – What made this particular day noteworthy?

**to do his work** – What was his work?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 39:14?

**“Look! He brought us…”** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: הֵבִיא?

**Hebrew** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: עִבְרִי?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 40:1?

**Now it came about after these events** – Why did these new events come about?

**Sinned** – What were their sins?

**and the baker of the king’s bread.** – How are we to understand this baker?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 40:5?

**Now both of them dreamed a dream** – What is the meaning of this expression?

**each man according to the interpretation of his dream** – How was this made manifest?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 40:14?

**But remember me** – How was he to be remembered?

**and please do me a favor** – what is the meaning of the Hebrew word: נָא?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 40:23?

**But the chief cupbearer** – The the cupbearer able to help Joseph?

**and he forgot him afterwards** – Why did he forget?

1. Isaiah 52 and 53 are but one Pericope in the Hebrew Scriptures. To whom did G-d reveal His Messiah and according to Isaiah 52 and 53 what are the objectives to be accomplished (a) on his first coming, and (b) on his second coming?

He was revealed to the the eyes of all the Gentiles.

1. In his first coming He is to separate Jews from Gentiles (53:11), He is to scatter the Gentiles (52:15), divide their plunder (53:12), subject the Gentiles to the law (53:12).
2. In his second coming He is to bring the good news to His people. (53:7)
3. According to Isaiah 52:11 and explained in 2 Cor. 6:16-17, why is it vital and strategically necessary for Nazarean Jews to remain completely separate from the Gentiles? Please explain your answer.

Because they bear the vessels of the Sanctuary. Their bodies are the Sanctuary where HaShem is to dwell. Further, marriage with a Gentile is forbidden by the Torah. Without this separation we would have chaos.

1. Is it wrong to trust in another human being‎? Please explain your answer.

It depends… Obviously we trust human beings for certain things (e.g. Batae Dinae). In We can trust Jews, but we cannot trust Gentyiles. Never the less, only HaShem has the power to cause things to change, and He wants us to trust Him Alone.

1. Why is Psalm 32 recited by the Sephardim on Yom HaKipurim? Please explain your answer.

Clearly we see that the prophet Nathan let David know his sins were forgiven on Yom Kioppur. Additionally, it contains the sod (deep mysteries) answer (wisdom) to how our sins are covered on that day. The Yovel is also sounded on Yom Kippur and Yovel also contains the understanding of atonement.

1. What is a “Yom Kippur Katan” and what is so significant of this coming Rosh Chodesh Kislev?

Yom Kippur Katan is the last day of the month. This coming Yom Kippur Katan is significant because it is the first one of this year (5773).

1. What is the significance of the one ram offered for Rosh Chodesh during Temple times and the command in Isaiah 52:11 and 2 Cor. 6:16-17?

The ram was a replacement for Yitzchak, and by extension to all of Israel. It is this offering which causes us to be a separate people. Further, it speaks of purity which is needed for those who approach HaShem.

1. Why is “Ahavat Ha-Shem” (the love of HaShem) inseparable from “Ahavat Yisrael” (the love for all Jewish neighbors)? Please explain your answer.

The Hebrew word “love” (Ahavah) has the numerical value of G-d’s unity (Echad). Therefore, we see that Hakham Yehudah is telling the Nazarean Jew that he must guard himself in order to maintain his unity with G-d and the Community. We must maintain our separateness in order to avoid inter-marriage.

1. Why is it so important, particularly for a Nazarean Jew/Jewess to be precise and generous in his/her duty of kindling the candles for Shabbat/Festivals, Habdalah and Chanukah? Please explain your answer.

The Shabbat candles contain the hidden light of the menora, which is now the light of Mashiach to illuminate the primordial light of the oral and written Torah.

1. Why do we teach that Shaul was a Paqid and of the School of Shamai before his encounter with the Primordial Light on his way to Damascus, and it is later on that he “sat at the feet of Gamaliel” (or an authority subject to R. Gamaliel like Hakham Tsefet who was an agent of both Messiah and R. Gamaliel)? Please explain your answer.

The school of Shammai rejected Gentile converts. Hakham Shaul’s persecution of the Nazarean converts was pursuant to this rejection of the Gentiles. After his encounter with The Light, Hakham Shaul became the Apostle to the Gentiles, which was consistent with the ruling of Hillel.

Hillel would never send an emissary to retrieve those who were working with the Gentiles.

1. ‎Taking into consideration all the readings for this Shabbat what is the prophetic statement for this ‎week?‎

This is an appropriate time to renew our trust in HaShem and in His Torah, rather than the nations.

1. The Soreg is a wall in the Temple, which marked the boundaries of the Court of the Gentiles. This is NOT Hakham Shaul’s reference. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)