

**This Monday  
in Lincoln Park**

RICHARD  
DAWKINS  
THE  
GOD  
DELUSION

# “Dawkins, G-d, the Torah ... and You”

*Richard Dawkins is not only a famous scientist ... and not only an atheist - he's plain anti religious. In his book, The G-d Delusion, Dawkins sets out to destroy religion and to do away with the need for G-d. And he's quite blunt about it. According to Dawkins, anyone who thinks we need G-d to be good people and to have meaningful lives, is "pathetic".*

*And teaching children about religion, he says, is "child abuse". Besides, if there was G-d "with creation and eternity on his mind", he couldn't possibly care about what we do.*

*Join Rabbi Moshe Katz for a fascinating response to Richard Dawkins. Learn how the Torah can enhance every aspect of your life, and go home with a whole new appreciation of your heritage ... and yourself.*

*Whether or not you heard Dr. Nathan Aviezer's talk a few weeks ago on Dawkins' view of science and creation, you should not miss this eye opening presentation about the Torah, morality and religion.*

**This Monday Evening, January 25**  
**2020 North Lincoln Park West, Party Room**  
**7 pm: Registration and Refreshments**  
**7:30 pm: Presentation by Rabbi Moshe Katz**

Register online at [www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm](http://www.torahnetwork.org/register.htm)  
Info: 773.761.0400 x201 or [info@torahnetwork.org](mailto:info@torahnetwork.org)

# THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX<sup>©</sup>

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VOLUME 17, ISSUE 15 FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010 / 6 SH'VAT 5770 CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:32 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 5:44 (CHICAGO)

*Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!*

## TORAH PORTION: BO (EXODUS 10:1 - 13:16)

*This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is sponsored by a friend, in honor of CTN's "Shabbos in Chicago" this weekend, where Jewish men and women of all backgrounds will celebrate an inspiring and fun Shabbos together.*

### **1. Remember this day on which you left Egypt. (13:3)**

Remembering our history. That we were once slaves in Egypt.

*In Judaism it's an obligation.*

Something we should never forget.

And that we should teach to our children.

... It's an obligation the Torah stresses many times.

*And it seems a little strange.*

After all, it happened thousands of years ago.

Why is it so important?

Why can't we just forget about it? And go on with our lives?

... The answer? It's not just about history.

*It's about responsibility.*

Because sometimes we think that having suffered gives us privileges.

*The Torah says no!*

*It gives us responsibilities.*

To remember what it was like.

So we are always sensitive to the suffering of others.

▪ *Rabbi Yekusiel Halberstam – the late Chassidic Rabbi of Klausenberg – is a good example.*

*He spent years in Nazi concentration camps. His wife and children were killed.*

*He survived. And went on to rebuild his community and its institutions.*

*... But he also built something else.*

*Laniado Hospital. In Netanya, Israel.*

*Why?*

*Because while he was in the concentration camp, he made a promise.*

*That if he survives the war, he would dedicate his life to others.*

*To help relieve their suffering. To make their lives better.*

*... And that's exactly what he did.*

*And it wasn't just the idea of building a hospital.*

*Which is a pretty amazing in its own right.*

*His commitment to help relieve suffering was felt in every little detail of the hospital.*

*Which is why he told the staff that their goal must always be "to cure the patient not just cure the disease".*

*And he insisted that concern with their pain was crucial to that goal.*

*One example?*

*Asked which of two types of syringe needles the hospital should purchase - one that was slightly less painful or one that was half the price - he immediately ordered the more expensive needles.*

*... It's the lesson of the Exodus.*

*Remember what you went through.*

*And help others because of it.*

▪ *And it's not just about the "big things".*

*Like building and running hospitals.*

*It's also about everyday situations. For each and every one of us.*

*... Let's say you had a really hard time when you were new at your job.*

*You made some major mistakes.*

*And your supervisor really gave it to you. Wasn't understanding at all.*

*... It was really bad.*

*But now that's behind you.*

*And someone else is new.*

*And going through the same thing.*

*... The Torah says you have a special obligation.*

*Because you were there. You know what it's like.*

*So you should be there for them.*



*Shabbat Shalom and have a great week!*

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

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