

From: The Rabbis at Chicago Torah Network

Number of pages: 3

To:

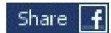


Home for the Wondering Jew

Discovery Seminar in Chicago

*The Discovery Seminar is Sunday, Feb. 27.
Complete information at
www.torahnetwork.org/discovery.htm
info@torahnetwork.org
773-761-0400 x201*

[OVERVIEW](#) | [SCHEDULE](#) | [SPEAKERS](#) | [REGISTER](#) | [ABOUT CTN](#)



9:00 am Registration and Light Breakfast

9:15 am Welcome - [Rabbi Moshe Katz](#)

9:30 am Distinguishing Knowledge from Faith - [Max Anteby](#)

Society claims that belief in Judaism, like belief in all other religions, is a matter of blind faith. The Discovery Seminar proves the exact opposite: that belief in Judaism is NOT a matter of blind faith, but should and must be a logical decision based on plentiful evidence. This class discusses the decision making process and the difference between decisions made "on faith" and those made on evidence.

10:00 am Discovering G-d in Torah and History - [Max Anteby](#)

- **Information Only the Author Could Have Known**

This class treats two highly illogical and almost preposterous commandments given to the Jewish people – commandments no sane "human authors" could have made because they depend on control of nature outside of human hands. In addition this class reviews precise and explicit descriptions of scientific information contained in the Torah that mankind could not have known 3,300 years ago.

- **The Seven Wonders of Jewish History**

The Jewish People are an eternal riddle. How is it that Jews have survived longer than any group in the world and often under harsh circumstances? Are they the Chosen People? And if so, why are they so hated? Are they worldly activists or scholarly "People of the Book?" Watch and listen as we turn the contradictions of Jewish history into an exhilarating adventure.

- **Transmission: Is Today's Torah the Same as the Original?**

The Torah we have today is unique among ancient writings for its accuracy of transmission through three millennia. This class turns the focus to human psychology: Why was it so important to transmit this document so carefully? Why were such extraordinary measures taken? What is this book, and what does it mean to our lives?

- **G-d's Hand in History**

This class shows how human history has dramatically paralleled specific predictions in the Torah and Prophets. This short and breathtaking demonstration explains why our generation has access to more accurate and detailed evidence for belief in Judaism than ever before.

11:30 am Codes: The Hidden Genius of the Torah - [Harold Gans](#)

Top mathematicians and computer scientists from the US Government and leading universities in the US and Jerusalem have worked together to crack codes in the 3,300 year-old Torah - codes which predict modern events in stunning detail. This class shows how the research is done and what the codes reveal to us.

1:00 pm Seminar Wrap Up

(Optional)

1:15 pm - 2:00 pm Light Lunch and Question & Answer Session

For more information, please email info@torahnetwork.org or call 773.761.0400, x208.

THE CHICAGO TORAH NETWORK SHABBAT FAX[©]

A WEEKLY PRESENTATION OF JEWISH THOUGHT PUBLISHED IN MEMORY OF RAE DANIEL

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 19 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 / 7 ADAR 1 5771 CANDLE LIGHTING: 4:58 P.M. SHABBAT ENDS: 6:09 (CHICAGO)

Hang in there - Shabbos is coming!

TORAH PORTION: TETZAVEH (EXODUS 27:20 - 30:10)

This week's CTN Shabbat Fax is dedicated by Richard Hanus and family, in loving memory of his father, John Hanus, Moshe Yehuda ben David, ha'levi, on the occasion of his yahrzeit. May his memory be a blessing and inspiration to his family.

1. *Speak to all those who are naturally talented, whom I have filled with the spirit of knowledge. (28:3)*

It's a perspective on life.

That what we have comes from G-d.

That we may have spent many years in school. Worked hard. Put in long hours.

But after all is said and done, we should recognize that we couldn't have done it on our own.

G-d helped us get where we are.

And with that gift comes a responsibility.

To use what we have to help others.

What usually comes to mind is *Tzedakah*. Charity.

But there are times when we simply don't have the money.

Or we've already given generously.

And we think there's nothing we can do.

There's no such thing.

Because it's not just about money.

It's whatever we have.

Our unique abilities. Our skills. And talents.

The Torah wants us to remember that they are all gifts from G-d.

And they all come with the same responsibility.

To use them to help others.

How far does it go?

There's a powerful story in the Talmud. About a great Rabbi who had a mystical revelation.

He was told about two men in his town. That they were destined for tremendous spiritual reward.

And he couldn't understand.

Because they seemed like very ordinary people.

They weren't especially pious. Or charitable. Not at all.

So why the tremendous reward?

The Rabbi met them. Got to know them better.

And it turns out that they had a unique gift.

They knew how to make people happy.

Somehow they always knew the right things to say. And to do.

And they made it a habit. A pet project.

That whenever someone was down – they would cheer him up.

And then he understood their greatness.

Because there isn't just one way to help people.

There are many.

It boils down to knowing our strengths. Understanding that they are G-d's gifts.

And using them to help others.

2. "The world stands on three things: Torah study, service of G-d and acts of kindness." (Ethics of the Fathers, 1:2)

Jewish tradition explains that these are more than simply nice things to do. They're the key to living a successful life.

Because our real challenge in life is to get beyond ourselves. To not be self-centered.

How? The first step is Torah. It's about getting beyond our physical body.

And getting in touch with our *neshama*. Our spiritual dimension. Our soul.

... The second is service of G-d.

It's about going beyond ourselves. Connecting to G-d.

And having a relationship with Him.

The third step? Acts of kindness. *Chessed*.

Reaching out to other people. Learning to focus on their needs. Not just on ours.

Getting beyond ourselves makes our lives fuller. Deeper. And richer.

... And brings our lives up to a whole new level.

THIS MONDAY: GET 3000 YEARS OF HISTORY IN ONE HOUR!

Don't miss "The Crash Course in Jewish History" with Rabbi Moshe Katz, this Monday, Feb 14, 7 pm, at the CTN Center. Learn about everything from the Exodus from Egypt to the Modern State of Israel and so much in between.

It's everything history courses usually are not: Exciting, inspiring, informative and very relevant.



Shabbat Shalom and best wishes for a wonderful week.

Rabbi Moshe Katz

Rabbi Doni Deutsch

Chicago Torah Network <http://torahnetwork.org>

2832 West Touhy Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645

Phone: 773.761.0400

Fax: 773.761.9262

e-mail: info@torahnetwork.org