

בס"ד. שלהי מנחם אב ה'תשפ"ד

To the families of the Anash community at the EU - Brussels שיחיו
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Reminders for the Family – *Elul* 5784

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Wishing everyone a *Ksivo Vachasimo Toivo, Leshono Toivo Umesuko* - May we merit to hear the "*Shofar Godol*" that will be heard at the arrival of *Moshiach* – this year!

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The month of *Elul* (from *HaYom Yom, 27 Menachem Av*):

The month of *Elul* is the month of reckoning. In the material world, if a businessman is to conduct his affairs properly and with great profit, he must periodically take an accounting and correct any deficiencies... Likewise in the spiritual *Avoda* of serving *Hashem*. Throughout the year all *Yidden* are occupied with *Torah, Mitzvot* and (developing and expressing) good traits. The month of *Elul* is the month of reckoning, when every *Yid*, each commensurate with his abilities, whether scholar or businessman, must make an accurate accounting in his *Neshomo* of everything that occurred in the course of the year. Each must know the good qualities in his service of *Hashem* and strengthen them; he must also be aware of the deficiencies in himself and in his service, and correct these. Through this excellent preparation, one merits a good and sweet year, materially and spiritually.

* All the sources are in the Hebrew section of the Reminders.

Throughout the month of *Elul*:

- 1. *Ledovid Hashem Ori*:** From the **first** day of *Rosh Chodesh* (30 *Menachem Av*), we add this chapter of *Tehillim* in *Shacharis* and *Mincha* every day.
- 2. Blowing of the *Shofar*:**
 - A.** During the **first** day of *Rosh Chodesh* (30 *Menachem Av*) we blow the *Shofar* to "**practice**". See a *shiur* on our website <http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/elul/> based on *Likutei Sichos* Volume 34 that explains the concept of this "practice".
 - B.** From the **second** day of *Rosh Chodesh* (1 *Elul*), we blow *Shofar* every day (besides for *Shabbos* and *Erev Rosh Hashono*) after *Shacharis*. If it was not done after *Shacharis*, it can be done later. When there was a "Rally" etc., they would (also) blow the *shofar* after *Mincha*. The Rebbe encouraged that when going on *Mivtzoim*, one should see to it that as many people as possible hear *Tkiyas Shofar*, but remind them that this does not replace the hearing of the *Shofar* on *Rosh Hashono*!
- 3. Three Chapters of *Tehillim*:** The *Baal Shem Tov* instituted that every day of *Elul* we recite three additional chapters of *Tehillim*: on the first day of *Elul* (second day of *Rosh Chodesh*) we recite chapters 1-3, on the second day, chapters 4-6, etc. If someone missed it, they should recite today's chapters first and then complete what they missed.
- 4. *Pirkei Avos*:** On those *Shabbosim* when two chapters are recited, it is as follows: when chapters 1-2 or 3-4 are recited, the *Mishnayos* of "*Kol Yisroel...*" and "*Rabbi Chananya*" are recited only once. When chapter 5-6 are recited, the *Mishnayos* of "*Kol Yisroel...*" and "*Rabbi Chananya*" are recited before and after each *Perek*.

REMINDERS FOR THE MONTH OF ELUL 5784
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5. **Checking Tefillin and Mezuzos:** If they weren't checked within the last 12 months the *Tefillin* and the *Mezuzos* should be checked. This should be publicized.
6. **Ksivo Vachasimo Toivo:** We wish everyone (even when finishing a letter or email), men to men, women to women, and children (boys to boys and girls to girls) a *Kesivo V'chasimo Toivo Leshono Toivo Umesuko*.
7. **Tshuva and Cheshbon HaNefesh:** We do *Teshuva* and a *Cheshbon Hanefesh* for the whole year.
8. **Tzedako:** We add in the giving of *Tzedako*, especially to give for the needy for *Yom Tov* (Just like *Maos Chitim* for *Pesach*).
9. **Der Oibershter tells the Yiden – I am giving you 29-30 days:** See the famous *Sicha* of the *Rebbe* in *Likutei Sichos, Chelek Bais*, page 626, [you can see a shiur/video on this *Sicha* at: <http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/mitzvah-believe-moshiach-part-2/>] and the many *Sichos* that discuss the famous *Moshol* (parable) of "*Melech Basode*" (the King in the field).
10. **11th of Elul:** *Chasuna* of the *Rebbe Rashab*.
11. **13th of Elul:** *Chasuna* of the *Friediker Rebbe*.
12. **15th of Elul:** Establishment of *Yeshivas Tomchei Tmimim*.
13. **Shabbos Parshas Ki Savo - 18th of Elul – Chai Elul:**
 - a. Birthday of the *Baal Shem Tov* and the *Alter Rebbe*. On this day the *Rabbeim* would say "*Gut Yom Tov*". *Chassidim* have the custom to *Farbreng*, tell stories of *Tzadikim* and undertake *Hachlotois* in strengthening *Ahavas Yisroel* and setting aside time for learning *Nigle* and *Chassidus*. *Chai Elul* gives a *Chayus* in the *Avoda* of *Ani Ledodi Vedodi Li*.
 - b. Regarding *Pirkei Avos* see above #4.
14. **12 Days:** Each of the 12 days from *Chai Elul* to *Rosh Hashono* represent one of the previous 12 months. So *Chai Elul* is the day of *Cheshbon Hanefesh* for the previous *Tishrei* etc.
15. **23 Elul:** *Yahrzeit* of *Reb Meir Shlomo Yanovsky – Rebbetzin Chana's* father. The *Rebbe* would say *Kadish* on this day.
16. **Shabbos Parshas Nizovim/Vayelech – Shabbos Mevorchim – 25 Elul**
 1. The first day of creation. The *Friediker Rebbe* recounted that on the 25th of *Elul*, the early generation of *Chassidim*, would learn the *Parsha* of *Bereshis* until "*Yom Echad*". On the 26th of *Elul* they would learn "*Yom Shenii*" etc.
 2. The *Rebbe* would say *Kadish*.
 3. **Tehillim:** we say the whole *Tehillim* in the morning like every *Shabbos Mevorchim*.
 4. However we do **not** "*Bentch*" the month before *Musaf* (see in the *Hayom Yom* the explanation in the name of the *Alter Rebbe*, that this month is *Bentched* by *Hashem* etc.)
 5. **Av Harachmim:** Before *Musaf* we recite *Av Harachmim*.
 6. **Tzidkoscho:** In *Mincha* we recite "*Tzidkoscho*".
 7. **Pirkei Avos:** We say Chapters 5-6. We say the *Mishna* of "*Kol Yisroel*" and "*Rabbi Chananya ben Akashia*" before and after each *Perek*.
Motzoei Shabbos
 - * In *Maariv* we recite "*Ato Chonantanu*".
 - * We do not recite "*Vihi Noam*" and "*Veato Kodoish*".
 - * We *Farbreng* as a preparation to *Slichos*.
 - * After midnight (in 770 at 1:00 am) we recite *Slichos* and continue to do so every morning until *Erev Rosh Hashono*.
17. **29th of Elul:** Birthday of the *Tzemach Tzedek*. In the years 5732-47 the *Rebbe* use to *Farbreng* and say a *Maamor* and *Sichos*.

The "Reminders" for *Erev Rosh Hashono* and *Rosh Hashono* will be available *Bez"h* mid-*Elul*.

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