

September 28 2024
Bat Mitzvah, Daughter of the Covenant

I don't think I can improve on the wonderful drash that Naomi gave. Nevertheless, a few remarks from a Bar Mitzvah bukhur [choice young man] of 1962.

When Louis was younger, he just hated going to Bar Mitzvahs. All of his uncles and aunts used to come up to him, poke him in the ribs, and say to him, "You're next, Louis."

But they stopped doing that after Louis started doing the same thing to them at funerals.

One day, two bees are buzzing around what's left of a rose bush.

"How's your summer been?" asks bee number one.

"Not too good," says bee two. "Lotta rain, lotta cold. There aren't enough flowers, therefore not enough pollen."

The first bee has an idea. "Hey, why don't you go down to the corner and hang a left? There's a Bar Mitzvah going on. Plenty of flowers and fruit."

Bee two buzzes, "Thanks!" and takes off.

An hour later, the bees bump into each other again.

"How was the Bar Mitzvah?" asks the first bee.

"Great!" replies the second.

The first bee, however, notices a small circle on his friend's head, and inquires, "What's that on your head?"

"A yarmulke," is the answer. "I didn't want them to think I was a Wasp."

TORAHFIED n. Inability to remember one's lines at one's Bar Mitzvah.

[source: <http://www.jokebuddha.com/Mitzvah#ixzz3CV2cuktD>]





Bat Mitzvah: Daughter of the Covenant

1. Brief history
2. Purpose
3. Hazards



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How did it start? Origins of Bar Mitzvah:

The **Great Synagogue in Rome** records the custom of a **young woman** [!] being called up in synagogue before the entire community dates back to the early years of the Roman Jewish community approximately **2,300 years ago. 200 BCE**

Pirkei Avot consists of the Mishnaic tractate of Avot, the second-to-last tractate in the order of Nezikin in the Mishnah, plus one additional chapter.

Pirkei Avot/Ethics of the Fathers 5.22 [~200 CE]

[Continued as practice in the Roman synagogue.

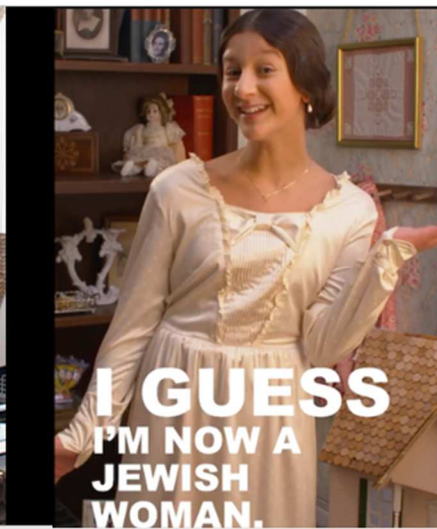
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bar_and_Bat_Mitzvah#History

[Tractate = subsection

Order = major section]

The Six Orders of the Mishnah (ששה סדרי משנה) [hide]					
Zera'im (Seeds) (זרעים)	Moed (Festival) (מועד)	Nashim (Women) (נשים)	Nezikin (Damages) (נזיקין)	Kodashim (Holies) (קדשים)	Tohorot (Purities) (טהרות)
Berakhot • Pe'ah • Demai • Kil'ayim • Shevi'it • Terumot • Ma'aserot • Ma'aser Sheni • Challah • Orlah • Bikkurim	Shabbat • Eruvin • Pesachim • Shekalim • Yoma • Sukkah • Beitza • Rosh Hashanah • Ta'anit • Megillah • Mo'ed Katan • Hagigah	Yevamot • Ketubot • Nedarim • Nazir • Sotah • Gittin • Kiddushin	Bava Kamma • Bava Metzia • Bava Batra • Sanhedrin • Makkot • Shevu'ot • Eduyot • Avodah Zarah • Avot • Horayot	Zevachim • Menachot • Hullin • Bekhorot • Arakhin • Temurah • Keritot • Me'ilah • Tamid • Middot • Kinnim	Keilim • Oholot • Nega'im • Parah • Tohorot • Mikva'ot • Niddah • Makhshirin • Zavim • Tevul Yom • Yadayim • Uktzim

- Five years is the age for the study of Scripture. [Leviticus]
- Ten, for the study of Mishnah.
- **Thirteen, for the obligation to observe the mitzvot.** *[Old enough to fast on YK.]*
- Fifteen, for the study of Talmud.
- Eighteen, for marriage.
- Twenty, to pursue [a livelihood].
- Thirty, for strength.



American rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan, who held the first public celebration of a bat mitzvah in the United States, for his daughter Judith, on **March 18, 1922**, at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, his synagogue in New York City. *[Quite shocking to observers. In my day, Bat Mitzvahs were less common than Bar Mitzvahs. My sister's Jewish education was just skipped. She never had a Bat Mitzvah.]*

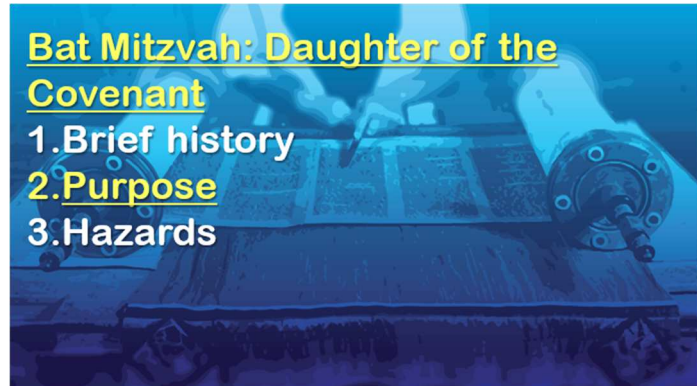
Judith Kaplan recited the preliminary blessing, read a portion of that week's Torah portion in Hebrew and English, and then intoned the closing blessing.



Next innovation I don't approve of at all. NEVER be done at Or HaOlam.

On July 10th, 1977, the first **Bark Mitzvah** took place in West Orange New Jersey. Marvin and Thebe Drazin held a Bark Mitzvah for their dog Schnoppsie-Lewis Drazin in their backyard.

[70s – height of the hippy era]



What is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah?

בַּת מִצְוָה

בַּת daughter

(religion) commandment, precept; decree, edict; good deed, act of kindness מִצְוָה

[Daughter and commandment seem opposite.

Daughter is the epitome of beloved and precious.

Commandment sound legal, military.

It's being engaged, involved, enamored with the TRUTH of the Word. The daughterhood dimension is because the Word is a love letter of family identity. Covenantal family identity. Covenant is the key word. Shortly Naomi's parents, Michael & Tova, will recite the following over her.]

בְּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשׁוֹ שְׁלָזָה.

Ba-rukh sheh-p'ta-ra-nee

may-an-sho sheh-lah-zeh.

Blessed is He Who has released
me from full responsibility
for the character and deeds of
my daughter.

[She will bear the full responsibility of her own actions, words, thoughts. Somewhat.

So let's explore the tie between Daughter of Commandments, and the covenant.]

Yermiyahu 31.31-33 "Hey! the days are coming," says Adoni, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah... "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adoni: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adoni'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

The covenant is expressed in the Torah teachings and commandments.

Daughter of the Commandments =

(Bat Mitzvah)

Daughter of the Covenant

Yn 14.15-19 "If you love me, you will keep my commands; and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting Counselor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever...I will not leave you orphans -- I am coming to you ... In just a little while, the world will no longer see me; but you will see me. Because I live, you too will live.

[You will see Him if you are regularly in the Word.]

Thillim/Ps 112.1 Halleluyah! How happy is anyone who fears ADONI, who greatly delights in his mitzvot.

Thillim/Ps 119.30-32 I choose the way of trust; I set your rulings [before me]. I cling to your instruction; ADONI, don't let me be put to shame! I will run the way of your mitzvot, for you have broadened my understanding.

So, it's a big step, committing to love Him and His mitzvot and walk in His covenant.

God meets us at transition points, so we have ceremonies.

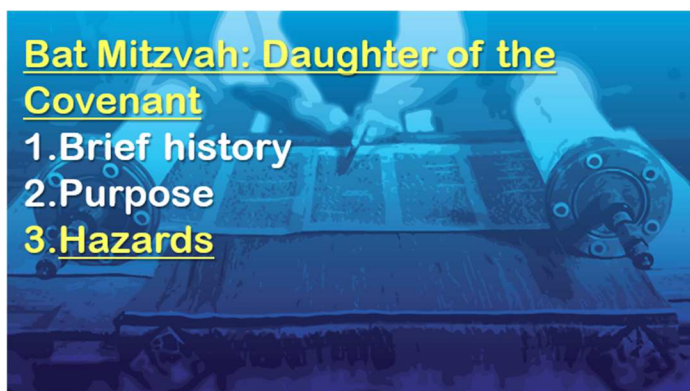
- Birth: Brit Milah/circumcision
- Puberty
- Marriage
- Death

[Celebrate transitions. Honor the budding womanhood of Naomi Swanson]

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּבֹאֶךָ; וּבְרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּצֵאתְךָ

Barukh atah b'voekha, barukh atah btseitkha

Dt. 28.6 "A blessing on you when you go out, and a blessing on you when you come in."



Naomi's wonderful drash starts with "You are standing before the Lord. Chazak! Be Courageous."
[Dennis Prager

<https://www.prageru.com/video/the-void-finding-happiness-in-a-world-of-escapism>

throws out the question: Why is Gen Z (1997-2012, 12-27 years old) the most depressed, anxious, and overly medicated generation in America? Detached and lonely, millions of young people are plunging into the void of escapism and social media addiction, only to find themselves more isolated and alone. Screens and drugs.

Solutions to Gen Z and their families for overcoming this mental health crisis by taking on responsibilities and finding purpose.

Purpose in Yeshua, responsibilities in community, with people, not just with screens.]

So adult responsibilities:

1. Handling disagreements



by Dr. Henry Cloud

The most important benefit of a good confrontation is that it preserves love in a relationship. This may seem counterintuitive to you. You may think, "This doesn't make sense."

When I confront someone, they will either get mad or leave the relationship." This can and does happen. But

confrontation was not designed to make someone angry or chase him or her away. In fact, it was designed to do the opposite.

The Latin term for confrontation means "to turn your face toward, to look at frontally." It merely indicates that you are turning toward the relationship and the person. You are face-to-face, so to speak. **So, face your fearsome people.**

In confrontation, people simply face the relationship and deal with an aspect of the connection that needs to be addressed. The intent is to make the relationship better, to deepen the intimacy, and to create more love and respect between two people.

That is why, to be an effective confronter, you need to understand that confrontation works best when it serves love. Boundary conversations are motivated and driven by love. They promote the purposes of love. They enhance a relationship, not end it.

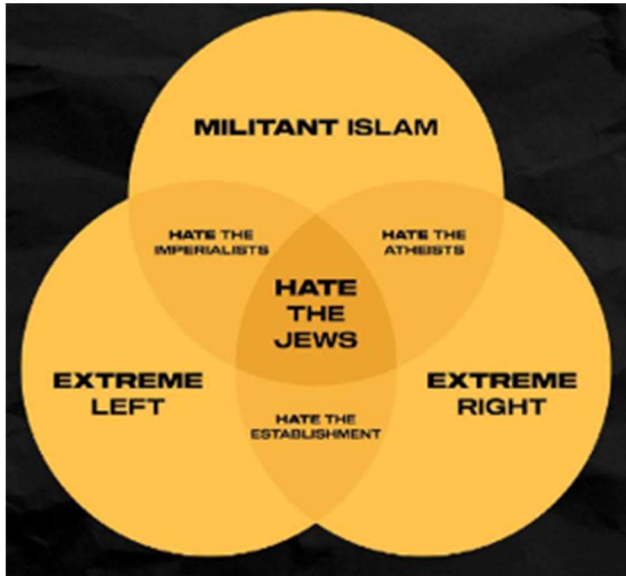
[From Dr Henry Cloud

[https://www.boundaries.me/e/BAh7BjoWZW1haWxfZGVsaXZlcnlfWRsKwhwhwzrBQA%3D--baf37135647cb00a613159326d79b34cd2cdd9ad?skip_click_tracking=true\]](https://www.boundaries.me/e/BAh7BjoWZW1haWxfZGVsaXZlcnlfWRsKwhwhwzrBQA%3D--baf37135647cb00a613159326d79b34cd2cdd9ad?skip_click_tracking=true)

2. Facing opposition.

Anti-Semitism

[As this congregation represents Jewish people and those identifying with them ...]



Amir Tsarfati

[Amir Tsarfati <https://beholdisrael.org/>

t.me/beholdisraelchannel/40128

Christ the King sounds good, underlying insidious]

Last week, the UN General Assembly approved a resolution calling for a global arms and trade embargo against Israel. The resolution also demanded that Israel should unilaterally withdraw from East Jerusalem, Gaza, and the “West Bank” (Judea & Samaria) with a deadline of 12 months.

[<https://honestreporting.com/what-does-the-un-resolution-of-a-unilateral-withdrawal-mean-for-israel/>]



Benjamin Netanyahu addressing
the UN, Sept. 26, 2024

[https://youtu.be/MV8U3I_ECC4

Note the empty seats.]



Every Arab nation that has made peace with Israel is being blessed and flourishing, like Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, and Chad. However, those nations that have not made peace with Israel are starving and suffering from poverty like Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Lebanon.

[Barry Segal]



Erin Moran
Sky-news
Australia

[<https://youtu.be/rLBdehdPQuM?t=85>
2.26 to 3.53 in particular]

[https://www.chabad.org/multimedia/course_cdo/aid/6496251/jewish/StressRX-Summit.htm]



2. Be strong and courageous facing opposition.

- Anti-Semitism
- Opposition to you as a Jew, opposition to you as a Yeshua believer and follower.

3. Listening, learning, and leading

Deut. 31:7 "**Moses called Yehoshua and said to him before the eyes of all Israel: Be strong and courageous for you will come with (et) this nation to the land that God promised to their forefathers to give to them and you will bequeath it to them.**"

כִּי אַתָּה תָּבִיא אֶת הָעָם הַזֶּה

In another verse, G-d says to Yehoshua:

Deut. 31:23 "**He commanded Yehoshua the son of Nun and said: Be strong and courageous for you will bring the Children of Israel to the land that I promised to them and I will be with you.**"

כִּי אַתָּה תָּבִיא אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

[<http://www.ulpanor.com/>]

In the first verse, Moses says to Yehoshua "**you will come**", while G-d says to Yehoshua "**you will bring**."

In Hebrew there is a slight difference in the spelling and pronunciation of these two verbs.

תָּבִיא and תָּבִיא
TAVEE TAVO

[Why is there a difference in the usage of this verb between the two verses?]

The Sages state: When Moshe said to Yehoshua -

הַזֶּה הָעָם אֶת אַתָּה תָּבִיא כִּי...

"For you will come (et) this nation" – the meaning is:

"For you will come with this nation" (together with this nation).

Here Moshe intended that Yehoshua would take counsel with the elders of the nation, and act according to their opinion.

But, when G-d told Yehoshua:

"For you will bring (et) this nation"

Here the verb **תְּבִיא** is an active verb (Binyan Hif'el) and the intention is that Yehoshua would actively lead the Children of Israel even against their will – the decision is his.

Rabbi Elchanan Wasserman:

In the beginning, the leader cannot rely just on his own opinion. He first needs to hear out the opinions and the advice of the elders and the sages.

But after hearing out all the opinions, the leader needs to demonstrate leadership and to decide by himself how to act.

[<http://www.ulpanor.com/>]

So listen, learn, and lead in whatever life, and G-d, calls you to.

Adult responsibilities:

1. Handling disagreements: Conflict is never fun, DON'T withdraw to screens or meds!
2. Facing opposition: Opposition can be quite hateful, especially to you as a Messianic Jewish girl and all those here who affiliate with the Jews.
3. Listening, learning, and leading: You will have opportunity and calling to lead. Do it with humility and courage.

