

## About Rosh Chodesh

Dear Everyone;

Since this Tuesday we are going to celebrate Rosh Chodesh, I thought I might share some thoughts about this auspicious day with you. Although I wrote in the past about Rosh Chodesh, maybe something here is new.

1) Many congregations have the custom of reciting Borche Nafshe on Rosh Chodesh, either immediately following the YOM or at the end of the Shachris. I read that the reason for this is because according to the Gaon of Vilna, this is the correct Psalm to be recited on Rosh Chodesh. Since it describes in great detail all the marvels of creation, and Rosh Chodesh represents a reawakening of all that Hashem did, this should be recited on this day.

2) The Zohar teaches that Rosh Hashanah will affect what happens during the entire year, Rosh Chodesh will determine what happens during that month and Shabbos determines what will happen during the coming week. It does not necessarily present a contradiction, because it could be that each one is specified for a certain aspect of the circumstances we will face or the conditions the world will be in. That is why we should pray with more Kavannah during these days, so that we could ask Hashem to send us a good year/month and week, or that if it was destined to bring not such good news, we could avert that decree with our prayers.

This is especially true when Rosh Chodesh falls on Shabbos because then the Neshama Yesairah which every Jew receives is increased in holiness and he has more spiritual power to influence the decrees of Hashem.

3) On Rosh Chodesh, a person is blessed with an additional amount of Kedusha as the Posuk says Vehaya Meday Chodesh B'Chodsho. Since the Bnay Yisroel broke the power of the Egyptians on Rosh Chodesh Nissan and that is what made it the first of all the months, every year, on Rosh Chodesh Nissan, the person once again is blessed with an additional amount of spiritual strength to enable him to reach unusual heights in Kedusha. This is also manifest on Rosh Chodesh Nissan since it was on this day that Hashem made His Shechina dwell among the Bnay Yisroel with the dedication of the Mishkan, and this day was destined to be special for all time.

4) Many people have the custom, where even if they don't wash for bread all week, on Rosh Chodesh they do insist on having a meal with bread so that they could recite the Benching with Yaaleh V'Yavo. This asks Hashem for many blessings and should be recited in its time.

For now this might be enough so I will wish each of you a very wonderful, happy and joyous Chodesh.

Much luv Zaidy

Incidentally, with the problems I had for the past week or so, are you getting any of the messages I sent. I sent This includes a copy of what I said during Seudah Shelishis this past Shabbos, Parshas vayikra and this one.