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Thoughts From The Lubavitcher Rebbe

Pesach and Haste

By Rabbi Yossi Groner

One of the most important details of the Exodus is the haste in which it took place. When the hour of liberation struck, the Jews left Egypt at once, losing not a single moment, or, as our sages express it, not even the "batting of an eyelid."

The Sages continue to say, that if the Jews had tarried and missed that auspicious moment, the opportunity for liberation would have been lost forever. The question asked most often, why the rush? The Egyptians were determined that the Jews leave their land. Why then, was the haste of the moment so important?

The explanation is the following: The danger of forfeiting this opportunity lay not in the possibility of the Egyptians changing their minds, but in the possibility that some Jews might change their minds, for fear of leaving their habituated way of life for a new culture and society in the desert.

It is a privilege and obligation for each and every Jew to experience the Exodus from Egypt each and every day of their lives. The personal Exodus from Egypt refers to one's own redemption from subservience to the dictates of the body and animal instincts in oneself.

The lesson from the haste of our ancestors is, that whenever an opportunity presents itself to achieve this "Exodus" to elevate ourselves spiritually, we must not delay. We must utilize the opportunity and try to permeate every aspect of our daily lives with the spirit and observance of Torah and its commandments.

Today we find such opportunities on a broad based level: The resurgence of interest in religion by our previously estranged youth. Boldly inquiring and challenging, our younger generation demands to know the full truth about Judaism, not a compromised truth or a "made to order" religion.

Experience has shown that when young Jews come in contact with authentic Torah and Mitzvot Judaism they are attracted to it, and many of them have begun to readjust their daily lives accordingly, with the determination and enthusiasm which young people have.

The hope and prayer of every Jew is to experience total liberation from all limitations during the Passover holiday, especially at the Pesach Seder. This will help Jews all over the world find true liberation from all restraints, and we will come to the ultimate redemption through our righteous Moshiach.

Purim Rally Was Great Success

Purim was indeed an exciting time at the Chabad House in Charlotte. On Sunday, February 28 a grand Purim rally was held for children. The fun-filled activities included Purim Puzzlers, mask making and "find the crown."

Parents and children enjoyed Kosher delicious hot dogs and other holiday treats. Trays of fresh baked Hamantaschen from a famous New York bakery lined the tables. It was after lunch that the program began.

Rabbi Binyomin Weiss, program director at Lubavitch, entertained the 200 parents, children and participants, with his witty stories and anecdotes about the Purim holiday. The children received prizes for best costumes and correct answers to the Purim quiz. Each child also received his own Purim kit.

The most exciting event of the day came at the conclusion of the day, when children were led by Chanie Weiss for a Kosher candy hunt at the playground of the Chabad House. Children were amazed at the variety of Kosher candy they discovered under the leaves and near the picnic area of the House.

On Purim night, a large crowd filled the Chabad House for a Purim Ice Cream Bash. The party got under way after the Purim service which included the reading of the Meg-



Children absorbing Purim story at Rally.



Parents and children enjoying lunch at Purim Rally.

gilah (scroll of Esther). Young and old enjoyed the evening singing, dancing and rejoicing in the spirit of Purim.

As a preparation to the Purim holiday, a special "Kid-dush" Shabbat meal was held on Shabbat prior to Purim. This event also commemo-

rated the day of birth and the day of passing of Moses. It is even more significant this year, being that it marks 3300 years from the Exodus from Egypt and the giving of Torah at Mount Sinai, which was through Moshe Rabenu — Moses our Teacher.

Jewish Sound Features "The Golem" with Nemoy

The popular radio program, "The Jewish Sound," will run a four-week series of the story of the Golem of Prague. The mystery, which has intrigued many Jewish historians, comes to life through the voice and acting of Leonard Nemoy,

a Jewish actor.

The mystery series, "The Golem," was produced by Radio Mystery Theatre in New York in conjunction with Lubavitch. This is the first time that this special will be broadcast in the Carolinas.

The first segment will air in Charlotte on Sunday, April 24, 9 a.m. on "The Jewish Sound," and will run four consecutive Sundays.

"The Jewish Sound" is a weekly one-hour Jewish music presentation, produced by Lubavitch of North Carolina, and is heard every Sunday morning on WSOC-AM 930 on the radio dial from 9-10 a.m.

According to Rabbi Yossi Groner, coproducer of the show, many people have been listening to "The Jewish Sound" throughout the Charlotte area. "Our audience has been increasing on a steady basis," he said. "Our mail bags are full with letters of praise."

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On Occasion Of His
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For Many Years To Come.

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Of Kindling The Sparks Of Judaism The World Over
With The Coming Of Moshiach.

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