

# WEST STREET SHUL

43 WEST STREET HOUGHTON JOHANNESBURG

# Newsletter

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For the week ending Shabbat **29th November 2008**  
**2nd Kislev 5769:Shabbat Toldot.**

## ***Dear Members & Friends***

***Timetable for the new week attached.***

***Rabbi Kacev's Dvar Torah attached.***

***FourDay Weather forecast below.***

### **Brocha:**

This Brocha this week is sponsored by jointly sponsored by **Arlene & Monty Ketz**

**Rosh Chodesh Kislev: Friday 28th November**

**Chanukah Reminder:-** first night will be on Sunday 21st December

### **YAHRTZEITS**

West St Shul wishes a long & good life to the following members observing their Yahrzeits in the new week:

SUNDAY 30th :- **CYNTHIA KAHN (H) ; MEYER KAHN (B )**

WEDNESDAY 3rd :- **ROSE OSKOWITZ (M)**

THURSDAY 4th :- **HENRY ULFANE (S):**

FRIDAY 5th :- **SAM SHER (B)**

### **Long Life:**

West St Shul wishes **Maurice Katz** a long and a good life following the passing in Israel of his sister, **Anita Lieberman**

**The weekday Mincha Minyan continues to struggle. Commitment appeal !**

**Rav Kook zt'l**

2nd Kislev 5769

italics edited: West st Editor

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**Toldot**

**Toldot: Jacob's Hand on Esau's Heel**

*NoLies & No Preferential love*

When Jacob announced to his father, "*I am Esau your first-born*," he did not lie. Jacob had truly acquired his brother's "traits".  
.....Control : Hand & Mind.

*Jacov & Rivkah each loved the truth in their children*

**Jacov did have a connection to his brother's traits of cruelty, but these traits were not an integral part of his soul. This is the significance of Jacob's hand holding on to Esau's heel when they were born. The heel represents instinctive nature, while the hand indicates willed and planned action. Jacob had to hold onto Esau's heel - i.e., a connection to those savage traits which were an intrinsic part of Esau's nature, in his heel. For Jacob, however, these traits were not wild and undisciplined, but under the control of his hand and mind.**

Isaac appreciated Esau's ability to hunt and dominate the beasts - the trait needed to dominate bestial peoples.

Isaac valued Esau's potential to forcibly correct the entire world. The Torah thus gives a reason for Isaac's love of his firstborn son: "*Isaac loved Esau, for his hunt was in his mouth.*"

The Torah contrasts the different ways in which Isaac and Rebecca loved their sons. On the one hand, it says, "*Isaac will love Esau*" (with the conversive *Vav* switching it to the *future* tense). Isaac valued Esau's future, his progeny, not his present state which even Isaac could see was savage and violent. But for Rebecca, the Torah uses the present tense: "*Rebecca loves Jacob.*" She loved and appreciated Jacob's current

state of righteousness.

[adapted from *Midbar Shur*, pp. 265-272]

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<http://www.ravkooktorah.org/TOLDOT63.htm>

### 4-Day Forecast for Johannesburg: Nov-Dec 2008

Friday-28th	Shabbat-29th	Sunday-30th	Monday-1st
			
28° C   17° C	28° C   16° C	28° C   15° C	28° C   16° C
Scattered Clouds	Clear	Scattered Clouds	Scattered Clouds

<http://www.wunderground.com/global/stations/68368.html>

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