



## SEASON 2 EPISODE 45

August 31st 2018

Candle Lighting:

Phoenix 6:36

Las Vegas 6:52

San Diego 6:56

Los Angeles 7:02

Tarzana 7:03

Lake Tahoe 7:13

# have a Nageela Shabbos

Parshas  
Ki Savo

5778

*A Kid Friendly Weekly Publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences*

## Torahsetta Stones

by Rabbi Dani Locker

“I’m sorry, I didn’t know I wasn’t supposed to kick it! I thought it was like soccer!”

“OK. Julia, we’ll let you stay in this time. But now you know that when you play ga-ga, you can’t let the ball touch your legs. That’s kind of the whole point of the game. Next time you kick the ball, you’ll be out.”

Julia and her camp friends continue their competitive ga-ga game, until a whistle sounds again.

“Julia! You kicked the ball again. You’re out!”

“But I’ve never played ga-ga before, I’m used to

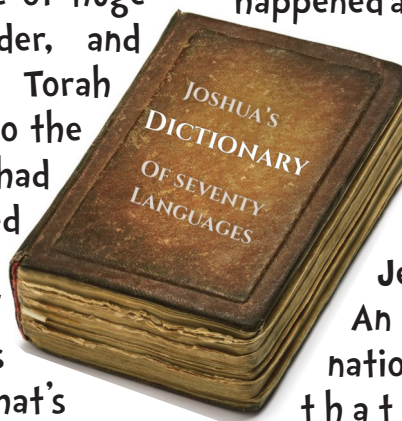
soccer! I wasn’t listening to what you told me last time!”

“I understand, but that excuse only works once. Once we’ve explained the rules to you, you’ve got to follow them.”

When the Jewish people entered the land of Israel, they erected a couple of huge stones at the border, and inscribed the whole Torah on them. According to the Talmud, these stones had the Torah translated into seventy languages. Seventy! Seven- Zero. That’s a lot of words. What’s the deal with these Torahsetta

stones?

We all make choices; hopefully more right ones than not. Our goal has to be to make educated, informed choices. God made sure the Torah was readable in every language possible so that every human being could learn from the wisdom of Torah and use it to make better choices (BTW, this happened after all of these same nations rejected the Torah, some of them had even attacked the Jewish people). An individual or nation who ignored that



continued on back

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# Stump The Rabbi

## Or What?

Dear Rabbi,

What is the oral torah? I keep hearing Rabbis use those words, but I don't understand what it means! The Torah is written down, right? So it can't be oral. Someone told me it's the talmud, but that's ALSO written down, so how can it be oral?

Thanks,

Tyra D. Schoen

Dear Tyra,

Some say that the Oral Torah is just the section of the Torah made for dentists...

No, well. Actually, nobody ever said that. Ever. Sorry, I just thought of that because I went to the dentist recently. I haven't flossed in ten years. He said I had terrible tooth decay...

Shall I actually get to answering your question? BTW, awesome question!

My dentist story can help you understand. There I was in Dr. Tartar's office leaning back in the awkward chair, waiting for him to probe and pry into my mouth. After poking around and sticking my gums with hard objects, he pulled out a large textbook.

"Whahghyouhdaihgh" I said, because my mouth was jammed open.

"What did you say?" Dr. Tartar asked.



"You should really speak up!"

"Whahghyouhdaihgh" I repeated.

"Oh," he replied, nodding. You asked what I'm doing. I'm consulting my dental instruction book on how to

fill a cavity."

"Whaaadoughyoauhknowhowafilla-cattaghy?" I asked, bewildered.

"Nope. I don't need to know how to do anything these days. Between my textbook, instructional app, and my new OPS (Oral Positioning Satellite), it's quite unnecessary for there to be anything in my head. Now open wide!"

In case you were wondering, I only make up true stories.

When God entrusted to us the textbook for life (AKA the Torah), He wanted to make sure that we did not act like Dr. Tartar. It's easy to put all the info in a book, and never absorb it into your brain or heart. Instead, God didn't write all the info down. In fact, the written Torah (that's what is sometimes called Tanach, or the Old Testament) is short- considerably smaller than say, a college textbook, or a popular fantasy series. Wanting to make sure we kept the important info in our heads, and studied often, he left most of the Torah's explanations and history out of the book. God explained all this information to Moses, who in turn taught the Jewish people, and Joshua, his primary student. Through the generations, parent to child and teacher the student is how we've passed down the Oral Torah.



What kind of information is in it?

Explanation of the Torah's rules: The WRITTEN Torah talks about keeping Shabbat, but doesn't openly discuss what type of work should be avoided. Those details are in the Oral Torah. The written Torah says nothing about how a pair of tefillin should look, or what should be inside. God told this info to Moses, and we have it as part of the Oral Torah.

Filling in the gaps in the stories: The written Torah doesn't give us much historical information. The details of our history in much greater depth was passed down orally.

The oral Torah would have remained that way forever, but we had a problem. Bad meanies. That's the technical term for vicious anti-semitic rulers who have made it difficult or impossible for us to effectively study and teach Torah. I don't know about you, but I'd find it kind of hard to memorize Shabbat

laws while running from a Roman legion. Some of the greatest Rabbis in our history were concerned that the Oral Torah would be forgotten completely, so they began to write it down. This explains how the Oral Torah is written. Now, the Oral Torah can be found partially in print, in the Talmud, Midrash and Mishna, as well as in classrooms and studyhalls around the world where Rabbis, teachers and parents continue to pass on whatever oral knowledge they've received from their parents. And hopefully good flossing technique, as well.

Have - a- Nageela Shabbat,

*the Rabbi*

*Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.*

*Have a question? Please send it in to [stump@nageelawest.org](mailto:stump@nageelawest.org)*

Questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed



THIS MONDAY, LABOR DAY  
NAGEELATTE WILL BE AT 6pm and end at 7!

VERY  
PUNNY

When scientists want to freshen their breath, they don't need a large amount of mouthwash.

All they need is a microscope.

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*continued from front*

information- closed their eyes to the stone of wisdom- is at fault for their own ignorance. God cares so much about all the nations, that He gave the Torah's information in a free app. Once the rules have been explained, or are available for your perusal, you've got to take that opportunity. Skipping it is ignoring reality.

**W**hen people learn new things, new rules or new Jewish customs, for example, they often ask, "Am I at fault for not doing this in the past?" I usually answer that God is really smart and He knows what you're capable of.

**H**owever, God is really smart, and He knows what you're capable of. (Think that one over for a minute).

**S**o while you might have missed some details growing up (or in some cases, ALL the details), and that might be totally

chill, it cannot stay that way. Cause once you learn, and once you understand how much there is TO learn, the expectations change.

**L**et's use this to inspire us to benefit from God's love by learning as much as we can, and growing to the capabilities that only HE knows we can achieve.

## **dates**

**The first week of Nageela programming in Las Vegas was awesometastic! About 70 kids participated in the various programs, between Nageela Hebrew School, Locker Live on Instagram and YouTube, NageeLatte in Summerlin and Green Valley, and a live Instagram Havdallah.**

**Can't wait for what the next exciting week will bring!**

**THIS SUNDAY WE'LL BE MAKING AN EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT! Look for it in your email inbox, and on social media**



post your text or image to any social media platform using #MYOM

Introducing an exciting new program where you get to tell the world about your most recent, awesome mitzvah! Post on Thursdays for points toward the annual iPad prize!



A weekly, live webshow, featuring live **Stump the Rabbi**, jokes and contests, plus the freshest Nageela news!

**TUESDAY AT 8!**

## **You Tube**

Subscribe to the "Rabbi Locker" YouTube channel for weekly Selfie Torah videos, educational, entertaining and informational videos. [tinyurl.com/selfietorah](http://tinyurl.com/selfietorah)

Subscribe to the Camp Nageela West YouTube channel for up to date Nageela content. [www.youtube.com/nageelawest](http://www.youtube.com/nageelawest)

## **Happy Birthday!**

to Nageela family members celebrating their birthdays this week!

Nochi Locker  
Yoni Stein  
Karin Malka  
Shai Malka  
Rome Eden  
Jesse Eng

*Nageela West breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the west coast. Our "questions encouraged" mindset makes Nageela a comfortable learning and growing environment for Jewish children of all backgrounds.*

