

Rabbi's Reflections - Wednesday, April 29, 2026
Shalom {{firstName}},

Day 25 of counting the Omer

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ עַל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר

Baruch Atah Adonai Elohenu Melech Ha-Olam, Asher Kid'shanu
B'mitzvotav, Vitzivanu Al Sefirat Ha-Omer.

Blessed are You O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by his commandments and commanded us about the counting of the Omer. Today is three weeks and four days of the counting of the Omer.

Follow up that prayer by remembering a blessing from the Lord and give Him thanks. **2Chronicles 5:13** Then it came to pass that when the trumpeters and singers joined as one to extol and praise Adonai, and when the sound of the trumpets, cymbals and musical instruments and the praise of Adonai—"For He is good, for His mercy endures forever"—grew louder, the Temple, the House of Adonai, was filled with a cloud.

Psalms

Psalm 51:14(12) – Part 13

Psalm 51:14 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit.

May I provide an amplified version based on my understanding of the Hebrew words? "Return to me (the) joy of Your salvation, and (by Your) Spirit (do these two things to me)... (give me a heart for) generosity, (as You) firmly establish me (uphold me or place me securely as I rest)." Could Paul have had this verse in mind when he wrote to the Romans... **Romans 15:13** Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and shalom in trusting, so you may overflow with hope in the power of the Ruach ha-Kodesh.

Truth be told, I was tempted to couple this verse with the previous verse from yesterday. They both mention the restoration (return or renewal) of

God's Spirit within us. But meditating on them separately allows us to go deeper. The point (not to be missed) is that we are asking God to make us willing to rejoice. And at the same time, Lord, make us willing to be firmly established in the Spirit.

Paul said as much in his letter to the Ephesians...

Ephesians 3:16 I pray that from His glorious riches He would grant you to be strengthened in your inner being with power through His Ruach, 17 so that Messiah may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to grasp with all the kedoshim what is the width and length and height and depth, 9 and to know the love of Messiah which surpasses knowledge, so you may be filled up with all the fullness of God.

That section of Scripture was long. Even so, I can't stop there. These last two verses of Ephesians 3 are life verses to me. Let's celebrate God, Who is able to do, "... far beyond all we ask or imagine."

Ephesians 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far beyond all that we ask or imagine, by means of His power that works in us, 21 to Him be the glory in the community of believers and in Messiah Yeshua throughout all generations forever and ever! Amen.

Amen indeed, and Shalom shalom.

Day 25 of the Omer

Daily Bread, reading plan by Lars Enarson (<https://www.thewatchman.org/>)

Wed 29-Apr-2026

12th of Iyar, 5786

Le 23:1-22

Isa 60

Job 16

1 Jn 5

(Mt

16)