

PEULAT BANIM – REMEMBER THE TITANS TISHA B'AV

1. Explain why they picked said quote
2. Does your quote relate to your day to day life?
 - a. At home or at camp?
3. What do you think was the main goal of the movie?
4. In your opinion, what was the changing point in the movie?

5. The Story

. The *gemara* recounts that there was once a man who made a great feast and sent his servant to invite his dear friend, Kamza. The servant, however, erred in what he had been asked to do, and instead of inviting Kamza, he invited by mistake Bar-Kamza, who it so happens did not get along with the host at all. When the host saw Bar-Kamza among his guests, he sought to get rid of him. Bar-Kamza begged the host to have pity on him and not embarrass him in front of the large gathering present, and he even offered to cover the cost of his dinner. When the host refused his offer, Bar-Kamza offered to cover half the cost of the entire feast, and finally offered to cover the entire cost; but all was to no avail. The host grabbed Bar-Kamza and humiliatingly threw him out of the house.

Bar-Kamza noted that the many Sages were present, but had not reacted to the scene, and he concluded that they had not been perturbed by it at all. Consequently, he decided to avenge himself on the Sages as well as the host; and so he went to tell on them to Caesar, claiming that the Jews in Jerusalem were rebelling against him, and to prove his assertion he suggested that Caesar send an offering to Jerusalem and see whether or not the Jews would be willing to sacrifice it at the Temple. Caesar took up the idea and sent a fine calf along with Bar-Kamza. On the way to Jerusalem, Bar-Kamza made a small blemish on the calf's lips, a blemish that made it unacceptable for sacrifice on the altar but which is not considered by other peoples to render an offering unacceptable. The Sages, upon receiving the calf, were inclined to sacrifice it in order to preserve peace and good will with the Roman authorities, in other words, to please Caesar so that he not march on Jerusalem and destroy it. However, one of the great rabbis of the time, Rabbi Zechariah ben Avkolos, objected. Rabbi Zechariah argued that the Caesar's calf should not be offered on the altar, lest the common people be led to a misimpression that blemished

animals could be given as sacrifices. The Sages had no option but to accept Rabbi Zechariah's ruling, and therefore made an alternative suggestion: Kill Bar-Kamza, claiming (truly so), that he had made the blemish in Caesar's offering, and thus prevent him from telling Caesar the whole truth, namely, that the blemish on account of which the offering had been refused was a minor affair of a cut in the calf's lip. But Zechariah ben Avkolos also ruled out this suggestion, saying that it would cause the public to misunderstand the *Halakhah* and think that someone who made a blemish on an animal for sacrifice was subject to the death penalty.

6. Whats the connection between remember the titans and this story?
7. Where do you think the movie succeeded where this story failed?
8. Does the movie make you think about life a little differently?
 - a. How?