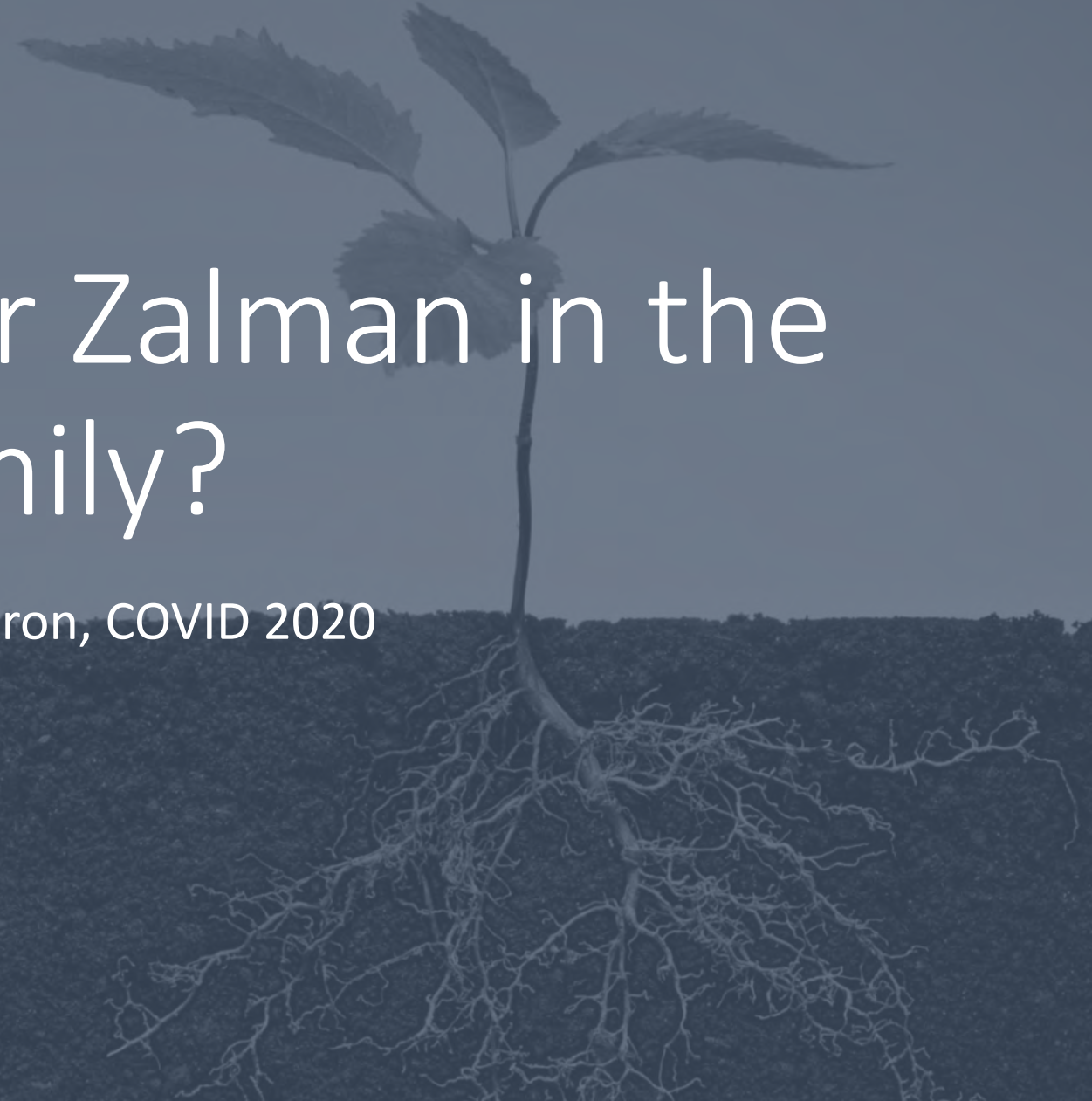
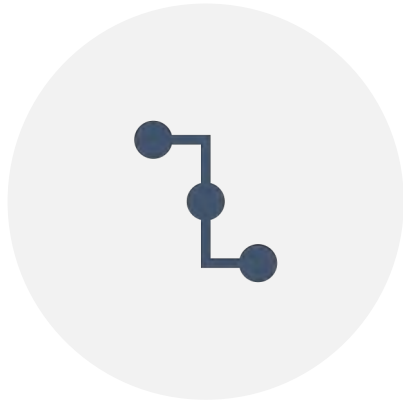


What, Another Zalman in the Family?

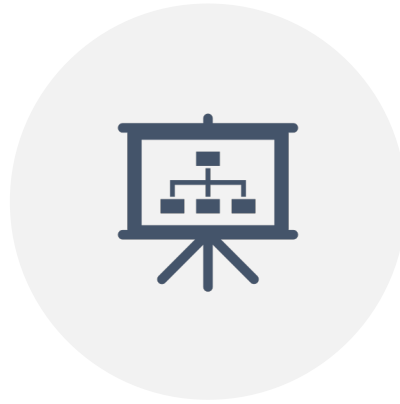
By David M. Baron, COVID 2020



Slide Deck Goals



CONNECT WITH THE
PAST



ENGAGE IN THE
PRESENT



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BETTER FUTURE

Topics



Enjoy a Good Family Mystery?



Did You Know?



The Unreich/ Grünhut Religious Background



A Peek into the Unreich/ Grünhut Family Tree



Rabbi Zalman Bonyhád (Bonherd)



Glimpse into Bonyhád, Hungary



Rabbi Zalman Bonyhád Publication



What is the Meaning of the Word?

Enjoy a Good Family Mystery?

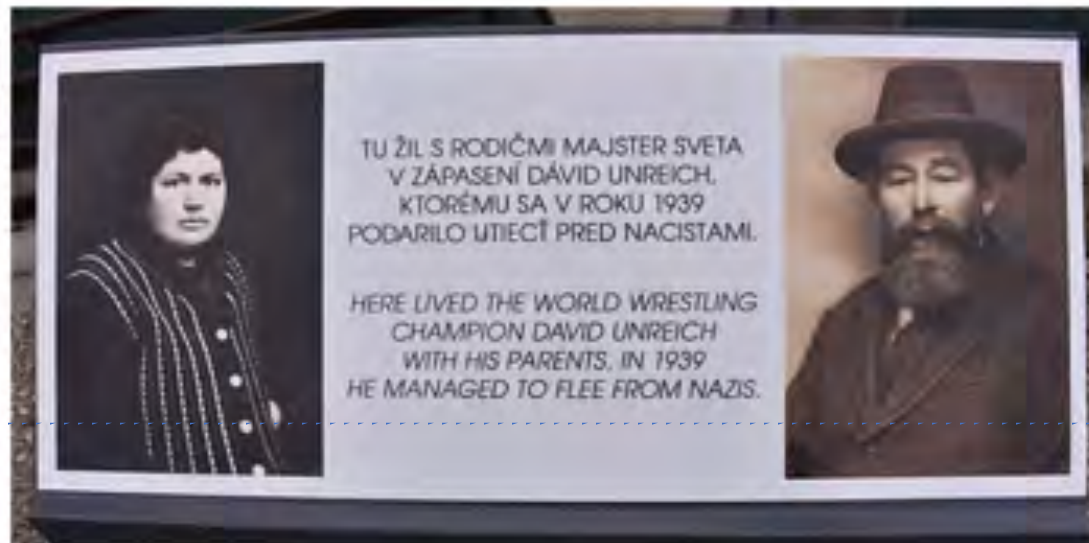
- Our grandfather, Zalman On Unreich, lived from 1912 to 1978. Many details about his life were shrouded in mystery, until now, including the origins of his name.
- When trying to reconstruct the story of Zalman On Unreich, our hero's amazing life, I also wanted to find who he was named after and why?
- It was the intense religiosity of his parents which led to the first of many questions I encountered during my research.

Did You Know - a child's name is significant in forming their identity?

- In Jewish tradition, it's custom to name a child after someone, usually a family member, who has died.
- The usual explanation for this practice is that the parents hope that in receiving the name of an admired family member, the child will emulate in life the virtues of the deceased namesake.
- To a certain extent, too, it is believed that the soul of the loved one lives on in the child who now bears their name.

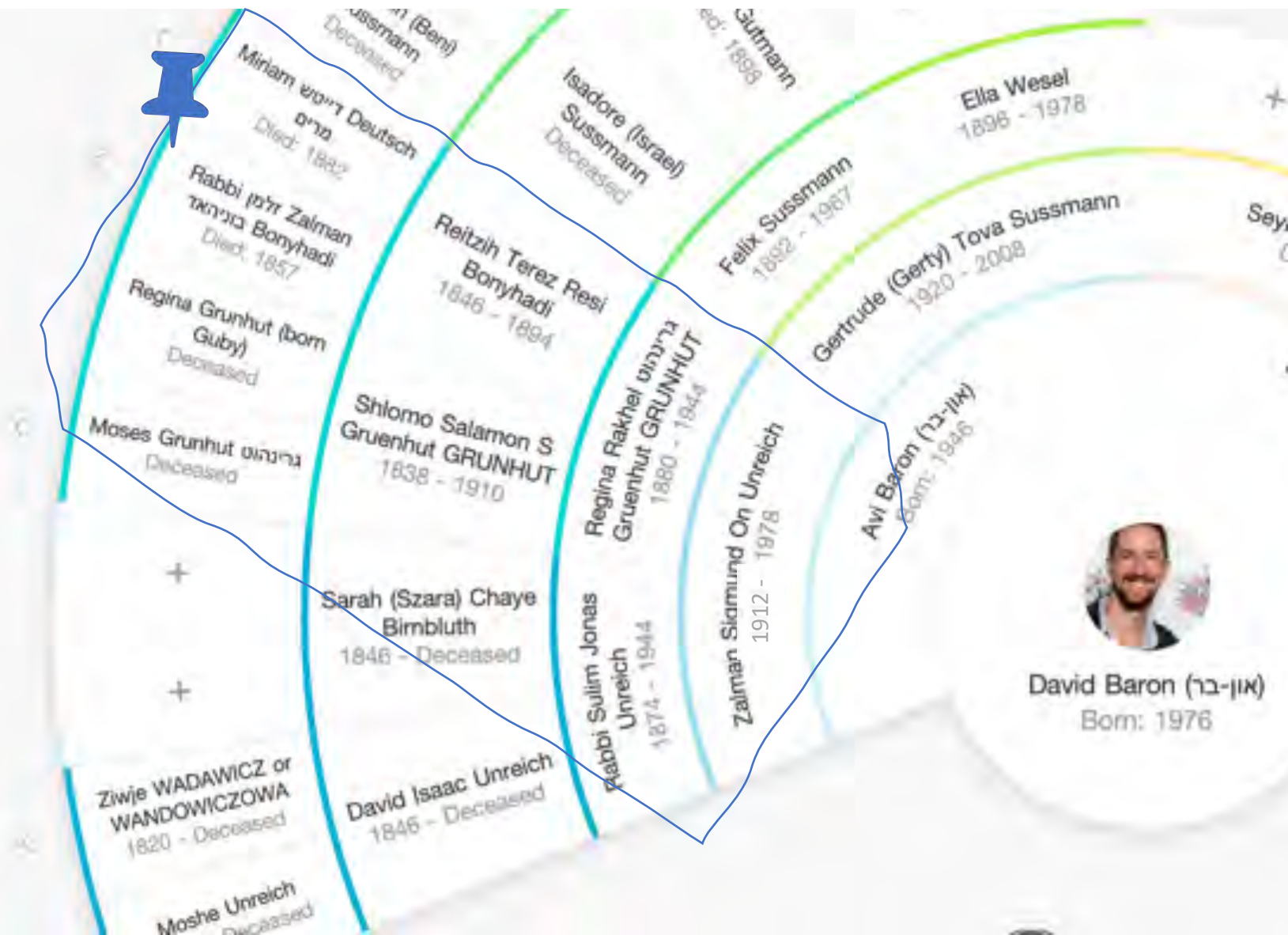
The Unreich and Grünhut Religious Background

- Zalman Unreich grew up in Czechoslovakia, in the city of Bratislava, on the River Danube. It was in neither Czechoslovakia nor Slovakia when Zalman was born. In those days it was in Hungary and it was known by the name of Poszony, though many people referred to it by its German name, Pressburg.
- The Unreich (Shulem Yonah Unreich) and Grünhut (Regina Rochel Grünhut surname) families were both deeply religious.
- His mother was the great-great granddaughter of Rabbi Mordechai Tosk who for fifty years was the head of the rabbinic court in Pressburg. In 1806 he'd signed the letter appointing [Moshe Sofer](#) as Pressburg's chief rabbi.
- Moshe Sofer's spirit and teachings still lingers till today heavily over religious rabbinic schools. There's a memorial to him in the Old Jewish Cemetery in Bratislava.



A peek into the Unreich/ Grünhut Family Tree

Zalman On Unreich
was named for his
great-grandfather,
Rabbi Zalman
Bonyhád.



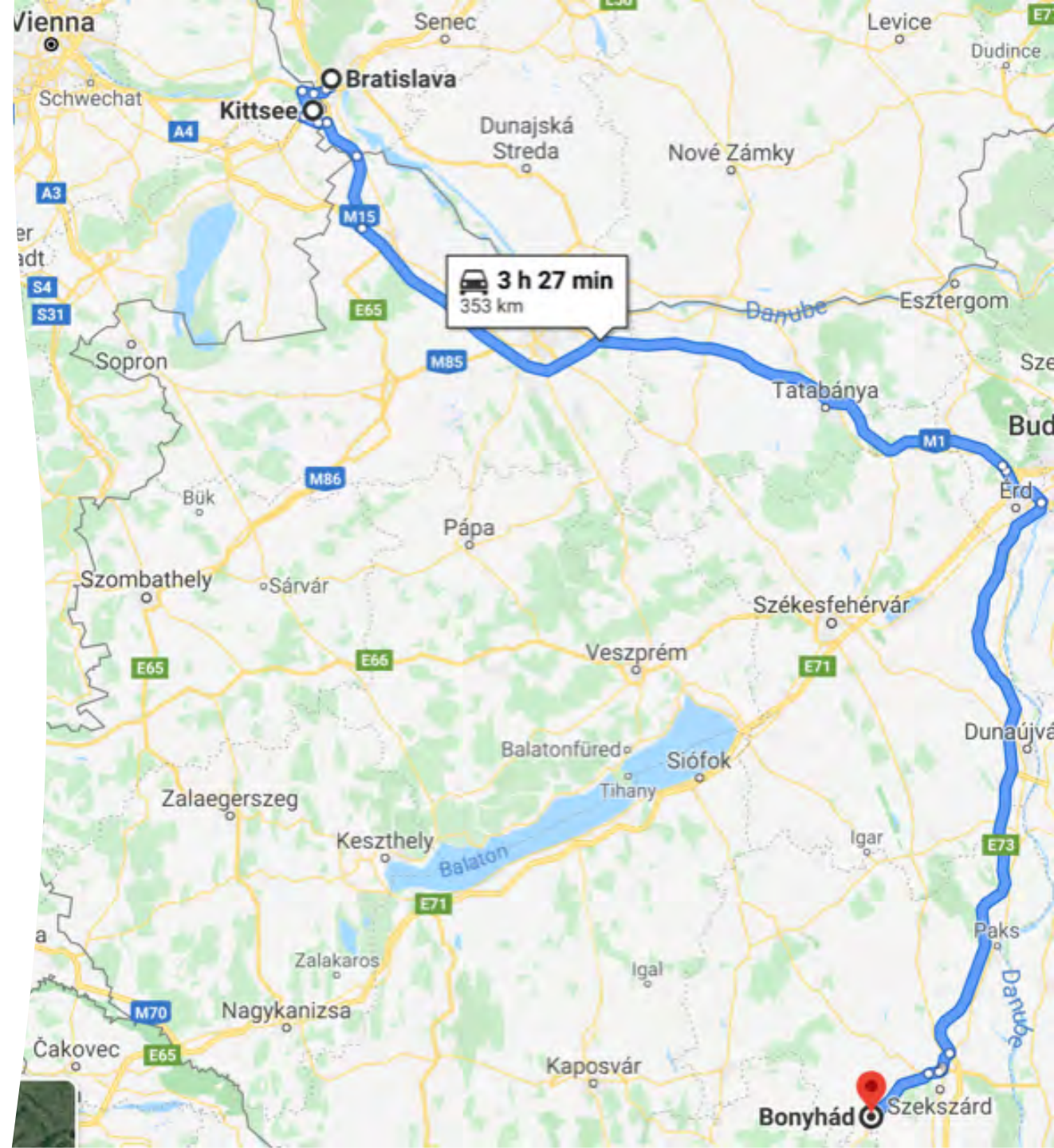
Rabbi Zalman Bonyhád (Bonherd)

- In Hebrew spelled: זלמן באנהארד.
- Born 1805 and died September 24, 1857 or 6 Tishrei 5618.
- Buried in Bratislava's Orthodox [Cemetery](#).
- Section 4 is a prominent part of the cemetery, containing the graves of the Kohanim, Levites, rabbis and other well-known and wealthy members of the Jewish community.
- He was the head or [Av of the Bet Din](#) in a town called [Kittsee](#) (קיצע) in Austria, near Bratislava today.



Glimpse into Bonyhád, Hungary – another destroyed Jewish community.

- [Bonyhád](#) is a small town in Tolna County in Southwestern Hungary, on the west bank of the river Danube and known for scholarly Rabonim.
- [The renowned Jewish population](#) grew from 382 in 1781 to a peak of 2,351 in 1852.
- Many prominent Jews moved to larger neighboring towns by 1900s and even immigrated as far as Bratislava via the **Danube River**.
- Most Jews concentrated in Bonyhád were deported to Auschwitz on July 4, 1944.
- By 1963, Bonyhád had only four Jewish families left.
- Search [JewishGen](#) and [blogspot](#).





Rabbi Zalman Bonyhád Publications

- Search [WorldCat](#) you'll find 8 works in 11 publications in 2 languages associated with his name.
- The most well-known to our knowledge is a book called "[Mincha Tahora](#)" or מנחה טהורה.
- Compiled for the benefit of the daughters of Israel. By Rabbi Zalman ben Rabbi Moshe Bonherd.
- The book is a collection and commentary on laws in 4 categories that relate to women.
- The categories are (1) Salting of meat to remove the last traces of blood, (2) Niddah related to menstruation and mikveh, (3) Challah prep or removing the priestly portion from dough before it is baked into bread and (4) Kindling of Shabbat and Yomtov lights.
- The name Mincha Tahora means the pure flour offering. The flour (dough offering) was brought with a meat sacrifice in the temple and purity relates to the mikveh, so the name is a pun on 3 of the 4 themes of the book.
- It was translated into German by Azriel Hildesheimer, one of the great modernizers and leaders of 19th century German orthodoxy.
- In Yiddish it says it was Printed "properly" by Shmidt bookprinters in the year 5618 (1858).

What is the Meaning of the Word?

Mincha or Minchah

- Meaning “present”, “gift” or “to give”.
- Also known as “Mincha” is the afternoon prayer service.
- The word is used 211 times in the Torah and 37 times in Tanach, whereby it’s used in settings not connected to sacrifices. It seems that a minchah is given for many different reasons, e.g., respect, thanks, homage and friendship.
- Rashbam writes that the meaning of minchah is “doron” (= gift). (This word derives from the Greek word for gift, as in the name “Theodore,” gift of God.). Rashbam then explains that the root is N-Ch-H but he cites to the N-Ch-H of Ex. 32:34, where the meaning is “lead”! Perhaps he meant that in this verse God tells Moshe to lead the people to the land of Israel, and the land of Israel is a gift. (See Rashbam, Torat Chayyim, comm. to Gen. 4:3 and Lev. 2:1.).

Tahora or Taharah

- Meaning is the state of being ritually "pure".
- The verb form of ṭaharah (טָהַר the verb ṭaher ("טָהַר be pure")), is used first in the Torah in Genesis 35:2, where Jacob tells his family to "put away strange gods, and be pure".
- Taharah is also known for the washing ritual.

A Little Humor and Lesson, Keep Asking...

Story: A father, his wife and their young son (Johnny) are visiting the zoo for the first time...

Johnny: Dad, why does the elephant have such a big trunk?

Father: I haven't the foggiest idea, son.

Johnny: And why does the giraffe have such a long neck?

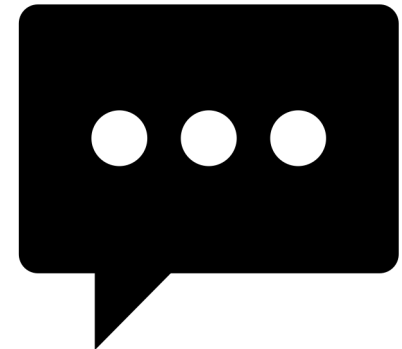
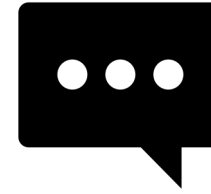
Father: Only God knows, son.

Johnny: Dad, why does the lion roar so loud?

Father: I don't know, son.

Mother: Why do you pester your tired father with so many questions?

Father: That's all right, my dear, let the child ask—that's the way he learns!

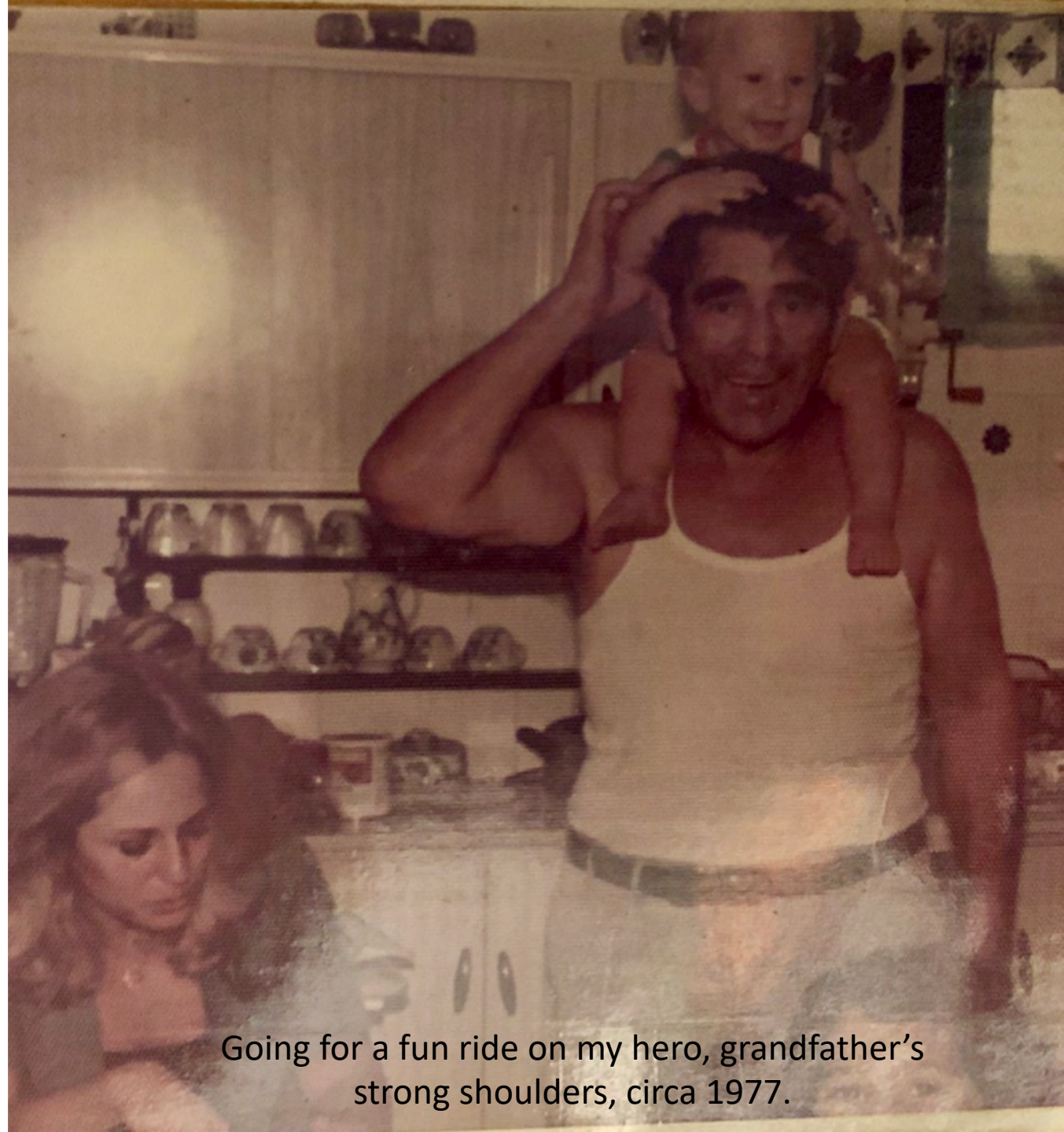


Thank you!
Merci!
Gracias!
Danke!
Shukran!

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Going for a fun ride on my hero, grandfather's strong shoulders, circa 1977.