

## Rabbi's Column

High Holidays are coming.  
Just thought you should know.

Moses appears to be sensing the end of his filibustering moments, so this week he mentions several dozen rules and regulations. The thread running through them all seems to be respect. Respect for one's personal home and the people in it, respect for other people, respect for the land. There is also at least one item which is another one in the "the Torah mentions it, but it never happened - it is just mentioned for us to learn from it" column. That is the wicked and rebellious son.

Not to worry, though. The Rabbis made sure that even if somebody wanted to make use of this law, there would be very little opportunity to do so. First of all, there is only a span of less than one day where it would be possible to take advantage of this - before these moments, the child is not subject to the law; after these moments, the parents are no longer responsible for the child, who is now an adult. Second, the amounts required to be consumed in order to qualify as a "glutton and a drunkard" are almost impossible for a young human body to consume, since we are not snakes.

May all your preparations for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur go well.