



SOUTH HEAD YOUTH PARASHA SHEET

PARASHAT PINCHAS



BS"D

Something very bad happened in our last Parasha. There was a wicked man, named Bilam. He was a non Jewish prophet, and he did everything he could to cause the Jewish people to sin. He even tried to curse the Jewish people. But every time he tried, Hashem changed the words that came out of his mouth and instead of cursing the Jewish people, the wicked Bilam was forced to bless us instead!



When Bilam sees that he is unable to curse the Jewish people, he comes up with an idea which will cause the Jewish people to sin, which in turn will make Hashem very unhappy. So this is what he does... Bilam tells the nations of Moav and Midiyan to become very friendly with the Jewish people. These nations are all too happy to listen to Bilam, and so they send all of their daughters to befriend the Jewish men. Oh no! Jewish men mixing with non Jewish women cannot be a good idea at all! Midiyan had many kings, and one of it's king's was named Tzur. The wicked Tzur had a very beautiful daughter named Cozbi. Tzur sends Cozbi to the camp of the Jewish people, to entice the Jewish men. Unfortunately, a Jewish man named Zimri, Prince of the Tribe of Shimon, sees the beautiful Cozbi and becomes very attracted to her and decides to marry her even though she isn't Jewish.

When all the Jewish people see that the Prince of the Tribe of Shimon married a non Jewish women, they decide that it could not be all that bad to marry out. So many Jewish men become engaged to these non Jewish women, and marry them. When Hashem sees what is happening, He becomes very very angry. He sends a terrible plague upon the Jewish people, which causes many Jews to die.

There was a man named Pinchas ben Elazar. He was the grandson of the High Priest, Aharon. When he sees what is happening, he is shocked. How can the Jewish people sin like this? Especially after all the good things that Hashem has done for us! Pinchas thinks to himself, 'the only way to stop the plague, and to stop the Jewish people from marrying out, is by killing Zimri and Cozbi'. Pinchas knows that this is a very dangerous task. If the evil King Tzur finds out that Pinchas had killed his daughter, he will definitely punish Pinchas, and the entire Jewish nation. Nevertheless, this does not bother Pinchas. He does not fear the wicked king Tzur. The only King that Pinchas fears is Hashem, the King of Kings, King of the Universe. So Pinchas grabs a really long spear and runs towards the tent in which Zimri and Cozbi lived. He runs inside, and in one quick throw of the spear, Pinchas kills Zimri and Cozbi. When Hashem sees this very noble act which Pinchas performed, He has mercy on the Jewish people, and He stops the plague. Hashem wants everyone to see how praiseworthy Pinchas is, so Hashem rewards Pinchas for being selfless and for putting his life in danger. He makes Pinchas a Kohen in the holy Beit Hamikdash!



When the plague concludes, it is once again time to take a census of the Jewish people. Moshe needs to find out how many Jews survived the plague. The Tribe of Shimon has the greatest drop in people. It decreases by just over 50%. Now that is a big decrease in people! The people of Moav, Midiyan and the sin of marrying non Jewish women, is the cause for this. Thank G-d, the other tribes do not suffer from such a great decline of people. In fact, there is one tribe, Shevet Menashe which has a large increase in people.

Now, it is almost time for the Jewish people to enter the land of Israel. Moshe hopes that Hashem has mercy on him, and will allow him to lead the Jewish people into the holy land of Israel. But this is not so. Hashem appears to Moshe and tells him, 'Go up Mount Ha'Avurim. From the top of the mountain, I will show you the entire land of Israel'. So Moshe ascends the mountain, and sure enough, he is able to see the entire land of Israel. Hashem shows him where each city is located, and tells Moshe the names of every city. He also shows Moshe everything that will ever happen in Israel in the future, from the current time until the time of Moshiaich. That's right, all those years ago, Hashem showed Moshe all the events which are happening right now in Israel!

Even though Hashem showed Moshe the land of Israel, Moshe is still very upset that he will not be entering Israel. Not just because he wants to live in Israel, but also because he is worried about the Jewish people. If they do not have a leader, who will lead them into Israel? Who will make sure that they always honour Hashem? Who will be patient to the Jewish people, and take care of them with love, care and devotion? Hashem tells Moshe not to worry, for he has already chosen the new leader. The new leader is Moshe's prize student, Yehoshua Bin Nun. Remember him? He was one of the good spies, who were sent to check out the land of Israel in Parashat Shelach. Hashem tells Moshe to anoint Yehoshua as the new leader in front of all the Jewish people. So Moshe gathers all



the Jewish people, and before everyone, Moshe put his hands on Yehoshua's head and announces, 'Yehoshua will lead you after my death'. Moshe then began to treat Yehoshua with great honour and respect. When the Jewish people saw this they understood that Yehoshua was the right person to lead them. They all began to honour and respect him, just like they honoured Moshe.

At this same time, Moshe portioned out the land of Israel to all the Tribes. Each Tribe was designated a certain area in which they would live in Israel. That area was then split up into smaller portions for every family to live in. There was one family in the tribe of Menashe, who was not very happy with the way the land was split up. This family was made up of five daughters, the daughters of Tzelafchad. Their father Tzelafchad had died many years before, and so they were left orphaned. The portions of the land of Israel was split up according to the men in the family, and was then passed down from son to son. Since these five daughters did not have a father, they had no brothers and were not married, they did not receive any portion of the land of Israel. This worried them, for if they had no land, where could they live? So like all Jewish women do, they decided to complain. They marched up to Moshe and explained their situation. Moshe did not know what to do, so he decided to ask Hashem. Hashem tells Moshe that if a family has no men, then the land is to be given to the women. So the daughters of Tzelafchad merit to earn a double portion of land in Israel!

The Parasha ends off talking about the different sacrifices which are to be offered on the Mizbeach every single day. On Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh and Festivals, an extra sacrifice is offered. This sacrifice is called the Musaf Offering.

PARASHA QUESTIONS:

1. What is the name of this weeks Parasha?
This weeks Parasha is called Parashat Pinchas.
2. Who is Bilam?
Bilam is a non Jewish prophet and magician. He tries to curse the Jewish people, and he causes the Jewish people to sin.
3. Why does Pinchas kill Zimri and Cozbi?
Pinchas kills Zimri and Cozbi because Zimri is a Jewish man. He is the Prince of the Tribe of Shimon, yet he marries Cozbi, a non Jewish women from the nation of Midiyan.
4. How do we see that Hashem is happy with Pinchas's actions?
We know that Hashem is happy with Pinchas's actions because he honours him, and makes him a Kohen in the holy Beit Hamikdash.
5. Why does Hashem tell Moshe to go up Mount Ha'Avurim?
Hashem tells Moshe to ascend Mount Ha'Avurim so that He can show Moshe the land of Israel. Hashem shows Moshe where all the cities are and what they are all called. He even shows Moshe all the future events that will occur in Israel, until the time of Moshiach.
6. Who is appointed as the next leader to lead the Jewish people?
Yehoshua Bin Nun, Moshe's prize student, is chosen to be the next leader of the Jewish people.
7. Why do the five daughters of Tzelafchad complain to Moshe?
The daughters of Tzelafchad complain to Moshe when he portions out the land of Israel for each of the tribes. The land was given out according to the men in the family. Since the daughters of Tzelafchad had no father, no brothers and were not married, they were worried that they would not receive any land. So they complained to Moshe so that he would designate them a certain part of the land.
8. What does the end of the Parasha speak about?
The end of the Parasha speaks about the daily sacrifices offered on the Mizbeach, and the extra Musaf offering which was offered on Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh and Festivals.

It was great seeing you in Shule!

**We hope you enjoy reading this Parsha Sheet and quizzing your family!
Shabbat Shalom from Brookie and the South Head Youth Crew**

