Volume 3, Issue 2 - July 17, 2021

נס"ד Family Parsha Sheet By Rabbi Aaron & Elisheva Levitt

Devarim - דְבָרים



- 1) Sefer Devarim is Moshe Rabbeinu's last speech. When and where did Moshe give this speech?
- 2) What is another name for Sefer Devarim?
- 3) What are some of the aveirot of which Moshe reminds Bnei Yisrael?
- 4) How much time elapsed between leaving Har Sinai and sending the spies?
- 5) What were some of the achievements that resulted from the Jewish People "dwelling" at Har Sinai?
- 6) What Megilla will we read on Tisha B'Av and where do we find a hint to it in this week's parsha?
- 7) What bracha did Moshe give Bnei Yisrael in this parsha?
- 8) Moshe told the judges, "Any case too hard for you, bring to me." How was he punished for this statement?
- 9) What 2 mitzvot appear in Parshat Devarim?
- 10) Why is this Shabbat called Shabbat Chazon?

Words of Wisdom

<u>Taanit 30b</u>

ָּכָּל הַמִּתְאַבֵּל עַל יְרוּשָׁלַיִם זוֹכֶה וְרוֹאֶה בְּשִׂמְחָתָהּ וְשֶׁאֵינוֹ מִתְאַבֵּל עַל יְרוּשָׁלַיִם אֵינוֹ רוֹאֶה בְּשִׂמְחָתָה

Whoever mourns for Jerusalem will merit and see her future joy, and whoever does not mourn for Jerusalem will not see her future joy.



Did You Know?

<u>Tu B'Av (Chabad.org)</u>

Said Rabbi Shimon ben Gamliel: There were no greater festivals for Israel than the 15th of Av and Yom Kippur. On these days the daughters of Jerusalem would go out... and dance in the vineyards. And what would they say? "Young man, raise your eyes and see which you select for yourself..." (Talmud, Taanit 26b) The Talmud goes on to list several joyous events which occurred on the 15th day of the month of Av: 1) The dying of the generation of the Exodus ceased after the generation of the Meraglim died.

- 2) The tribes of Israel were permitted to intermarry after the story of Benot Tzlofchad.
- 3) The tribe of Benjamin was permitted to re-enter the community after the sin of Pilegesh B'Givah.
- 4) Hoshea ben Elah opened the roads to Jerusalem that Yeravam Ben Nevat had blocked.
- 5) The dead of Betar were allowed to be buried after the Bar Kochva revolt.
- 6) "The day of the breaking of the ax." On this day wood was collected for the Beit HaMikdash.

Parsha Answers:

1) Moshe spoke from the other side of the Yarden river, at the end of 40 years wandering the Midbar, on Rosh Chodesh Shevat, about 5 weeks before his death on 7 Adar. 2) Sefer Devarim is called "Mishnah Torah" (repeat of the Torah) as much of it is a repetition of things mentioned in the Torah. Moshe wants the new generation about to enter Eretz Yisrael to remember the lessons of the past. 3) Complaining about the Man, Korach's rebellion, sending the Meraalim, and worshipping the Eigel HaZahav. 4) Rashi 1:2 - 40 days.

5) Rashi 1:6 - They received the Torah, built the Mishkan and all its vessels, and appointed a Sanhedrin and officers. 6) We read Megillat Eicha. The hint is in 1:12: איָכָה אֶשָׂא לְבַדִי טַרְחֵכֵם וּמשׂאַכָם וריבכם".

7) 1:11 - That they should increase 1000 times in population. 8) Rashi 1:17 - When the daughters of Tzelofchad asked him a halachic question, the law was concealed from him. 9) Not to appoint any judge unlearned in Torah, and that a judge presiding at trial should not fear any man. 10) We read a special Haftara from Yeshayahu which starts with the words "חַזוֹן שָׁעִיהוּ" We not only look back on. what led to the Churban. We look forward as well to a vision of a brighter future.

This Week In Jewish History Av 12 (Aish.com)

In 1263, the famous Disputation began between Nachmanides and a Jewish convert to Christianity, Pablo Christiani. King James of Spain had authorized the religious debate, to try to "prove" which religion is true. Nachmanides reluctantly agreed to take part, only after being assured by the king that he would have full freedom of expression. Nachmanides won the battle, but lost the war: His arguments earned the king's respect (and a prize of 300 gold coins), but the Church ordered Nachmanides to be tried on charges of blasphemy, and he was forced to flee Spain. At age 72, Nachmanides moved to spend his final years in Jerusalem.

Tefilla Insights

Lecha Dodi on Shabbat Chazon - Rabbi Moshe Silverstein

It is common in many shuls to sing Lecha Dodi on Shabbos Chazon to the tune of Eli Tziyon, the heart breaking tune used at the end of the Tisha B'Av Kinnos... While these tunes are certainly fitting when we read Eicha and recite the Kinnos on Tisha B'Av, is it appropriate to use these melancholy tunes on Shabbos?

The Meiri writes that it is not against the spirit of Shabbos to sing these melodies since the goal of stirring our emotions is to lead us to teshuva... It should also be noted that the tune of Eli Tziyon is not necessarily associated with the sadness of churban because the kinnah itself, as heart wrenching as each stanza is, has a refrain which gives hope - the birth of the child at the culmination of the birth pains - representing the eventual redemption at the end of our exile. If so, it would not be inappropriate to use this tune for Lecha Dodi on Shabbos Chazon. Indeed, Rav Hershel Schachter records that Rav Soloveitchik sang along with him when he used the tune for Lecha Dodi.

We hope and pray for the day when the tune of Eli Tziyon no longer signifies the pain of childbirth but is associated with the joy and hope that comes with the birth of a new child and for when the "Eicha trop" no longer reminds us of destruction but of rebuilding במהרה בימינו.

Key Number or Word In The Parsha



<u>"הוֹאִיל משֶׁה בַּאַר אַת־הַתּוֹרָה" - Devarim 1:5</u>

What does the word באר mean? Rashi says Moshe translated the Torah into 70 languages. Others interpret that Moshe explained the Torah in all its facets, teaching the Shivim Panim LaTorah, the 70 Faces of the Torah. When we study Torah we can learn Pshat (the simple meaning), Drash (the deeper connections), Remez (allegorical meaning), Sod (mystical meaning). There are multiple meanings to every word and pasuk. Rashi and Ramban, for example, are not debating the one truth. They are each illuminating another message from the words. Each time we learn the parsha we can look for new meanings and messages.