



KMS Family Parsha

LEARN ABOUT THE PARSHA WITH THE KMS YOUTH DEPARTMENT
Compiled By Rabbi Aaron and Elisheva Levitt

תצוה - Tetzaveh

2.27.21

PARSHA QUESTIONS

ANSWERS ARE ON THE BACK

- 1) How many begadim does a Kohen Hedyot wear?
- 2) How many begadim does a Kohen Gadol wear?
- 3) For which sin did each of the Bigdei Kehuna atone?
- 4) How many stones were on the Choshen?
- 5) What was inside the Choshen?
- 6) Whose name appears in every parsha of Shemot, VaYikra, and BaMidbar, but not in this parsha?
- 7) What does the word Purim mean?
- 8) What do we do the day before Purim and why?
- 9) What mitzvot do we have to do on Purim?
- 10) How many times is Hashem's name mentioned in the Megillah?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Discussion starter for your Shabbat table..

If you can only afford to do Mishloach Manot or Matanot L'Evyonim which should you do?

DID YOU KNOW?

What is Purim Meshulash?

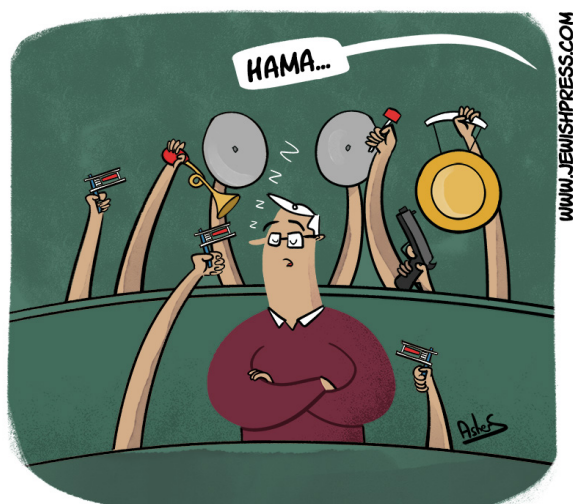
Purim in ירושלים (a walled city like Shushan) is celebrated on the 15th of Adar, שושן פורים.

However, when the 14th of Adar falls on a Friday, like this year, Purim in Yerushalayim is celebrated over 3 days. This results in the phenomenon of פורים המשולש literally meaning "The Triple Purim". This year in Yerushalayim the 6 Mitzvot of Purim are divided into 3 days:

On Friday we do קריאת המגילה and מתנות לאביונים.

On Shabbat we recite על הניסים and read ויבא עמלק from the Torah.

On Sunday we have the סעודת פורים and send משלוח מנות.



POOR-HIM



PARSHA ANSWERS

- 1) 4 (Ketonet, Mitznefet, Michnasayim, Avnet)
- 2) 8 (Choshen, Ephod, Me'il, Ketonet, Mitznefet, Michnasayim, Avnet, Tzitz)
- 3) Zevachim 88b - Ketonet - murder, Michnasayim - immorality, Mitznefet - arrogance, Avnet - impure thoughts, Choshen - injustice, Ephod - avodah zara, Me'il - lashon hara, Tzitz - brazenness.
- 4) The Kohein's breastplate had 12 stones, each with a name of one of the shevatim written on it.
- 5) The Urim V'Tumim
- 6) Moshe's name does not appear in Parshat Tetzaveh. He gives his brother Aharon all the attention.
- 7) Purim means Lottery, commemorating the lots Haman drew to determine the date of the war against the Jews.
- 8) We fast since Esther asked the Jewish people to fast for three days before she went to talk to the King.
- 9) Mishloach Manot, Matanot Le'evyonim, Seudah, and Megillah
- 10) Hashem's name appears zero times in the Megillah. It is the only book of Tanach without Hashem's name.

ELISHEVA'S PARSHA CHALLAH



THIS WEEK WE LEARN ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE CHOSHEN WORN BY THE KOHEN GADOL. THE PRECIOUS STONES WOULD LIGHT UP HELP HIM ANSWER SOME OF HIS TOUGHEST QUESTIONS. WHAT A MERIT TO HAVE GD TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT TO SAY AND DO! WE ARE OFTEN FACED WITH TOUGH QUESTIONS IN OUR LIVES. SOMETIMES I THINK TO MYSELF HOW AMAZING IT WOULD BE TO HAVE GD SPELL IT OUT FOR ME THAT CLEARLY WHEN I FACE TOUGH QUESTIONS IN MY LIFE. BUT I REMIND MYSELF REGULARLY THAT HASHEM DOES HELP US ANSWER TOUGH QUESTIONS, JUST IN AN INDIRECT WAY. WHAT WE HAVE TO DO IS KEEP OUR EYES WIDE OPEN FOR THOSE ANSWERS. IT IS NOT ALWAYS OBVIOUS OR CLEAR BUT HE DOES SEND US SIGNS AND MESSAGES. WHAT WE HAVE TO DO IS KEEP SEEKING THEM FROM HIM AND LOOKING FOR THOSE ANSWERS TO HELP US THROUGH.

DVAR TORAH

Facemasks and Purim Masks: The Pandemic's First Anniversary - Rabbi Benjamin Blech (Aish.com)

Although Purim masks and protective facemasks are different, there may be a profound connection. To grasp its deeper meaning, let's reflect on the reason masks made their way into celebrating Purim in the first place.

Masks hide what's behind them. And that's why masks became identified with the story of Purim. The Scroll of Esther has a unique characteristic. It tells us all about Esther and Mordecai, yet it omits the name of God. God is hidden in a book commemorating a miracle for which He is clearly to be credited. How strange!

Stranger still is the name of the person who is accorded the honor of the book's title. It is known to this day as Megillat Esther. The Talmud asks a peculiar question: where is Esther to be found in the Five Books of Moses? The query makes no sense. The Torah predates Esther by many many centuries. There is no way Esther could possibly be found in the Torah. Yet the Talmud answers that there is a biblical verse which alludes to her – and to her significant role as savior of the Jewish people from the genocidal plans of Haman in later day Persia. In Deuteronomy 32:20 God prophetically tells the Jewish people there will come a time when “I will hide my face from them.” In Hebrew the phrase for hiding is haster aster – the very root letters of the name Esther. That was the genius of the Talmudic rabbis. They recognized Esther as a “hidden” way of identifying God's presence.

In the Megillah, ostensibly the story of a miracle performed by God, His name is absent, hidden by the countless “coincidences” that are really the results of concealed divine intervention. The very word “Megillah” means not only scroll but also “to reveal.” The mitzvah of reading Megillat Esther is in a more profound sense meant to inspire us to uncover God when he chooses to test us by remaining hidden.

When God wears a mask, our task is to acknowledge His guiding presence even when we can't clearly make out His face. There are times when God wears a mask, and our task is to acknowledge His guiding presence even when we can't clearly make out His face.

Purim is not like Passover. The Passover miracles were clear and indisputable. Purim requires a greater level of wisdom and understanding. All other holidays, says the Talmud, will eventually be eliminated – except for Purim. Purim is the paradigm of our challenge to maintain our faith even when His face is hidden behind a mask of seeming indifference to our plight.

We need to remember that the Jews of the Purim story spent agonizing years as spectators to frightening events. The party in Shushan recorded at the beginning of the Megillah was held by the king to celebrate his conquest of the holy items of the temple. The rise of Haman and his genocidal plot against the Jewish people played out over a lengthy period of time which surely tested faith in God and his continued presence...

On this first anniversary that coincides with Purim, let's reaffirm that although we do not understand, we continue to have faith. Like Purim, at times God puts on a mask and conceals His presence and His purpose. But as Purim also teaches us, miracles of salvation are part of the story as well, and we have every certainty that the day will come when masks will no longer conceal the Almighty's presence – nor be required by a soon-to-be conquered pandemic.