

QUESTIONS FOR PARSHAT BEREISHIT 5781
by Rabbi Edward Davis, Rabbi Emeritus & Sephardic Minyan Rabbi

I. From the Text

1. What was the point of the first chapter of the Torah?
2. What was the punishment Hashem gave Adam and Chava for eating of the forbidden fruit?
3. What did Adam and Chava do to cover their nakedness? (3:7)
4. How did Hashem guard the Garden of Eden, to keep man out? (3:24)
5. Name Adam and Chava's three sons.

II. From Rashi

6. What was the first Mitzvah given to Bnei Yisrael?
7. How does man differ from the animals? (2:7)
8. How did the serpent convince Chava to eat from the forbidden fruit? (3:4)
9. When Hashem punished the woman with "suffering," (3:16), how did Rashi interpret "suffering"?
10. When did Hashem kill Cain after Cain killed Abel? (4:15)

III. From the Rabbis

11. What was the point of saying "it was good" in the story of Creation? (Ramban)
12. How did Hashem define the punishment of death to Adam and Chava for eating the fruit?
13. The first commandment (not to eat of the forbidden fruit) was given only to Adam. Why was Chava punished? (Ramban)

IV. Midrash

14. What is the Hebrew root of the word Eretz?

V. Haftarah Machar Chodesh. Samuel I

15. What was the sign between Jonathan and David to inform David that King Saul wanted to kill him?

VI. Relationships

- a) Lemech - Tzilah
- b) Adam - Enosh
- c) Cain - Keinan
- d) Noach - Na'amah
- e) Na'amah - Cham

ANSWERS FOR PARSHAT BEREISHIT 5781

1. To teach us that Hashem is the sole Creator of the universe.
2. Exile from the Garden of Eden.
3. They sewed together fig leaves and made aprons for themselves.
4. Hashem put Cherubim (destructive angels) to protect it.
5. Cain, Abel, and Seth. (Kayin, Hevel, and Sheit)
6. The commandment of Rosh Chodesh.
7. Hashem granted man the ability to think (know) and to speak (communicate).
8. Chava had told the serpent that Hashem prohibited touching the tree. The serpent pushed Chava against the tree and said: see, you touched it and didn't die. So too if you eat it, you won't die.
9. The pain of raising children.
10. After seven generations had passed.
11. It was permanent.
12. They initially were to be immortal. By eating the fruit, they would now become subject to death, mortal.
13. Chava was part of Adam (she was created from his bone). Plus she was punished for misleading Adam.
14. Ratzah: desire or want. Hashem created one rock and it desired to expand, to do Hashem's will.
15. Jonathan would shoot arrows beyond the lad and tell the lad to go further and get the arrows. David would then know to go further away.

Relationships

- a) Husband - Wife
- b) Grandfather Adam
- c) Great Uncle (Keinan was Enosh's son)
- d) Husband - Wife
- e) Mother – Son