

Parsha Q&A



Parshas Beha'aloscha

For the week ending 16 Sivan 5757
20 & 21 June 1997

Parsha Questions

1. Toward which direction did the wicks of the *menorah* burn, and why?
2. From what material was the *menorah* made?
3. What was unique about the "*chatas*" offered by the *levi'im*?
4. For which two functions were the *levi'im* dedicated?
5. Why did Hashem claim the firstborn of the Jewish People as His possession?
6. Why does the Torah repeat the words "*Bnei Yisrael*" five times in verse 8:19?
7. When a *levi* reaches the age of 50, which functions may he still perform?
8. How many times did the Jewish People offer the *korban Pesach* in the *midbar*?
9. Why was the *mitzvah* of *Pesach Sheini* not commanded to Moshe earlier?
10. One might think that a certain person should bring a *Pesach* offering any time of year. Who is this certain person?
11. When were the trumpets used?
12. What date did the Jewish People camp at *Har Sinai*?
13. The tribe of Dan, who traveled last, was called "the gatherer of all the camps." What did they gather?
14. When the Jewish People entered the Land, who took temporary possession of Jericho?
15. "The manna was like '*zera gad*' (coriander seed)...." In what way was it like '*zera gad*'?
16. Moshe was commanded to choose 70 elders to help him lead the Jewish People. What happened to the elders who led the Jewish People in Egypt?
17. Whom did Moshe choose as the 70 elders?
18. What was the prophesy of Eldad and Medad?
19. What was Tziporah's reaction when she heard that Eldad and Medad reached the level of prophecy?
20. Why did Miriam deserve that the Jewish People wait one week for her to recover?

Bonus

Q:

**"If the sheep and cattle be slaughtered for them, will it be enough for them?
If every fish in the sea be gathered for them, will it be enough for them?"
(11:22)**

The Jewish People owned abundant livestock, and there are lots of fish in the ocean. Why, then, wouldn't these be enough to satisfy the Jewish People's complaints about eating manna all the time?

I Did Not Know That!

**"...Eldad and Medad are prophesying (that Moshe will die and Yehoshua will lead the people into the land...)"
(11:27).**

Eldad and Meidad were Moses's brothers. Moses's parents divorced due to the Egyptian decree that the babies be cast into the Nile. Moses's mother then married someone else and bore Eldad and Medad.

Yonasan ben Uziel

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Production Design: Lev Seltzer

Recommended Reading List

Ramban

8:2	Preview of <i>Chanukah</i>
9:1	<i>Korban Pesach</i> in the <i>Midbar</i>
9:10	<i>Pesach Sheini</i>
9:14	<i>Pesach</i> of the <i>Ger</i>
10:29	Yisro's Choice
10:35	Flight from Sinai
11:1	Sin of Complainers
11:5	Fish and Vegetables in Egypt
11:6	Complaints about Manna
11:16	Significance of Number 70

Sefer Hachinuch

380	<i>Pesach Sheini</i>
384	Significance of Trumpets

Sforno

9:1	The Four Merits
11:22	Never Satisfied

Answers to this Week's Questions

All references are to the verses and Rashi's commentary, unless otherwise stated

- 8:2 - They leaned toward the middle wick so people would not say Hashem needed the *menorah* for its light.
- 8:4 - Solid gold.
- 8:8 - It was not eaten by the *kohanim*.
- 8:16 - For carrying the sacred articles of the *Mishkan* and for singing in the *Mishkan*.
- 8:17 - Because in Egypt He spared them during *makas bechoros*.
- 8:19 - To show Hashem's love for them, their name was repeated five times corresponding to the five Books of the Torah.
- 8:25 - He may close the gates of the courtyard of the *Mishkan* and *Beis Hamikdash*, may sing during the *avoda*, and may load the wagons when the *Mishkan* is to be transported.
- 9:1 - Only once.
- 9:7 - To reward those who asked about it. Hashem wanted them to be the catalyst for the teaching of this *mitzvah*.
- 9:14 - A convert.
- 10:2-7 - They were used to gather the Jewish People, to gather the *nesi'im*, to signal the beginning of a move of the camp, and to accompany the offering of certain communal *korbanos*.
- 10:11 - *Rosh Chodesh Sivan*.
- 10:25 - They gathered and returned anything lost by people from the other tribes.
- 10:32 - The children of Yisro.
- 11:7 - It was round.
- 11:16 - They were consumed in the fire at *Taverah* (11:3).
- 11:16 - People who were supervisors in Egypt and, at personal risk, had shown compassion for their brethren.
- 11:28 - "Moshe will die and Yehoshua will lead the Jewish People into the Land."
- 12:1 - She said, "Woe to their wives! If they become prophets, they will separate from their wives the same way my husband separated from me."
- 12:15 - Because when Moshe was cast into the river, Miriam waited one hour to see what would happen to him.

BONUS

A:

The Jewish People didn't complain about the *amount* of food they received; rather, they complained about the *taste*. Moshe thought: "No matter how *much* food I give them, someone is bound to complain about the taste. If I give them all the sheep and cattle, someone is bound to say 'I want deer meat...'"

(Ohr HaChaim Hakadosh)