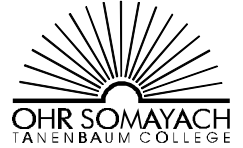


Parsha QA



Parshas Matos/Masei

For the week ending 26 Tammuz 5756
12 & 13 July 5756

Parsha Questions

Matos

1. What is a *neder*?
2. Can a person take a *neder* permitting something that the Torah forbids?
3. Hashem commanded the Jewish People to attack Midian. Why did He not command them to attack Moav?
4. Why did the men selected to fight against Midian not go willingly?
5. What holy vessels accompanied the Jewish People into battle?
6. What portion of the spoils went to the soldiers who went to war against Midian?
7. How were Kalev ben Yefune and Osniel ben Kenaz related?
8. In verse 32:16, *Bnei Gad* and *Bnei Reuven* said, "We will build sheep-pens here for our cattle, and cities for our little ones." What is improper about that statement?
9. What promise did the *Bnei Gad* and *Bnei Reuven* make beyond that which Moshe required of them?
10. Which part of the Tribe of Menashe inherited land on the eastern side of the Jordan?

Masei

1. Why does the Torah list the places where the Jewish People camped in the *midbar*?
2. How did Aaron die?
3. Why does the Torah need to specify the boundaries that are to be inherited by the Jewish People?
4. How much land surrounded the cities of the *Levi'im*?
5. From whom did a city of refuge shelter a murderer?
6. Who separated the cities of refuge on the eastern side of the Jordan?
7. When did the cities of refuge begin to function as places of refuge for murderers?
8. Why does the murderer remain in the city of refuge until the death of the *Kohen Gadol*?
9. A woman who is married to a man from a different tribe inherits an ancestral field. What happens to that field?
10. When an ancestral field moves from the possession of one tribe to another, what happens to it in *Yovel*?



Why did the daughters of Tzlofchad marry their cousins?

I Did Not Know That!

"And they traveled from Yam Suf and they camped in Midbar Sin" (33:11).

In the beginning it was called *Sin*. Later it was called *Sinai*. The word *Sin* has a numerical value of 120 corresponding to the 120 days Moshe was on *Har Sinai*. A "yud" was added to its name to change its name to *Sinai*. This "yud" (numerical value = 10) corresponded to The Ten Commandments.

Ba'al Haturim

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22 Shimon Hatzadik Street, POB 18103, Jerusalem Israel

972-2-581-0315

fax: 972-2-581-2890

ohr@jer1.co.il

38 East 29th Street 8th floor, New York, NY 10016, USA

1-212-213-3100

fax: 1-212-213-8717

RZCorlin@aol.com or estern@Aol.com

613 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill, Ontario L4J 5V3, Canada

1-905-886-5730

fax: 1-905-886-6065

Somayach@MSN.com

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Parshas Matos/Masei — 26 Tammuz 5756, 12 & 13 July 5756

Written and Compiled by Rabbi Eliyahu Kane

General Editor: Rabbi Moshe Newman

Production Design: Lev Seltzer

Recommended Reading List

Matos

Ramban

30:16	Responsibility
31:2,6	Vengeance
31:23	Cleansing Vessels
31:36	Miracle of the Spoils
31:49	Jewish Victory
32:33	Menashe's Inheritance
32:41	Yair's Ancestry

Sforno

31:15	The Meaning of Silence
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Masei

Ramban

33:53	The Land
35:14	Cities of Refuge
35:29	The <i>Sanhedrin</i>

Kli Yakar

33:49	The Greater Loss
35:6	Temporary Dweller

Sefer Hachinuch

408	Cities of the <i>Levi'im</i>
409	Capital Judgment
410	Exile

Sforno

33:1	The Merit of the Journeys
36:4	The Inheritance of Daughters
36:12	The Husbands of the Daughters of Tzlofchad

Answers to this Week's Questions

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

Matos

- 30:3 - A restriction a person takes upon himself as a sacred obligation.
- 30:3 - No.
- 31:2 - Because Moav only acted out of fear against the Jewish People. Also, Ruth was destined to come from Moav.
- 31:5 - They knew that the death of Moshe would follow the execution of vengeance upon Midian.
- 31:6 - The *Aron* and the *Tzitzit*.
- 31:27 - Half.
- 32:12 - They were half-brothers. Kalev's mother married Kenaz and gave birth to Osniel. (Osniel led the Jewish People after the death of Yehoshua.)
- 32:16 - They showed more regard for their property than for their children.
- 32:24 - Moshe required them to remain west of the Jordan during the conquest of the Land. They promised not to return home for an additional 7 years while the Land was being divided.
- 32:39-42 - *Bnei Machir* ben Menashe. They independently conquered part of the Amorite land, east of the Jordan. Moshe promised them that land.

Masei

- 33:1 - To show the love of Hashem for the Jewish People. Although it was decreed that they wander in the desert, they did not travel continuously. During the span of the 38 years they moved only 20 times.
- 33:38 - By "Divine kiss."
- 34:2 - Because there are certain *mitzvos* that apply in the Land, but not outside of the Land.
- 35:4 - 2,000 *amos*. The inner 1,000 was the "*migrash*" (an open area of land which served to beautify the city), and the outer 1,000 was for their fields and vineyards.
- 35:12 - From the *go'el hadam* (avenger of blood), a close relative of the deceased who had the right to avenge the victim's death.
- 35:13 - Moshe.
- 35:13 - After Yehoshua separated three cities on the western side of the Jordan.
- 35:25 - Because the *Kohen Gadol* causes the *shechina* to dwell in Israel and prolongs life, and the murderer causes the *shechina* to be removed from Israel and shortened life. The murderer is not worthy to stand in the vicinity of the *Kohen Gadol*.
- 36:3 - When she has a son, the son will inherit the field and the field will move from the possession of one tribe to another.
- 36:4 - It remains in the possession of the new tribe.

Bonus

Once they saw that Hashem wanted their inheritance to stay within the tribe, they chose to marry their cousins. Of all the men of the tribe, they were the closest to being the father's heirs.

Sforno

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