

# Parsha Q&A



## Parshas Shmini

For the week ending 24 Nissan 5756  
12 & 13 April 1996

### Parsha Questions

1. On which date was the *Mishkan* permanently established?
2. Which of Aaron's *Korbanos* atoned for the sin of the golden calf?
3. What two *Korbanos* did Aaron offer for himself?
4. What *Korbanos* did Aaron offer for the Jewish People?
5. What was unique about the *Chatass* that was offered during the induction of the *Mishkan*?
6. When did Aaron bless the Jewish People with the *Birkas Kohanim*?
7. Why did Moshe go into the *Ohel Mo'ed* with Aaron?
8. Why did Nadav and Avihu die?
9. Aaron quietly accepted the deaths of Nadav and Avihu. What reward did he receive for doing so?
10. What is one forbidden to do while being intoxicated?
11. Name the three *Chatass* goat offerings that were sacrificed on the day of the inauguration of the *Mishkan*.
12. Which he-goat *Chatass* did Aaron burn completely, and why?
13. Why did Hashem choose Moshe, Aaron, Elazar, and Isamar as His messengers to tell the Jewish People the laws of *Kashrus*?
14. How did the Jewish People know which animals were permissible to eat?
15. What are the signs of a kosher land animal?
16. How many non-kosher animals display only one sign of *Kashrus*? What are they?
17. What are the signs of kosher fish?
18. If a fish sheds its fins and scales when out of the water is it kosher?
19. Why is a stork called *chasida* in Hebrew?
20. The *chagav* is a *kosher* insect. Why don't we eat it?

BONUS

Q:

During the inauguration of the *Mishkan*, Aaron was commanded to bring an *Eigel* — calf — for himself and a second *Eigel* for the Jewish People. Both of these were offered to atone for the sin of the golden calf. Why did Aaron bring an *Eigel* as a *Chatass* — sin offering — for himself, while for the Jewish People he offered an *Eigel* as an *Olah* — burnt offering?

### I Did Not Know That!

When King Ptolmy placed seventy-two elders into separate houses to translate the Torah into Greek, they each miraculously made certain changes in the translation. For example, the Torah (Vayikra 11:6) lists the *arneves* (hare) among the non-Kosher animals. The elders called it "the short-legged animal", because King Ptolmy's wife was named Arneves.

Megilla 9

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## Recommended Reading List

### Ramban

- 9:17 Relation of *Miluim* and *Shmini Korbanos* to *Tamid*  
10:15 Heaving and Waving

### Sefer Hachinuch

- Dignity in the House of Hashem  
Respect for the Service

## Answers to this Week's Questions

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

1. 9:1 - On the 1st of *Nissan*.
2. 9:2 - The calf offered as a *Korban Chatass*.
3. 9:2 - A calf as a *Chatass* and a ram for an *Olah*.
4. 9:3,4 - A he-goat as a *Chatass*, a calf and a lamb for an *Olah*, an ox and a ram for *Shlamim*, and a *Minchah*.
5. 9:11 - It's the only example of a *Chatass* offered on the courtyard *Mizbe'ach* that was burned.
6. 9:22 - When he finished offering the *Korbanos*, before descending from the *Mizbe'ach*.
7. 9:23 - For one of two reasons: Either to teach Aaron about the service of the incense, or to pray for the *Shechina* to dwell with Israel.
8. 10:2 - For one of two reasons: Either because they decided a law in Moshe's presence, or because they entered the *Mishkan* after drinking intoxicating wine.
9. 10:3 - A portion of the Torah was given solely through Aaron.
10. 10:9-11 - One may not give a *halachic* ruling. Also, a *Kohen* is forbidden to enter the *Ohel Mo'ed*, approach the *Mizbe'ach*, or perform the *avoda* (sacrificial service).
11. 10:16 - The goat offerings of the inauguration ceremony, of *Rosh Chodesh*, and of Nachshon ben Aminadav.
12. 10:16 - The *Rosh Chodesh Chatass* – either because it became *tamei*, or because the *Kohanim* were forbidden to eat from it while in the state of *aninus* (mourning).
13. 11:2 - Because they had all accepted the deaths of Nadav and Avihu in silence.
14. 11:2 - Moshe showed them the various animals and pointed out which were permissible to eat and which were not.
15. 11:3 - An animal whose hoofs are completely split and who chews its cud.
16. 11:4,5,6,7 - Four: Camel, *shafan*, *arneves* (hare), and pig.
17. 11:9 - Fins and scales.
18. 11:12 - Yes.
19. 11:19 - Because it acts with *chesed* (kindness) toward other storks regarding food.
20. 11:21 - We have lost the tradition and are not able to identify the kosher *chagav*.

**Bonus**

A:

Aaron's transgression was one of *action* since he performed an action which resulted in the creation of the golden calf. The atonement for a sin done by action is a *Chatass*. The Jewish People's sin, on the other hand, was one of *thought*, in that their hearts were drawn after the *Eigel*. The atonement for a sin committed by thought is an *Olah*.

*Gur Aryeh*

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