

Parsha QA



Parshat Yitro

For the week ending 22 Shevat 5760 /
28 - 29 January 2000

Parsha Questions

1. Yitro had 7 names. Why was one of his names *Yeter*?
2. News of which two events motivated Yitro to come join the Jewish People?
3. What name of Yitro indicates his love for Torah?
4. Why was Tzipora with her father, Yitro, and not with Moshe when *Bnei Yisrael* left Egypt?
5. Why does verse 18:5 say that Yitro came to the desert *Bnei Yisrael* were in the desert?
6. Why did Moshe tell Yitro all that Hashem had done for the Jewish People?
7. According to the *Midrash* quoted by Rashi, how did Yitro respond when he was told about the destruction of Egypt?
8. Who is considered as if he enjoys the splendor of the *Shechina*?
9. On what day did Moshe sit to judge the Jewish People?
10. Who is considered a co-partner in Creation?
11. this arrangement?
12. Why did Yitro return to his own land?
13. How did the encampment at Sinai differ from the other encampments?
14. To whom does the Torah refer when it uses the *Beit Yaakov*?
- 15.
16. *Matan Torah*? What was the response of the Jewish People?
- 17.
18. kidnapping?
19. In response to hearing the Torah given at Sinai, how far backwards did the Jewish people retreat in fear?
20. Why does the use of iron tools profane the altar?

thoughtful reading of th

-d blessed the Shabbat day and Exodus 20:11)

the manna by giving a double portion on the sixth day, and He sanctified it through the manna in that on Shabbat none *drash* (commentary) with a deeper meaning.

the verse, that the day was blessed and sanctified? Why does Rashi reduce the blessing and the sanctity to the one

holy *only*

An answer: The blessing and sanctity of the Shabbat cannot be seen; it is an abstraction, it has no objective manifestation. Rashi sought a meaning to these

abstract words in concrete terms. When Hashem spoke to the Israelites about the special nature of the Shabbat, He wanted to tell them something they could understand from personal experience. Hashem had already given the Israelites the manna (*Exodus 16:14-36*). By means of the manna they saw concretely the reality of the Shabbat, as no other generation has.

But as you think more deeply about the double portion that fell on Friday, which is supposed to be the blessing for the Shabbat, what question would you ask?

A question: Granted that two portions of manna fell on Friday, but one was for Friday and one *only one* was for Shabbat. So what was special about the Shabbat, and what kind of a blessing is this, since it too had only one portion allotted to it?

Prepared by Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, Israel

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☎ 22 Shimon Hatzadik Street, POB 18103, Jerusalem Israel ☎ 972-2-581-0315

☎ 38 East 29th Street 8th floor, New York, NY 10016, USA ☎ 1-212-213-3100

☎ 613 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill, Ontario L4J 5V3, Canada ☎ 1-905-886-5730

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Parshat Yitro 22 Shevat 5760, 28 - 29 January 2000

Written and Compiled by Rabbi Reuven Subar

General Editor: Rabbi Moshe Newman

☎ 972-2-581-2890

☎ 1-212-213-8717

☎ 1-905-886-6065

☎ ohr@virtual.co.il

☎ RZCorlin@aol.com or estern@aol.com

☎ Somayach@MSN.com

Production Design: Eli Ballon

An answer: The manna fell each day with enough food for that day. None was left over for the next day. And if someone tried to save some for the morrow, it turned wormy and rotten (*Exodus 16:20*).

morning did not turn rotten. So while the Shabbat had no more manna allotted to it than any other day, it was nevertheless blessed. The blessing was that a person went to bed Friday evening with no worry for the meal. This was not so for any other day of the week.

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I Did Not Know That!

adsho

This verse, which commands us to honor the 7th day, is the 7th verse of the Ten Commandments. It begins with the letter *zayin*, the 7th letter of the Hebrew alphabet. In the following verses, 7 entities are commanded to

your maidservant, your animal, and the sojourner within

expressions of *menucha*, *atah echad* paragraph of the Shabbat afternoon prayer.

Recommended Reading List

Ramban

18:6,10	
18:11	Why Egyptians were Punished
18:15	The Role of Moshe
18:22	Availability of Justice
20:2	Belief Based on Experience
20:6	The Beloved of Hashem
20:8	Remembering Shabbat
20:17	<i>Matan Torah</i>
19:3, 8:9, 20:15, 24:1	The Chronology of <i>Matan Torah</i>

Sefer Hachinuch

25	Faith
30	Respect for Divine Name
31	<i>Kiddush</i> on Wine
32	Shabbat Rest
33	Gratitude to Parents
35	Promiscuity
	<i>Malbim</i>
20:2	The Essence of Belief in Hashem
	<i>Ibn Ezra</i>
20:14	Discipline of Desire

-
1. 18:1 - Because he caused a Parsha to be added to the Torah. *Yeter* means addition.
 2. 18:1 - The splitting of the sea and the war against Amalek.
 3. 18:1 - Chovav.
 4. 18:3 -

children back to Midian.
 5. 18:5 -
Torah.
 6. 18:8 - To draw Yitro closer to the Torah way of life.
 7. 18:9 - He grieved.
 8. 18:12 - One who dines with Torah scholars.
 9. 18:13 - The day after *Yom Kippur*.
 10. 18:13 - A judge who renders a correct decision.
 11. 18:14 -
 12. 18:27 - To convert the members of his family to Judaism.
 13. 19:2 - The Jewish People were united.
 14. 19:3 - The Jewish women.
 15. 19:4 -
of glory separated between the Egyptians and the Jewish camp in order to absorb Egyptian missiles and arrows fired at the Jewish People.
 16. 19:9 - Hashem offered to appear to Moshe and to give the Torah through him. The Jewish People responded that they wished to hear the Torah directly from Hashem.
 17. 20:6 500 times.
 18. 20:13 -

 19. 20:15 - They backed away from the mountain twelve *mil* (one *mil* is 2000 cubits).
 20. 20:22 - The altar was created to extend life; iron is sometimes used to make weapons which shorten life.