Parsha Questions

1. Why does the Torah command that when a man wishes to marry a heathen woman who he captured in war, that we force her to cut her hair and grow her nails long?

2. From which property of the father does the first born receive a double portion?

3. How do sons divide loans that were owed to their father and are due: a) before his death; b) after his death?

4. What is the wayward behavior that requires execution of a ben sorer umoreh (wayward and rebellious son)?

5. What will become of a ben sorer umoreh if his parents don’t bring him to court?

6. Why is it a degradation to Hashem to hang a criminal’s body on the gallows overnight?

7. Why does the Torah forbid wearing the clothing of the opposite gender?

8. What may one extrapolate from the reward for sending away the mother-bird?

9. Why does the Torah adjoin sending away the mother-bird with the mitzvah of making a parapet?

10. When is a mixture of wool and linen in a garment permitted?

11. Although the Egyptians enslaved the Jewish People, the Torah allows marriage with their third-generation converts. Why?

12. Why is it worse to cause somebody to sin than to kill him?

13. If a person lends money to his fellow Jew and takes interest, how many commandments has he transgressed?

14. If a person builds a new house, but has not yet dedicated it, what are his obligations during a non-obligatory war?

15. What is the groom’s obligation to his bride during their first year of marriage?

16. What type of object may one not take as security for a loan?

17. When is a kidnapper guilty of a capital offense?

18. In verse 24:9, the Torah commands, “Remember what Hashem did to Miriam.” To which event does the Torah refer?

19. Who is primarily obligated to fulfill the mitzvah of yibum (to marry the widow of one’s brother)?

20. Which of the Jewish People were subject to attack by Amalek?

In this week’s Parsha, the Torah writes an entire section delineating the laws of the ben sorer umoreh. What message are we supposed to learn from the ben sorer umoreh?

I Did Not Know That!

“You shall put away the evil from the midst of you, and all Yisrael will hear and fear” (21:21)

If you eliminate all evil from you own character, others will listen to you.

Perot Levanon
Parshas Ki Seitzei For the week ending 14 Elul 5755, 8 & 9 September 1995

Parsha Q&A

is available from several sources:

• World Wide Web: Our address is http://www.jer1.co.il/orgs/ohr/intro.html
• Fax and Regular Mail within Israel. Just send us a note requesting a subscription.
• The Jerusalem Gopher (gopher.jer1.co.il).

Sforno

• 21:16 The Birthright
• 21:23 Hanging
• 22:7 Torah Ecology
• 23:20 Kindliness

Recommended Reading List

Ramban

21:18 Gluttony and Rebellion
21:22 Hanging
22:6 Reason for Mitzvos
23:10 Wartime Morality
23:20 Usury
24:9 Lashon Harah
25:17 Remembering Amalek

Sefer Hachinuch

In this Parsha there are

• 27 Positive Commandments and
• 47 Negative Commandments

• 533 Avoiding Exploitation
• 545 Compassion
• 550 Unnatural Combinations
• 552 Marriage
• 561 Ingratitude
• 579 Divorce
• 599 Filial Responsibility

Answers to this Week’s Questions

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

1. 21:12 - So that she will become repulsive to him.
2. 21:17 - From those properties that are in the possession of the father at the time of his death.
3. 21:17 - a) The firstborn takes a double portion. b) They divide equally.
4. 21:18 - Stealing, and eating and drinking meat and wine gluttonously.
5. 21:22 - He will eventually commit capital crimes.
6. 21:23 - Because man is made in Hashem’s image; and because the Jewish People are His children.
7. 22:5 - It leads to licentiousness.
8. 22:7 - Since this is the easiest mitzvah, involving no monetary loss, certainly all other mitzvos merit at least the same reward.
9. 22:8 - To teach that one mitzvah leads to another.
10. 22:12 - Wool tzitzis on a linen garment.
11. 23:8 - Because they were host to Yaakov and his family during a time of famine.
12. 23:9 - Murder removes the victim from this world, whereas leading another person to sin causes the victim to lose his share in the World-to-Come.
13. 23:21 - Three, two negative commandments and a positive commandment.
14. 24:5 - He must supply water and food for the troops and repair the roads.
15. 24:5 - He must make her happy.
17. 24:7 - When he uses the victim as a slave.
18. 24:9 - To when Hashem punished Miriam with tzara’as for speaking lashon harah.
19. 25:6 - The eldest brother.
20. 25:18 - Those who lost the protection of the ananei kavod due to their sins.

The Torah is teaching that a bad beginning can have an adverse influence on the entire future. Therefore, we must be careful to guard are conduct during the period immediately following Bar Mitzvah, Rosh Hashanah, and even during the first few hours of every day.

Shem m’Shmuel

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For information:
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This publication contains words of Torah. Please treat it with due respect. Do not let this land on a garbage heap.