Parsha Questions

1. The captive woman must change out of her 'captivity garment.' Why?
2. How do a first-born and his brother split three equal portions of land inherited from their father?
3. What does a ben sorer u'moreh (wayward and rebellious son) do to incur the death penalty?
4. What will become of a ben sorer u’moreh if his parents don’t bring him to court?
5. What do you do if you find a lost object that costs money to maintain?
6. Why does the Torah forbid wearing the clothing of the opposite gender?
7. Why does the Torah link the mitzvah of ‘sending away the mother-bird’ with the mitzvah of making a railing?
8. When is it permitted to wear wool and linen?
9. Although the Egyptians enslaved the Jewish People, the Torah allows marriage with their third-generation converts. Why?
10. Why is it worse to cause someone to sin than to kill him?
11. If one charges interest to his fellow Jew, how many commandments has he transgressed?
12. What is the groom’s obligation to his bride during their first year together?
13. What type of object may one not take as security for a loan?
14. When is a kidnapper guilty of a capital offense?
15. “Remember what Hashem did to Miriam (24:9)” To what event does the Torah refer?
16. “Fathers will not be put to death because of their sons....” What does this mean?
17. If a poor person finds money, the one who lost the money receives a blessing. From where do we derive this?
18. Two people in this week’s parsha are required to speak in Lashon Hakodesh. Who are they?
19. How does the Torah describe those who cheat in business?
20. Which of the Jewish People were subject to attack by Amalek?

Bonus Q:

Why does the Torah forbid working with an ox and a donkey harnessed together?

I Did Not Know That!

“He (the groom) will be free for his home for one year...” (24:5)
The word free (naki) also means ‘clean.’ This hints that a groom is forgiven all his sins. Also, the last letter of these words spell Hashem’s name, hinting that the Divine Presence resides in a Jewish home.

(Rashbaz)
Parshas Ki Seitzei For the week ending 9 Elul 5756, 23 & 24 August 1996

Parsha Q&A is available from several sources:

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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

Sforno

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

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. 21:13 - Because it is a beautiful garment which she wears for immoral purposes.
2. 21:17 - The first born gets two portions and his brother gets one.
3. 21:18 - Stealing, and eating meat and wine gluttonously.
4. 21:22 - He will eventually rob and kill to support his physical indulgences.
5. 22:2 - Sell it, and save the money until you find out who the owner is.
6. 22:5 - It leads to immorality.
7. 22:8 - To teach that one mitzvah leads to another.
8. 22:12 - Wool tzitzis on a linen garment.
9. 23:8 - Because they hosted Yaakov and his family during the famine.
10. 23:9 - Murder takes away life in this world, while causing someone to sin takes away his life in the World to Come.
11. 23:21 - Three; two negative commandments and a positive commandment.
12. 24:5 - To make her happy.
13. 24:6 - Utensils used to prepare food.
14. 24:7 - If he works the victim as a slave and sells him.
15. 24:9 - Hashem punishing Miriam with Tzara’as for speaking Lashon Harah.
16. 24:15 - Fathers will not be put to death based on the testimony of their sons. That is, relatives are invalid as witnesses.
17. 24:19 - From the mitzvah to leave the ‘forgotten bundle’ for poor people.
18. 25:8 - The yavam (brother-in-law) and the yavamah (his childless brother's widow).
19. 25:16 - “An abomination (to‘evah) to Hashem your G-d....”
20. 25:18 - Those who lost the protection of the ananei hakavod due to their sins.

When the ox chews its cud, the donkey will hear and start to feel hunger pangs.

(Da‘as Zekeinim Miba‘alei HaTosafos)