

PURIM CHALLENGE

תשפ"ד

פורים

1. Which seven people mentioned in the תורה have their (exact) names in the מגילה?¹
2. What was the Persian's favorite number?
 - a. List five times the number is mentioned in the מגילה.
3. Where in the מגילה do we find the same word three times in a row? (L. Muller)
4. You probably know the names of all the people mentioned the מגילה. List all 41 names.²
5. Whose execution is hinted but not mentioned בפירוש in the מגילה?
6. List six specific parties that are mentioned in the מגילה.
7. We are a group of five,
We were hinted to many years earlier,
We were the reason there was no jealousy,
We were with מרדכי when he was elevated,
Each of our kind was also by אחשורוש's party.
Who are we?
8. I am a two letter word,
My first letter is the last,
In the תורה I am a bird,
In the מגילה I refer to one אסתר's most fateful moments.
When my פסוק is read it is with extra suspense.
Who am I?

Need a hint?

¹ Three were fathers of nations (from the 70 sons/grandsons of the בני נח), one was a son of יעקב, one was a descendant of לוי, one was a grandson of עמרם, one was a father of the נשיא of מררי.

² Seven well-known names, five fathers or (great) grandfathers, two groups of seven people, three misc. servants, two additional kings, and a group of ten people.

Answers

1. מדי, תרשיש, כוש, יהודה, שמעי בן גרשון, חור, נשיא למררי צוריאל בן אביחל
2. Seven a) The seven days of אחשורוש's party, the seven המלך פני, the seven advisors of אחשורוש, the seven אסתר נערות, in the seventh year אחשורוש married אסתר.
3. מדינה מדינה ומדינה (ח,ט)

4. Names in the מגילה:

1. מרדכי
2. אסתר
3. אחשורוש
4. ושתי
5. המן
6. זרש
7. בגתן
8. תרש
9. יאיר
10. שמעי
11. קיש
12. אביחיל
13. המדתא

שבעה משרתי

פני המלך

14. מהומן
15. בזתא

16. חרבונה
17. בגתא
18. ואבגתא
19. זתר
20. כרכס

שבעה חכמים ידעי

העתים

21. כרשנא
22. שתר
23. אדמתא
24. תרשיש
25. מרס
26. מרסנא

(ממוכן the last advisor was
therefore is not
counted as a separate
person.)

27. הגני

28. שעשגו
29. התך
30. יכניה
31. נבוכדנצר

עשרת בני המן

32. פרשנדתא
33. דלפן
34. אספתא
35. פורתא
36. אדליא
37. ארידתא
38. פרמשתא
39. אריסי
40. ארידי
41. ויזתא

5. The. ושתי just says "לא תבוא ושתי לפני המלך וגו'" explains that this means she was executed. (Additionally the תרגום says that הסך was killed by המן)
6. 2 made by אחשורוש, 1 made by ושתי, 1 made for the crowning of אסתר, 2 made by אסתר.
7. We are a group of five,
We were hinted to many years earlier, - when יוסף gave gifts to his brothers
We were the reason there was no jealousy, - even though בנימין got more
We were with מרדכי when he was elevated, - ומרדכי יצא וגו' (ח,טו)
Each of our kind was also by אחשורוש's party. - Each of the five materials (או,ו)
Who are we? - The five royal garments of מרדכי
8. Next week...

Last week's Riddle:

I was the last of four,
then I was the last of two,
but I was first to receive a position of honor,
Even so, it was the third that was given the greatest honor.
I am mentioned in this week's פרשה.
Who am I?

- brothers
- when two died
- ליום עבודה of all the
- to be the גדול כהן
- איתמר

לרפואה שלמה – אביגדור ששון מאיר בן רחל לאה,
לעיני שאול בן אברהם ז"ל, ברכה בילה בת דוד יעקב עי"ה, יצחק דוד בן אלימלך הכהן ז"ל
For questions, comments, or to subscribe, send an email to parshachallenge@gmail.com

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