

PARSHA CHALLENGE

תשפ"ו

פרשת עקב

1. When is the word עֶצֶר ה' used in this week's פרשה?
 - a. When in the תורה do we find the double עֶצֶר ה' לשון עֶצֶר עֶצֶר ה'?
2. Where do we find the concept of "תפילה עושה מחצה" in this week's פרשה? (R' L. Lichtenstein)
 - a. Name four other individuals in the תורה that משה was מתפלל for.¹
3. What type of insect is mentioned in this week's פרשה?
 - a. Name four other insects mentioned in the תורה.²
Bonus: Name an additional three.³
 - b. Which insect (like creature) is mentioned in a רש"י in this week's פרשה?
4. In a span of two פסוקים in this week's פרשה four לשונות of anger are used.
What are these four לשונות?
 - a. What are three other לשונות for anger that are found in תנ"ך?⁴
5. Twice we were found in a place without water,
Once in this week's פרשה,
Once in פרשת וישב.
We are mentioned in this week's פרשה.
Who are we?
6. I have a special חשיבות,
However, my essence is even more חשוב.
I am the benchmark for many מצוות in the תורה.
To a יום טוב I have a connection,
In the days of נח my associate was a sign of renewal,
I am mentioned in this week's פרשה.
Who am I?

Need a hint?

¹ One is a relative, one in פרשת שלח, two are מרומוז in וזאת הברכה.

² Two in מצרים, one in פרשת שלח, one in ואתחנן.

³ פרשת שמע.

⁴ One is in the beginning of ואתחנן, two we say פסח night, one we say in תחנון.

Answers

1. והיה אם שמע In.
 - a. When ה' punished אבימלך it says "כי עצר עצר ה' בעד כל רחם לבית אבימלך".
2. משה davened for אהרן's sons and only ואתמר were spared. (עי' רש"י ט, כ).
 - a. צרעת – that she should be healed from מרים
לשון הרע in מרגלים – that he shouldn't join the
davens משה – וזאת הברכה – ראובן
that he should be forgiven for moving his fathers bed. (עי' רש"י)
davens משה – וזאת הברכה – יהודה
that he should no longer be in חרם for saying הימים לאבי כל חרם. (עי' רש"י)
3. צרעה – A hornet
 - a. כינים, ארבה, חגבים (והנה בעינינו כחגבים שלח יג, לג), דבורים (דברים א, מד)
Bonus: סלעמים (ויקרא יא, כב), חרגלים (שם יא, כב), חומטים (שם יא, ל)
b. a snail – חומט (ח, ד) says the Yidden's clothing grew on them like the shell of a snail.
4. (אנף of שורש, the לשון of a fifth, התאנף Although it would seem, כעס, אף, חמה, קצף (ט, יח-יט))
 - c. ויתעבר (דברים ג, כו), זעם, רגז
5. Twice we were found in a place without water,
Once in this week's פרשה, וצמאון אין בו מים -
Once in פרשת וישב. והבור רק אין בו מים -
We are mentioned in this week's פרשה. נחש ועקרב -
Who are we?
6. Next week...

Last week's Riddle:

I am a פסוק in this week's פרשה,
Although I am said on שבת and טוב יום (in ספרד), - Before the ארון is opened
I keep a low profile
However, two (some have the מנהג three) times a year I am given great prominence, - On שמחת תורה
A time that is well remembered throughout the year.
I am found in this week's פרשה.
Who am I? - אתה הראת לדעת