

1 - Questions to פְּרַשְׁת וַאֲרָא / Parshat Va-ai-ra

QUESTIONS TO פְּרַשְׁת וַאֲרָא / PARSHAT VA-AI-RA
(PLEASE NOTE! Many reasons are given by our rabbis, the Talmud and other sources for the Ten Plagues.)

1. Moshe complained that ה' was making the Jews work even harder as slaves. If a Jew finished his work, what did he do for another Jew? HE HELPED
2. ה' told Moshe to tell the Jews that they would be free. When Moshe did, why didn't they believe him? THEY WERE AFRAID OF EGYPTIAN POLICEMEN
3. ה' told Moshe and Aharon to go to Pa-roh's palace again. What were they to tell him? LET THE JEWS OUT OF MITZRAYIM
4. Moshe and Aharon went to the palace. They told Pa-roh to LET THE JEWS OUT OF MITZRA-YIM
5. Why did Pa-roh say he would not let them go? BECAUSE HE SAID THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS ה'
6. To show Pa-roh that there was such a thing as ה', what did Aharon throw on the ground? HIS STICK
7. What did Aharon's stick turn into? A SNAKE
8. Pa-roh was supposed to see this and let the Jews out. Instead, he laughed. Why did Pa-roh laugh? HE SAID ALL EGYPTIANS COULD DO IT, EVEN FIVE- AND SIX-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN
9. Pa-roh called five- and six-year old children to throw their sticks on the ground. What happened? THEY TURNED INTO SNAKES
10. Pa-roh called his magicians to throw their sticks on the ground. What happened? THEY BECAME SNAKES
11. Then all the snakes turned back into sticks. What did Aharon's stick do that the other sticks didn't do? EAT THE EGYPTIAN STICKS
12. After seeing this, Pa-roh was supposed to let the Jews go. Did he? NO
13. **EXTRA CREDIT:** ה' then made the Ten Plagues against the Egyptians. How do we say "Ten Plagues" in Hebrew? עֶשְׂרֵי מַכּוֹת (e-sair makot)
14. The first Plague was called דָּם (dam). Why did Aharon do this Plague instead of Moshe? BECAUSE THE WATER SAVED HIS LIFE AND IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NICE FOR HIM TO DAMAGE THE WATER WHICH SAVED HIS LIFE
15. Aharon waved his stick over the Nile River. What did all water in Mitzra-yim turn into? BLOOD
16. The Egyptians looked for water under the ground. They found some but what happened when they touched it? IT TURNED INTO BLOOD
17. What came out of stones, idols, fruits and Paroh's palace? BLOOD
18. The Egyptians found out they could get water in Goshen. What did they have to do to get it? PAY THE JEWS FOR IT
19. Pa-roh asked his magicians if they could make blood. Did they? YES
20. Did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim after this Plague ended? NO

2 - Questions to פרשת וארא / Parshat Va-ai-ra

21. The second Plague was צַפְרָדִיעַ (*tze-far-dai-a*), meaning "a frog." Why did Aharon do this Plague instead of Moshe? (See answer to question 14.).
22. Aharon stretched his stick over the Nile River. What came out of it? A VERY BIG FROG
23. What happened when the Egyptians tried to kill the big frog? IT OPENED ITS MOUTH AND MANY MORE FROGS CAME OUT
24. The frogs bothered Pa-roh first. What did they do to him? THEY CLIMBED INTO HIS BED AND UNDER HIS BEDSHEETS, AND THEY BIT HIM
25. Then the frogs bothered Pa-roh's helpers, and then other Egyptians. When the Egyptians locked their windows and doors to try to stop the frogs from coming in, what happened? IT DIDN'T WORK
26. If an Egyptian and a Jew were walking together, who would the frogs bother? THE EGYPTIAN
27. Paroh called Moshe and Aharon to the palace. He asked them to get rid of the frogs. They did. Did Paroh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim after this Plague ended? NO
28. **EXTRA CREDIT:** The third Plague was כִּנִּים (*kinim*), lice. Why did Aharon do this Plague? BECAUSE THE DIRT HELPED HIM HIDE THE BODY OF THE EGYPTIAN POLICEMAN HE KILLED, AND IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NICE FOR HIM TO DAMAGE THE DIRT THAT HELPED HIM
29. Aharon stretched his stick over Mitzra-yim. Where did the lice go? ON EGYPTIAN ANIMALS, PEOPLE AND FOOD IN THE FIELDS, AND THE GROUND
30. Why couldn't the Jews build the buildings in Pitom and Ramses after this Plague started? THERE WAS NO DIRT - IT WAS ALL LICE
31. Pa-roh got tired of the lice. So he asked magicians if they could make lice. They said they could not. Why? THEY COULD NOT MAKE ANYTHING SMALLER THAN A PIECE OF CORN
32. After the Plague of *kinim* ended, did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim? NO
33. The fourth Plague was עֲרֹב (*arov*), wild animals. They went into Egyptian houses. When Egyptians locked their windows and doors to stop them from coming in, what did big sea monsters do? THEY REACHED DOWN AND PULLED THE LOCKS OFF THE WINDOWS AND DOORS
34. Pa-roh asked Moshe and Aharon to get rid of the wild animals so the Jews could offer sacrifices. Where? IN MITZRA-YIM, NOT IN THE DESERT
35. Moshe said the Bnai Yisrael could not offer sacrifices in Mitzra-yim. Why? A SACRIFICE MIGHT BE SHEEP AND THE EGYPTIANS WOULD KILL THE JEWS FOR KILLING THE SHEEP THEY PRAYED TO
36. Pa-roh agreed to let Bnai Yisrael offer sacrifices in the desert if Moshe and Aharon would get rid of the wild animals. When the wild animals were gone, did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim? NO

3 - Questions to פרשת וארא / Parshat Va-ai-ra

37. The fifth Plague was דֵבַר (*devair*) (animal sickness). What else died besides Egyptian animals? THEIR RIDERS
38. When the Plague of *devair* ended, did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim? NO
39. The sixth Plague was שְׁחִין (*shcheen*), boils. Moshe took a lot of soot and gave it to Aharon. Both of them threw their handful of soot in the air. What happened? BOILS CAME ON EGYPTIANS AND THEIR ANIMALS
40. There were two things Egyptians with boils could not do. What? SCRATCH THEMSELVES AND COME IN CONTACT WITH WATER
41. Did medicine make the pain go away? NO
42. Pa-roh asked Moshe and Aharon to end the Plague. Did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim after it ended? NO
43. The seventh Plague was בָּרָד (*ba-rad*), hail. What did Moshe tell Pa-roh and the Egyptians to do to get ready for the Plague? MAKE SURE THEY AND THEIR ANIMALS WERE INSIDE WHEN IT STARTED SO THEY WOULDN'T BE KILLED
44. Many Egyptians and animals were killed because they didn't listen to Moshe. What two things that usually can't be together were together during the Plague of *ba-rad*, hail? FIRE AND WATER
45. If an Egyptian was in Goshen, what miracle did ה' make? THE HAIL FELL ON HIM AND NOT ON ANY OF THE JEWS
46. Pa-roh asked Moshe and Aharon to get rid of the hail. They did. Did Pa-roh let the Jews out of Mitzra-yim after this Plague ended? NO