

1 - Questions to פרשת משפטים / Parshat Mishpatim

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QUESTIONS TO פרשת משפטים / Parshat Mishpatim

**NOTE: Most of the questions in this parsha are about mitzvot that applied in the time of the Bait Hamikdash. Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) after the question number apply even today.**

1. What happened to a man who stole money and could not pay it back? HE WAS SOLD AS A SLAVE TO ANOTHER JEW
2. For how many years could he be a slave? SIX
3. The judges of the Jewish Court took the money the man got by working as a slave. What did the judges do with this money? GAVE IT TO THE PERSON FROM WHOM THE SLAVE STOLE
4. Was the owner allowed to sell his Jewish slave to someone else? NO
5. What kind of food did the Jewish owner have to give his Jewish slave? THE SAME FOOD AS HE ATE (not inferior food)
6. What kind of bed did the Jewish owner have to let his Jewish slave sleep on? THE SAME KIND OF BED THAT HE SLEPT ON (not an inferior bed)
7. When could the owner tell his slave to work and when was the owner not allowed to tell his slave to work? DURING THE DAY, NOT AT NIGHT
8. Was the owner allowed to tell his slave to do jobs that he himself wouldn't want to do like boiling water when the owner didn't need it or tying the owner's shoes? NO
9. The Jewish slave went back to his house (i.e., went free) after working for six years or when the Yovail year came. The Yovail year came once every how many years? 50
10. What did the owner have to give his slave before the slave went home? MANY PRESENTS
11. Let's say the Jewish slave should have gone back to his house because he worked for his owner for six years. But the slave did not want to go home. He wanted to stay a slave. The owner took the slave to some Jewish judges, who put him next to a door. What part of the slave's body was pierced with a sharp instrument? EAR
12. **EXTRA CREDIT:** If he got his ear pierced, for how long did he stay a slave? UNTIL THE YOVAİL YEAR
13. **EXTRA CREDIT:** Why did the slave get his ear pierced and not some other part of his body? BECAUSE HIS EAR DID NOT LISTEN WHEN יְהוָה SAID IN THE TORAH HE DID NOT WANT JEWS TO BE SLAVES
14. What could the punishment of a Jewish man have been who killed someone on purpose after being told by two people not to? HE WAS KILLED (executed)
15. **EXTRA CREDIT:** If a Jew killed someone on purpose, why could he have been killed by the Jewish Court? TO STOP OTHERS FROM KILLING PEOPLE (as a deterrent)

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16. If a child hit his mother, his father or both so that blood was seen, and two witnesses told him not to do it, what might the child's punishment have been?  
THE CHILD COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED (executed)

17.\* Let's say your mom or dad has a splinter. Are you allowed to take it out? Why or why not? NO, BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO MAKE THEIR PARENTS BLEED

18.\* What does "cursing someone" mean? THAT BAD THINGS SHOULD HAPPEN TO SOMEONE, OR THAT ה' SHOULD PUNISH SOMEONE

19.\* Jewish children are not allowed to curse their parents. What does this mean? SAYING THAT BAD THINGS SHOULD HAPPEN TO THEM, OR THAT HASHEM SHOULD PUNISH THEM

20. If a Jew hit another Jew and made him lose an eye or a tooth or any part of his body, or made him sprain his ankle or another part of his body, how many things did the hitter have to pay for? FIVE

21. The first was *ne-zek*, damages. The Jewish judges decided how much the victim was worth before he was hit, and how much he was worth after he was hit, as a SLAVE (and the hitter paid the difference)

22. The hitter paid for *tza-ar*, pain. Who decided how much the hitter had to pay? THE JEWISH JUDGES

23. The hitter paid for *ri-pu-i*. The hitter had to pay to make the victim feel better. So what did the hitter pay for? MEDICINES, HOSPITAL BILLS, DOCTOR BILLS, ETC.

24. The hitter paid for *she-vef*. Let's say the victim worked at a job where he was paid \$100 a day. He could not work for one day. How much did the hitter have to pay the victim? \$100

25. Finally, the hitter paid for *boe-shet*. If the hitter hit the victim in front of many people, what did he have to pay for? EMBARRASSMENT

26. Let's say a Jew owned a cat or a dog. They usually did not do damage, but they ate a Jewish friend's \$100 chair. How much did the pet owner have to pay his friend for the damage? \$50 (half-damage)

27. What was an animal's punishment if it killed a Jew? IT WAS STONED

28. If a kosher animal (like an ox) killed a Jew and was waiting to be stoned, was the owner allowed to slaughter it and eat the meat or sell the animal? NO

29. Let's say a Jew owned a wolf, lion, bear, panther, leopard or snake. And let's say he trained one of these animals or reptiles not to damage other peoples' property. But let's say one of them ate another Jew's \$100 chair. How much money did the owner have to pay the victim? \$100 (full damage)

30. **EXTRA CREDIT:** Why did the owner have to pay for all the damage (\$100) and not just \$50 or maybe not pay anything at all? SAYING THAT HE SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY BECAUSE HE TRAINED IT WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH. HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL TO WATCH IT

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31. If two witnesses saw something in a man's house which he stole, the man was called a "thief." He was brought before Jewish judges. What did he have to give back to the owner if he stole it? WHAT HE STOLE PLUS WHAT IT WOULD COST TO BUY ANOTHER ONE (double)

32. If a man stole a bicycle and he was caught, he had to see some Jewish judges. If the man did steal the bicycle, what did he have to give the owner? THE BICYCLE PLUS ITS VALUE (what it would cost to buy another one) AS A FINE

33. Let's say a man robbed someone in the daytime. He was called a "robber." This means he took something from someone by force. What did he have to give back to the owner? ONLY WHAT HE ROBBED, NOT MORE

34. **EXTRA CREDIT:** Why did the thief have to pay double while the robber paid only what he stole? THE THIEF SHOWED HE WAS NOT AFRAID OF BEING PUNISHED BY ה' BUT HE WAS AFRAID OF BEING CAUGHT AND PUNISHED PEOPLE, SO HE STOLE WHILE NO ONE WAS LOOKING. BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID OF PEOPLE BUT NOT OF ה', HE PAID DOUBLE. BUT THE ROBBER SHOWED THAT HE WASN'T AFRAID OF BEING PUNISHED EITHER BY PEOPLE OR ה'. AS A REWARD FOR HIS "BRAVERY," HE PAID ONLY WHAT HE STOLE

35. If a Jew stole another Jew's ox, how many oxen does the Torah say he had to give back to the owner? FIVE

36. If a Jew stole another Jew's sheep, how many sheep does the Torah say he must give back to the owner? FOUR

37. If a Jew had a barbeque, and fire got away and burned down someone's house or field, how much did the Jew have to pay the owner of the house or field? FULL DAMAGES

38.\* What is "public property," and are you allowed to damage it? PUBLIC PROPERTY IS THINGS BELONGING TO MANY PEOPLE. DAMAGING IT IS NOT ALLOWED

39.\* Give examples of public property in your school. DESKS, CHAIRS, BOOKS, PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER THINGS MANY STUDENTS USE

40.\* The Torah says we must be very careful what we say and how we treat converts, widows and orphans. What's a convert? SOMEONE WHO WASN'T JEWISH BUT BECAME JEWISH

41.\* What's a widow? A WOMAN WHOSE HUSBAND HAS DIED

42.\* What's an orphan? A CHILD WHOSE MOTHER, FATHER OR BOTH HAVE DIED

43.\* Why must we be nice to them? BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO ONE TO PROTECT THEM

44.\* Fill in the blanks: Jewish people must never tell a \_\_\_\_\_ and always tell the \_\_\_\_\_. LIE; TRUTH

45.\* Why is it important not to lie and to always tell the truth? BECAUSE NO ONE WILL BELIEVE A PERSON WHO LIES EVEN ONCE

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46.\* What are Jews not allowed to cook, eat and get pleasure from? MEAT AND MILK TOGETHER

47.\* What laws are these called? KASHRUT

48.\* Why does יה tell Jewish people to keep kosher? WE DON'T KNOW

49.\* When will we know the reasons for keeping kosher? WHEN MASHIACH COMES

50. Because the Jews prayed to the Golden Calf, יה Himself did not want to lead them in the desert. Who did He want to send instead? AN ANGEL

51. Who did Moshe want to lead the Jews, יה or an angel? יה

52. Did יה say He would or would not lead the Jews Himself? YES

53. How did יה say He would kill the giant kings Sichon and Og? HE WOULD SEND WASPS TO SQUIRT POISON IN THEIR BODIES

54. On the 5th day of Sivan, who offered sacrifices on an altar Moshe built at the bottom of Har Sinai? THE FIRST-BORN MEN

55. Moshe then read the whole Torah. He ended with the story of the Giving of the Torah. Where did he start reading from? PARSHAT BERESHEET (how יה made the world)

56. When יה asked the Jews if they would study Torah and do the mitzvot, did they say yes or no? YES

57. Moshe, Aharon, the leaders of the Tribes, Nadav and Avihu went up Har Sinai a little. What did Nadav, Avihu and the leaders do that they should not have done? THEY LOOKED AT יה LONGER THAN THEY SHOULD HAVE

58. יה told Moshe to go to the top of Har Sinai, and Moshe did. For how long was Moshe on Har Sinai? 40 DAYS

59. Moshe wrote the Torah just like יה told him to. Moshe also got the *luchot* from יה. What were the *luchot*? STONE TABLETS UPON WHICH WERE WRITTEN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

60. When Moshe came down from Har Sinai, what were the Jews praying to? A GOLDEN CALF