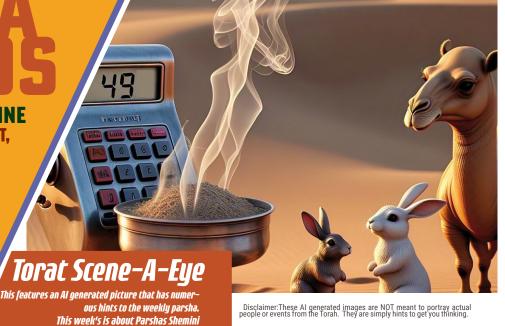


KID FRIENDLY TORAH MAGAZINE A PROJECT OF NAGEELAWEST COAST, JOYFULLY JEWISH EXPERIENCES

SEASON 9, EPISODE 23

PARSHAS SHEMINI 5785



DVAR TORAH

DON'T PIG IN

Hare we go!

I suppose that works with only one of the unique animals the Torah describes in this week's Parsha, which have only one kosher sign and therefore are not considered edible. It would be extremely awkward to say, "Hyrax we go!" Although now that I think of it, I suppose it has a certain ring to it.

All kosher mammals have two distinguishing characteristics (no, no, not disgusting; distinguishing). Their tummies do four part harmony, and their little piggies (i.e. their toes) are hooves that are completely split. There are a bunch of kosher animals, a load of unkosher animals and 4 of what I'd like to call funkosher animals. Not that they're fun and kosher, mind you-they're neither-but they're unkosher in a fun way. You see, these four animals have only one of the kosher signs. Three of themthe camel, hyrax and hare-chew

CONTINUED ▼

You can sponsor a week of Nageela Shabbos in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.

Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!



Deep Thoughts

If you tell someone to be a leader and not a follower, and they listen to you... does that make them a leader or a follower?



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DVAR TORAH

CONTINUED

their cud but have the wrong type of toesies. The fourth is the pig, which has hooves that are just right (in line with the little piggies reference), but whose stomach is so very wrong.

The Midrash tells us that these four animals are actually similar to 4 nations who have previously exiled or abused the Jewish people; Babylonia, Persia, Greece and Rome. Interestingly, the first three nations on the list are all overtly idolatrous and immoral societies. They, much like the camel, hyrax and hare, externally show their corruption with their very public hooflessness. I mean, a camel could never have pulled off the whole Cinderella, glass slipper thing.

The pig, though... different story. Oy, the pig. As Jews measure our nation's history, we're currently in the exile of Rome, meaning, we still haven't fully come back to Israel from the time the Romans booted us out of our homeland and torched our holy city. Beyond that, the world's culture, particularly Western culture, is quite based on the Roman empire. The Roman empire and western culture make a show of being, well, cultured. The ancient world may have been a place of idolatry and immorality, but the modern world is a place of superficial goodness. It presents itself as kind, moral and principled. Yet, as the pig, it's just a show. Deep in its belly, it's seething with corruption.

So if the lesson is not to be like the superficial external show of a pig, I guess we can say, "Don't pig out."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Have a great answer? Send it in to dlocker@nageelawest.org What did Aaron's sons actually do wrong? All they wanted was to bring a sacrifice. Isn't that a good thing? I know they weren't COMMANDED to, but neither was Abel, or Noah, etc.





Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to veteran Nageela staff member Geula David on her engagement to Avrumi Weiss



Question of the Week

What two unkosher birds, listed in this week's parsha, are also mentioned in other places in the Torah?



LOLZ

What's the one thing in life you can always count on?

A calculator



DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



85

DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION



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UMMM, UNUSUAL WAY, WITH A
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Wrong Answers Only

We asked the following question to some of our groups:

"What is one Passover tradition you'd like to carry through to the year?"

- Covering the entire kitchen with aluminum foil every single week
- Eating marror
- Eating matzah (hey, I like matzah!)
- 6 hour-long meals
- Macaroons
- Having to search for bread every othrer night



Answer of the Week

The raven is unkosher, but is mentioned regarding Noah. Noah sent a raven to test if the land had dried. The eagle is mentioned several places in the Torah, for example, God promising (Deuteronomy 32:11) protection like that of an eagle protecting its young.





a brief summary of the weekly Torah porshon

PARSHAS SHEMINI

GOD IS INCENSED... AND WE GET THE LIMITED MENU

- There was a seven day period of mishkan dress rehearsals, with Moses acting as the chief Kohein, but it didn't really count.
- On the eighth day, it was game time! But two of Aaron's sons bring smoky incense without being commanded. God gets incensed. They get fired. Literally.
- After this unfortunate incident, the Kohanim are instructed how to properly respect the Mishkan, like not drinking alcohol or sticking gum under the seats.
- We get instructions about what animals we may and may not ingest. It's serious, not in jest.
- There are signs to tell what mammals are kosher. I don't mean OU and Star-K. They need split hooves and to chew their cud.
- Fish have two signs as well. Spins and Flails. I mean Skins and Fails. Errr, that was a fail. Fins and scales. I'm finished. Finfished. Farflished?
- Birds don't have signs listed, rather a long list of unkosher birds is provided. I'd tell you what they all are, but I'm chicken.



GENERATED AND SUBMITTED BY MATANYA NAIMAN, RAMAT BEIT SHEMESH, ISRAEL

Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

The calculator with the number 49 represents the counting of the omer. He's holding a smoking pan of incense, representing the pan of incense that Aron's two sons brought inappropriately. Nearby are several animals listed in the parsha as being unkosher because of the lack of two signs.



NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NA-NAGEELA



How much do you love being Jewish?





MYSTERY ACTIVITY

JOIN US THIS WEDNESDAY EVENING IN LOS ANGELES' NCSY OFFICE FOR AN EXCITING MYSTERY PROGRAM WITH FOOD AND FUN!



Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to Nageela LEGEND Elie Gross on celebrating his Bar Mitzvah this week!

ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Coming Soon

Join us for a game changing campaign to take Camp Nageela West to the next level of helping Jewish kids, one at a time to live and love Judaism!

HAVE A FUN IDEA FOR OUR NEXT PICHLE JEWS COMIC, LOLZ OR DEEP THOUGHTS?

Please share it with us! dlocker@nageelawest.org

We hope you had a wonderful Pesach!

Happy Birthdays!

Anne Musser
Alex Sefia
Daniel Lerner
Elimelech Gross
Natan Goldman

Raven Katz Calev Knopf Matthew Lewis BZ Locker Marygrace Bower Bertha Cohen DK Niman Jacob Bashkin Shade Mazkin



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication of Nageela West Coast, Joyfully Jewish Experiences.





