

# DVAR

#### **MOMENTOUS**

It's finally here! The day we've all been waiting for!

Many Jewish sources describe the incredible scene that will occur when our Holy Temple is rebuilt. You see, our first Holy Temple in Jerusalem was commissioned by King Solomon, and the second by Ezra, Nechemia and Zerubavel and then refurbished by Herod. The third temple though... That will be built by...

#### Nobody.

Tradition states that the third Beis Hamikdash will descend from heaven fully built. So imagine this scene with me. A miraculous event, a gigantic glowing building floating down from the sky. What is everyone doing? Looking for their phones, opening the camera app or social media and filming the amazing event. Everyone will be filming it and few people will be living it.



### Deep Thoughts

Do invisible people see through their eyelids?



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#### **CONTINUED**

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Help us reach more Jewish kids with interesting Torah content!

## DVAR

#### **CONTINUED**

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People witness the birth of their children, the graduations of family members, weddings of close friends, through the lens of a camera, and through the lens 'trying to capture a moment for later' without experiencing the moment for now.

In the Torah portion of Massei, the Torah describes the rest stops taken by the Jewish people as they traveled the desert for 40 years. There are 42 stops in all; yes, I know, 42. Good number! I feel like my family would have needed significantly more stops than that. At first glance it looks like the Torah is just writing a travel blog, a biblical scrapbook of our lonning vacation. "Hey remember that great Italian restaurant we went to in at Kadesh? Or maybe the manna just tasted like Italian. Was there pineapple on that pizza? Look, I kept a piece of dried palm branch to remember our visit to Eilim. Here's a selfie from the Battle of Refidim- see, you can catch a glimpse of Moses sitting on a rock." Yet if you look at the stops more deeply you'll see that this is no scrapbook.

The locations listed were not the actual names of those locations. They primarily refer to the important events that occurred in those

places.

The actual experiences of the 40 year journey

were significant, and these experiences were lived and grown from. Think about it. When an important event occurs in your life, would you rather be fully present, live and grow from it, and hopefully remember those feelings, or would you prefer tyo only half experience it through the screen of your phone and keep remembering those half experiences?

This is one of the beauties of Shabbat, which encourages us to be fully in the moment. Try it out. Fully immerse yourself in the now, experience life to its fullest and see if your memories are richer and more meaningful. Your scrap book will be less scrappy.



# Question of the Week

Who is the only person whose date they died is mentioned in the Torah?







a brief summary of the weekly Torah porshon

#### PARSHAS MATOS AND MASSEI

#### ROAD TRIP!

- "I solemnly swear I am up to no good" is no good. The Torah gives us instructions about keeping our oaths (spoiler alert, you should keep your word) and who and when an oath can be undone
- Near the end of Moses' life, he is commanded to go to wart against the nation of Midian. Wait, that's not right. No commandments for warts. They went to war. Sorry, my bad.
- BBB is killed (Big Bad Billam)
- The defeated Midian army must've like cooking, because they had a whole bunch of pots which shockingly were not kosher. The Jews are given instructions of how to make cooking utensils kosher.
- Before the Jews enter Israel, the tribes of Reuven, Gad and half the tribe of Menashe decide they want to stay in the suburbs outside of Israel. Moses allows this on the condition they would join the war effort and only return to the burbs after Cannoning the Cannanites.
- We recall the 42 rest stops our ancestors took while in the desert, and which ones had Starbucks onsite.

We are given the borders of Israel, including several special cities;

> 48 for the Levites to live in and 6 refuge cities. What are refuge cities you might ask?

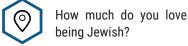
- If someone is careless and due to that carelessness another person dies, it's tricky to figure out what to do with that person. It's a very serious offense, of course, but also they didn't mean it. We send that person to a special city where they live in exile, but in safety.
- Most of the time, sons inherit their parents' property. However, the Torah instructs us that if there are only daughters in the family, then they inherit instead.







NA-NA-NAGEELA



### **QUICK FIX**

WHY DO WE EVEN CARE WHERE THE JEWISH PEO-PLE STOPPED ON THE WAY? TORAH WHICH IS SOOO CAREFUL ABOUT NOT ADDING EXTRA WORDS OR LETTERS (UNLIKE ME, ME, ME, ME, MEEEE) DETAILS 42 STOPS! WHEN YOU LOVE AND CARE ABOUT SOMEONE, THE **EVERY MOMENT YOU SPEND WITH THEM IS SPE-**IF A DAD AND A KID CIAL AND MEMORABLE. ARE TAKING A ROAD TRIP TOGETHER. JUST THE TWO OF THEM, THE KID WILL PROBABLY REMEM-BER ALL THE LITTLE DETAILS. WE GOT SLUSHEES AT THAT ONE REST STOP? AND THEN WE GOT A FLAT TIRE, AND HAD TO WAIT FOR A TOW TRUCK? AND THEN THERE WAS TRAFFIC SO WE PLAYED, I SPY..." GOD FEELS THAT WAY ABOUT US, AND SO HE REMEMBERS EVERY DETAILS OF OUR 'TRIP' TO-**GETHER AND WANTS US TO KNOW THAT!** 



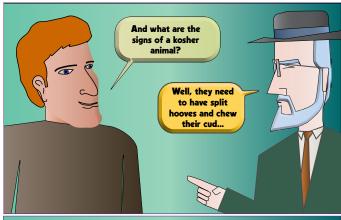
### Answer of the Week

Aaron the brother of Moses, passed away on the first day of the fifth month, which happens to also be the date of this Shabbos in 2025.



COMIC STRIP









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