

HAVE A NAGEELA SHABBOS

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

.....
SEASON 9, EPISODE 36
.....

PARSHAS SHOFTIM 5785

Torat Scene-A-Eye

*This features an AI generated picture that has numerous hints to the weekly parsha.
This week's is about Parshas Shoftim*



Disclaimer: These AI generated images are NOT meant to portray actual people or events from the Torah. They are simply hints to get you thinking.

WHAT'S UP?

STUFF IS HAPPENING

-
- Believe it or not... nah, I can't tell you.
- Should I tell you? Hmmmmm.
- Well I can't tell you now, but there will be an online info session on Sunday when we will be officially announcing this summer's plans! Even better, camp registration will begin MONDAY, and the incentives for signing up in the first 24 hours are significant, so please join Sunday's session (see details on the flyer, page 2).
- West Coast Jewnior NCSY has begun with our soft start last Monday, and we're getting geared up for an amazing, smashing kickoff event at City National Arena this Tuesday evening! If you know any Jewish kids in Vegas who could use more Jewish awesomess, send them to this event! Details on page 5.
- Phoenix and Utah JR NCSY are getting started later this month. Stay tuned!

*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

.....
***A password is basically
a secret handshake
with your computer***



JOIN US!

.....
***We have programs for Middle
School kids from all over the
West Coast. Please contact us for
details!***



***Mazel Tov to Evan
Markowitz who
celebrated his Bar
Mitzvah this past week!***



ANSWER ON PAGE 7

Question of the Week

.....
***How is it possible in
Torah law for someone to
get the death penalty for
speaking 'motze shem ra'
(slander)?***

JUDGES NEED TO BE HONEST.
IF YOU'RE A JUDGE, DON'T TAKE A BRIBE.
THAT MAKES SENSE, RIGHT?

02

FUNNY GRAMMAR ALERT:
WHY DOES THE TORAH SAY 'WISE MEN' INSTEAD OF THE SINGULAR, 'WISE MAN'?
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A RULE FOR INDIVIDUAL JUDGES!

04

OUR DECISIONS ARE OF COURSE AFFECTED BY THE THINGS WE WANT, THAT 'BRIBE' US.
BUT EVEN IF WE DON'T HAVE BIAS, WE ARE DEF EFFECTED BY THE BIASES AND INTERESTS OF PPL AROUND US, AND THE MEDIA WE SEE.
LET'S TAKE CARE WHO WE LISTEN TO, AND THINK CLEARLY!

01

AFTER ALL, YOU CAN'T REALLY BE HONEST IF YOU GET A BRIBE. THE TORAH SAYS A BRIBE WILL 'BLIND THE EYES OF WISE MEN.' EVEN OF YOU'RE TRYING TO BE HONEST, YOU CAN'T RELY ON BEING IMPARTIAL.

03

EVEN IF ONE JUDGE IS BRIBED, IT CAN AFFECT ALL THE JUDGES ON THE CASE. HE WILL ARGUE DIFFERENTLY AND THE OTHER JUDGES MAY BE INFLUENCED! THIS DOESN'T ONLY APPLY TO ACTUAL JUDGES.

05

VISUAL TORAH BLAST

SHOFTIM

Hang with us

Camp Nageela West Summer '26 Announcements and Info Session

Sunday, August 31
12pm Pacific Time

ZOOM ID: 580 485 3200
Passcode: NAGEELA

Double referral credit

Guaranteed lowest price of the season

Deals and discounts

Dates and rates

LAS VEGAS

JEWNIOR NCSY CALENDAR 2025-2026

- Sep 02** Skating Kickoff
City National Arena
- Oct 11** Sukkah Sleepover
Campout under the stars & schach
- Oct 19** Summer Info Night
Learn about all our amazing summer opportunities
- Nov 7-9** ADVENTURE SHABBATON
Alamo, NV
- Dec 5-7** SKI Weekend
Utah
- Feb 13-16** Jewnior Regional
California
Extended Shabbat experience with Jewniors from six states
- April 17-19** AZ District Shabbaton
Tucson
- May 24** Summer Sendoff
End the year with a bang!

FUNLY FIRSTLY
Fun Days, the first Sunday or Monday of the month:
Monday Nov 3- Laser Tag
Monday Dec 1- Bowling
Monday Jan 5- Flipn Out
Sunday Feb 1- Ski Day
Sunday March 1- Glow Party
Monday April 13- Roller Skating
Monday May 4- Sports Day
Monday June 1- Ice Cream Party

Weekly Programs:
Sunday 10am Hebrew School
Monday 5pm Tween Night (grades 4-6)
Monday 6pm Teen Night (grades 7-8)
Thursday 8:15pm Scholars Study (boys)

Look out for...
Giving Days- Fundraising Drive March 8-9
Our Board run Instagram account @lv.jewniors
Sticker Drop Days
ZOOM classes
Monthly Challenges and other info at westcoastncsy.org/jewniors.

Director Info - Rabbi Dani Locker
917-613-1037 lockerd@ncsy.org

WEST COAST NCSY
Inspiring the Jewish Future



Instagram: @nageelawest
X: @nageelawest



info@nageelawest.org
www.nageelawest.org



801-613-1539

PARSHAL PARSHA

a brief summary of the weekly
Torah porshon

PARSHAS SHOFTIM

LAW AND ORDER REIGN

- • • • •
- Build basketball courts. Or some kind of courts... We're supposed to set up court systems and officers to enforce those laws
- Judges must be very careful not to be corrupt, accept bribery or display favoritism
- If a Jew or a group of Jews strays far from the right path and worships other gods, they may be liable for the death penalty
- 2 or 3 witnesses are required for any capital punishment. Wanna know if cameras are good enough? Check out Nageela Shabbos Season 9, Episode 28
- The Rabbis who are right should not be left, and the Rabbis who are left are all right. The Rabbis who write are probably also right. What I'm tryin to say is follow what the Rabbis say, without veering to the right or the other right
- Although there would be a time when the Jewish nation should appoint a king, that king is still subject to certain rules. He shouldn't have too many horses, too many wives, he must keep a Torah scroll with him, and he must be Jewish
- There's a disagreement whether he carried a full (but small) Torah, just one that contained the Ten Statements (which have 613 words, apparently) or a summary of the commandments
- The tribe of Levi would not get any farmland in Israel. The Jewish people would need to support the tribe with gifts so they could be the spiritual guides
- Jews love a profit. And a prophet. But not a false one. If someone claims to be a prophet but their predictions don't come true, don't listen to them
- You know how when you play tag, there's a base where you're safe? Cities were set up as a kind of base if anyone killed accidentally. While in these cities, relatives of the victim could not take revenge. Roads and good signage were also set up to make sure it was easy to reach these locations. There was even a separate 'accidental killer' setting on Waze
- Instructions are given on how to mustard... That means to gather an army to fight. [what? Did I get the wrong word? Well that's embarrassing]. Instructions are given on how to custard a Jewish army to fight [WHAAAT?]. When a Jewish army goes to war, they first dismiss any soldiers who have reasons to be home (like they just got married, or just got a new XBOX that they haven't used yet) or who might be afraid
- When Jews go to war, we offer peace first, before we offer pieces
- In one of the more unusual commandments in the Torah, we're given instructions on what to do if someone is found dead in between two cities, and it isn't clear who is responsible. It involves a cow, an axe, and some elders. I won't go into details



Torat Scene-A-Eye Explained

Some of the highlights of this week's portion are represented here.

On the top row:

There's a judge in the top left, holding a gavel, then an asheira tree, and a stern-faced, impartial judge. The guy pointing to a crown represents a King needing to follow God's law.

Second row is animal sacrifices, false prophet worshipping a star, and a warrior for the laws of war. On the bottom, tablets represent Sanhedrin, paths to the cities of refuge and a beheaded calf for the eglu arufa.



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



How much do you love
being Jewish?

STUMP THE RABBI

StumptheRabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to stump@nageelawest.org

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

..... OPT IN

A BRAND SPANKING NEW STUMP, MANUFACTURED IN NEVADA

Hi Rabbi,

I've always heard that Abraham is considered the first Jew. If that's the case, why isn't Ishmael Jewish? What about Esau? If Abraham was Jewish, then shouldn't Arabs and Romans be Jewish, too?

Thanks,
Olivia Green

.....

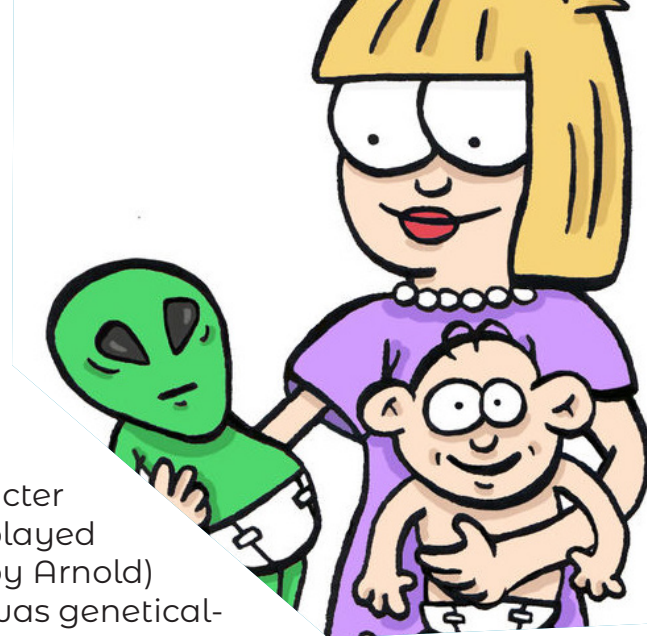
Dear OG,

I've often had the same question. Let me add one layer of complication. Aside from your question about Esau and Ishmael, there are Talmudic sources that discuss Mount Sinai (400 years after the birth of Isaac) as the moment we became a nation. So when did it really happen, who are the first Jews and what happened to everyone else?

You may notice that we are called the Children of Israel, another name for Jacob, rather than 'Children of Abraham.' Let's break it down. Years ago, there was a movie called Twins, where Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danni DeVito were the results of a scientific experiment. One baby (who turned out to be the incredibly fit, intelligent and well-mannered char-

acter played by Arnold) was genetically altered to have every good gene and trait. The unintended side effect was a second child (who turned out to be the slimy, unfit, uneducated and generally unsavory character played by Danny) who had every negative gene and trait.

The great Jewish thinkers talk about our first families in a similar way. Abraham had a massively holy spark inside him, yet there were still imperfections (genetic fallout from Adam and Eve, Terach and others) inside him that had to be bred out. When he had his sons, the spiritual greatness was absorbed by Isaac (as the one who came from Sarah as well as Abraham) and the Devito-style impurities went to Ishmael and the others. Isaac started with a great deal of purity, but there was still a perfection process that had to be completed. The imperfections there went to Esau and the holiness to Jacob. Only Jacob, born with this heightened level of perfection was able to be the true spiritual father of the Jewish people. If that was a little too mystical for you, here's a simpler way of looking at it: Judaism at the time of Abraham was a start-up. It was a great product, but there were no binding contracts. There was a process



CONTINUED ▼



COMING SOON
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST GIRLS SESSION



COMING SOON
DAYS TILL NAGEELA WEST BOYS SESSION

of buying into the company, little by little. Abraham founded the company, but in order for a child of Abraham or Isaac to be considered a part of the team, they had to opt in. Isaac opted in and Jacob opted in, while Ishmael, Esau and co. went their own merry way. Jacob was the first genuine CEO, and all his children automatically were born into the company. Even then, it wasn't completely done. At Mount Sinai, we actually entered into a contractual agreement with God, got it notarized, and filed in triplicate.

Either way, know that you are part of a long, beautiful chain of people choosing God over the distractions of the world. If you choose that as well, then you, too, are an OG.

Have-a Nageela Shabbos

The Rabbi

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS RISKING THEIR LIVES TO FIGHT FOR OUR SAFETY

THE RETURN OF SELFIE TORAH...
WHAT DID I FIND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GRAND CANYON?

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EVERY FRIDAY?**
EMAIL US TO SUBSCRIBE.... TOTALLY FREE!



**Selfie Torah
#172**

**The
Mystery
CAT**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Cities of Refuge were 6 cities that were set aside in the Jewish settlement of Israel as a place of exile. If a person killed unintentionally (but carelessly), they wouldn't be given the death penalty or a life prison sentence, rather they'd run to one of these cities and live there, sometimes for the rest of their lives, unable to return home.

The Midrash says that three more refuge cities will be established when we return to Israel in the Messianic

era.

Considering that Moshiach time will be one of great peace, knowledge and goodness, when nobody will commit crimes, why will it be necessary to have these cities?

I have three possible answers. What can you come up with?

Tell me in person or email your answer to locker@ncsy.org for your chance to win a prize!

PICKLE JEWS



LAS VEGAS JEWNIOR NCSY

KICKOFF PARTY!

Skating + Pizza

🕒 TUES, SEPT 2,
7:00-9:00

📍 CITY NATIONAL ARENA
1550 S PAVILION CENTER

★ \$15 IN ADVANCE
\$20 DAY OF

☎ LOCKERD@NCSY.ORG
917.613.1037

4-8 GRADERS INVITED | PRIZES & MERCH | BRING A NEW FRIEND AND GET A \$10 STARBUCKS GIFT CARD!

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CAST, AVAILABLE ON ALL MAJOR PLATFORMS





Park City JSU & NCSY
invite all Jewish teens to

KICKOFF IN THE PARK

Meet up with Jewish teens for sports,
BBQ dinner, cold drinks and great
vibes!

Sunday, Sept 28 | 5PM - 8PM

WILLOW CREEK PARK
4460 Split Rail Ln, Park City

RSVP appreciated but not required

917.613.1037
locker@ncsy.org

JSU
JEWISH STUDENT UNION

PARK CITY



QUESTION ON PAGE 1

Answer of the Week

.....

There is a law called 'eidim zomemim,' which means that if a witness testifies in court against another, and then two new witnesses confirm that the original witness was lying because he couldn't have seen what he claims, the penalty is that he receives the punishment he was attempting to force upon the victim. If his testimony might have resulted in a death penalty, then that witness can be executed!



LOLZ

.....

I love telling Dad jokes...

Sometimes he even laughs.



Happy Birthdays!

Noah Elgerabli
Tehilla Ben Shimon
Yaniv Ben-Shimon
Nochi Locker
Royce Rozea

Yoni Stein
Yosef Cassell
Jesse Eng



Nageela Shabbos is a weekly publication
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