

פרשת תולדות Questions

1. Which town in א"י gets its name from a well? [See just before רביעי]
2. Which area of ירושלים gets its name from the פרשה?
3. What food features in this week's פרשה? [2 answers]
4. Which 'desired clothes' feature in this week's פרשה?
5. What smell features in this week's פרשה?
6. Which two bits of the פרשה are said on מוצאי שבת?
7. 'Kid instead of deer.' What am I talking about?
8. 'Dung rather than gold and silver.' Whose dung? Whose gold and silver?
9. [Hard] 'Not clothes but traitors.' What was the traitor's first name?
10. Which two leaders of their people are mentioned in Rashi near the start of the פרשה?
11. What 'sharp' word is there in the פרשה?
12. How many words can you find in the פרשה which are the names of other פרשיות?
13. A 3-word פסוק in the פרשה. [Is this the shortest in the תורה?]
14. How many episodes of ברכות are there in the פרשה?
15. Where do we find a word which is תרי"ג plus one in the פרשה?
16. Can you give the literal meaning of this word [which is the answer to the last question]?
17. A commentary on some sections of ערוך שלחן which gets its name from the הפטרה.
18. A popular name for a boys' חדר from the הפטרה. Also, a phrase in a very well-known ברכה said every day.
19. What has the קריאה this שבת in common with the קריאה on שבת הגדול?
20. How many years does our פרשה cover?
21. Who was older at birth, יעקב or עשו?

פרשת תולדות Answers

1. רחובות
2. שלישי [See just before שערים]
3. Lentils; goat's meat
4. The 'desired clothes' which belonged to עשו and יעקב wore when getting the ברכות. [כ'ז ט"ז רש"י].
5. The smell of these clothes.
6. [שביעי ששי and just before] ויתן לך וקל שקי
7. The kid's meat of יעקב instead of the deer meat of עשו.
8. Rather the dung of the mules of יצחק that the gold and silver of אבימלך. See כ"ו י"ג on רש"י.
9. He was the Jewish traitor who died at the hands of the Romans when he refused to enter the קדש קדשים a second time. About him the גמרא [ברכות נ"ז:] comments on the word 'בגדיו':
"ריח בגדיו, אל תקרי 'בגדיו' אלא 'בוגדיו', שאפילו בוגדים שביך מליאים מצות כרימון"
10. Rebbe and Antotinus. See כ"ה כ"ג on רש"י.
11. כ'ז ג on רש"י. 'שא נא כליך' in 'שא' means 'sharpen'.
12. [כ"ה כ"ה] ויצא [כ"ה כ"ו] ויקרא [כ"ו א] וילך [כ"ו ב] וירא [כ"ו ה] עקב [כ"ו ו] וישב [כ"ו ח] אחרי מות [כ"ז כ"ב] ויגש [כ"ז כ"ז] ראה [כ"ח ה]
13. No as [ויגש] חָשִׁים [ויגש] is shorter in letters. [If you count each דבור in עשרת הדברות as a separate פסוק, three of them are only two words.]
14. At least 4. 'ה' appeared to יצחק on two occasions, and both times He said He would bless him. יצחק blessed both יעקב and עשו. יעקב blessed יצחק again before he left for ארם. [According to ספורנו the phrase ויברכהו [כ"ז כ"ג] is a separate ברכה.
15. כ"ז מ in תריד. [This hints to the idea that adding on to the מצות is casting off the yoke of 'ה' just as much as subtracting from them; so the פסוק means: when you make תריד out of תרי"ג, you are casting off His yoke.]
16. Rashi: when you are in distress.
17. 'ש"ך' at the end of the הפטרה gives us the famous commentary of the שפתי כהן.
18. תורת אמת
19. Both הפטרות are from מלאכי ספר.
20. 83. It starts with the marriage of יצחק to רבקה when he was 40, and ends with the departure of יעקב on his way to חרן when יעקב was 63 [and יצחק was 123, as he was 60 years older than יעקב]. See רש"י on the last פסוק in the פרשה.
21. Neither; they were both exactly zero at birth, as everyone is.