



1. Read this פסוק:

ג' איש כי ידור נדר לה' או השבע שבועה לאסור אסר על-נפשו לא יחל דברו ככל-היצא מפיו יעשה:

"If a man makes a vow to ה' or takes an oath to bring a prohibition upon himself, he shall not break his word; according to whatever comes from his mouth he shall do."

What is the difference between making a נדר and taking a שבועה?

2. a) How many men from each of the שבטים went to war against the מדינים?

b) How many men did that make all together?

c) Who went with, who had started the war against the מדינים by killing זמרי and כוזבי (which act had ended the plague against the בני ישראל caused by the מדינים)? (Look this up!)

3. What laws did אלקיזר הכהן teach to the people after the war against מדין?

4. To which שבטים did משה promise land on the eastern side of the ירדן after the conquering of ירדן?



5. At the beginning of this פרשה the תורה lists all of the encampments of בני ישראל during their 40 years in the מדבר. How many are listed in all?

6. Why do many בתי כנסת read right through all of the places without a break?

7. What were the six ערי מקלט for?

8. Where were they?

9. Until when would a person stay there?

10. What were the fathers of שבט מנשה worried about?

Answers:

1. A נדר changes the status of the object, for example: "this apple is forbidden to me."

The apple is now a forbidden food to me. A שבועה obligates the person, for example: if I have sworn to eat an apple there is a new obligation upon me, but the apple has not changed.

2. a) 1,000 b) 12,000

3. He taught: the laws of
a) kashering, with fire, metal utensils in which non-kosher foods had been cooked, and
b) purifying vessels, either with ashes from the פרה אדמה or in a מקוה.

4. ג' and half of שבט מנשה.

* * *

5. 42

6. This is because the 42 journeys refer to the special 42 Letter Name of ה'.

7. These were cities of refuge for someone who had killed a person unintentionally.

8. Three on each side of the ירדן.

9. Until the death of the גדול.

10. They were worried that women who had inherited land from their father might marry into another שבט, causing their land to leave their father's tribe.

חוק חזק ונתחזק!