

# Parsha Re'eh Q&A

Twenty questions, every answer from Rashi

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**1. The parsha begins with a bracha and a klala. Where were they said?**

On Har Gerizim and Har Eival. (Rashi 11:26, ברכה וקללה ... ראה אנכי)

**2. The pasuk gives directions to “Eilonei Moreh.” What place is that?**

Shechem. (Rashi 11:30, אלוני מרה)

**3. How do we “destroy the name” of an avodah zarah?**

By giving it an insulting nickname — what they call “the exalted house,” you call “the dug-out house”; what they call “the all-seeing eye,” you call “the thorn eye.” (Rashi 12:3, ואבדתם את שמם)

**4. The pasuk says they had not yet come to “the resting place” or “the inheritance.” What are those two places?**

The resting place is Shiloh; the inheritance is Yerushalayim. (Rashi 12:9, אל המנוחה)

**5. Why does the pasuk about wanting to eat meat start with “when Hashem widens your border”?**

The Torah is teaching derech erez — a person shouldn't crave meat unless he has plenty and can afford it. (Rashi 12:20, כי ירחיב)

**6. “Keep all these words” — what does the word “all” add?**

That an easy mitzvah should be as precious to you as a hard one. (Rashi 12:28, את כל הדברים)

**7. The pasuk says to do what is “good and proper.” Good and proper in whose eyes?**

Good in the eyes of Heaven, and proper in the eyes of people. (Rashi 12:28, הטוב ... והישר)

**8. The pasuk says “this is the beheimah” and then lists deer and gazelle, which are wild. What do we learn from that?**

That chayah is included in the word beheimah. We also learn that the non-kosher animals are more numerous than the kosher ones — the Torah always lists the smaller group. (Rashi 14:5, זאת הבהמה, איל וצבי ויחמור)

**9. Why does the Torah list one bird under three different names — ra'ah, ayah, and dayah?**

So nobody could argue and say “this one is called dayah, and the Torah only forbade the ra'ah.” And with birds the Torah lists the non-kosher ones, which teaches that the kosher birds are the bigger group. (Rashi 14:13, הראה האיה)

**10. What is a dukifas?**

A wild rooster, with a double crest on its head. (Rashi 14:18, דוכיפת)

**11. Why does “you shall surely tithe” come right after “don't cook a kid in its mother's milk”?**

Hashem said: don't make Me cook the young kernels of grain while they are still inside their mother — if you don't take maaser properly, an east wind comes and dries them out just as they are ripening. (Rashi 14:22, לא תבשל גדי ... עשר תעשר)

**12. One pasuk says there will be no poor person among you, and another says the poor will never stop. Which is it?**

When you do Hashem's will, the poor are among others and not among you. When you don't, the poor are among you. (Rashi 15:4, **אפס כי לא יהיה בך אביון**)

**13. Why does the pasuk say both “don't harden your heart” and “don't close your hand”?**

There are people who agonize over whether to give or not — for them, “don't harden your heart.” And there are people who stretch out their hand and then close it — for them, “don't close your hand.” (Rashi 15:7, **לא האמץ**)

**14. What happens to someone who doesn't give to a poor person?**

In the end he becomes the brother of a poor man himself. (Rashi 15:7, **מאחיד האביון**)

**15. How much do you have to give a poor person?**

Enough for what he is missing — even a horse to ride on and a servant to run in front of him, if that is what he is used to. But you are not obligated to make him rich. (Rashi 15:8, **די מחסורו ... אשר יחסר לו**)

**16. Do you get reward just for saying you will give tzedakah?**

Yes — you get the reward for saying it along with the reward for doing it. (Rashi 15:10, **כי בגלל הדבר**)

**17. What does “guard the month of aviv” mean we have to watch for?**

Before Nissan arrives, make sure it will be fit for the aviv — ripe barley for the korban haOmer. If not, make the year a leap year. (Rashi 16:1, **שמור את חדש האביב**)

**18. The pasuk says Hashem took us out of Mitzrayim at night — but we left in the daytime. How does that fit?**

It was at night that Paroh gave them permission to go. (Rashi 16:1, **ממצרים לילה**)

**19. Who are Hashem's “four” on Yom Tov?**

The Levi, the ger, the yasom, and the almanah — four of Hashem's against your four: your son, your daughter, your servant, and your maidservant. Hashem says: if you make Mine happy, I will make yours happy. (Rashi 16:11, **לוי גר יתום ואלמנה**)

**20. What do we learn from “when you gather in from your threshing floor and your winepress”?**

That we cover the sukkah with schach from the leftovers of the threshing floor and the winepress. (Rashi 16:13, **באספך**)