



Parshas Vayeira Challenge

Twenty questions — every answer from Rashi

How to play: Take turns reading a question aloud. Everyone guesses, then turn over to check.

THE VISITORS

- 1** Avraham was recovering from his bris. On which day did Hashem come to visit him?
- 2** Why did three angels come to Avraham instead of just one?
- 3** How many calves did Avraham prepare for his three guests?
- 4** The angels already knew where Sarah was. Why did they ask Avraham about her?

SODOM AND LOT

- 5** Before judging Sodom, Hashem “went down to see.” What does that teach judges?
- 6** Avraham asked Hashem to save the cities for fifty tzaddikim. How many per city?
- 7** What job did the people of Sodom give Lot on the very day the angels came?
- 8** Lot baked matzos for his guests. Which Yom Tov was it?
- 9** Who was punished first in Sodom, the young or the old?
- 10** Lot’s wife turned into a pillar of salt. How did salt get her into trouble?

AVRAHAM AND HIS FAMILY

- 11** Who stopped Avimelech from going near Sarah?
- 12** How did Avraham know exactly when Sarah would have her baby?
- 13** Avraham made a big party when Yitzchak was weaned. Which great people came?
- 14** Hashem told Avraham to listen to Sarah. In what way was she greater than he was?
- 15** After the guests he fed finished eating, what did Avraham tell them to do?

THE AKEIDAH

- 16** Hashem sent Avraham to “the land of Moriah.” Which city is that?
- 17** Did Hashem ever tell Avraham to slaughter Yitzchak?
- 18** On the third day, what did Avraham see that showed him the place from far away?
- 19** Avraham was on his way to offer up his son. How did he walk to the mountain?
- 20** The ram that Avraham found caught by its horns in a thicket — when was it prepared?

Turn over for the answers »

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Parshas Vayeira Challenge **ANSWERS**

THE VISITORS

- 1 The visit.** The third day after his bris. Hashem came to visit the sick and ask how he was. (Rashi 18:1, וירא אליו)
- 2 Three angels.** Each angel had one mission. One came to tell Sarah the news, one to overturn Sodom, and one to heal Avraham. (Rashi 18:2, והנה שלשה אנשים)
- 3 The calves.** Three calves, so he could feed them three tongues with mustard. (Rashi 18:7, בן בקר רך וטוב)
- 4 Asking about Sarah.** To show how modest she was, so that Avraham would love her even more. (Rashi 18:9, ויאמרו אליו)

SODOM AND LOT

- 5 Hashem goes down.** To decide only after seeing. A judge should not rule on a life-and-death case without seeing it first. (Rashi 18:21, ארדה נא)
- 6 Fifty tzaddikim.** Ten for each city, because there were five cities. (Rashi 18:24, אולי יש חמשים צדיקים)
- 7 Lot's new job.** He was made a judge. They appointed him that very day. (Rashi 19:1, ולוט ישב בשער סדום)
- 8 The matzos.** It was Pesach. (Rashi 19:3, ומצות אפה)
- 9 Punished first.** The young. They had started the sin first, so the punishment started with them. (Rashi 19:11, מקטן ועד גדול)
- 10 Lot's wife.** She sinned with salt and was punished with salt. She wouldn't give the guests any, and told Lot he was bringing a bad custom. (Rashi 19:26, ותהי נציב מלח)

AVRAHAM AND HIS FAMILY

- 11 Stopping Avimelech.** An angel held him back. Hashem told Avimelech, "I did not let you touch her." (Rashi 20:4, לא קרב אליה)
- 12 Knowing the date.** A mark on the wall. Avraham was told that when the sun reached it next year, Sarah would give birth. (Rashi 21:2, למועד אשר דבר אתו)
- 13 The big party.** Shem, Ever, and Avimelech. They were the greatest people of that generation. (Rashi 21:8, משתה גדול)
- 14 Listening to Sarah.** In nevuah. Compared to Sarah, Avraham was secondary in prophecy. (Rashi 21:12, שמע בקולה)
- 15 After the meal.** Bless Hashem. He asked, "Did you think you ate from my food? You ate from the One Who spoke and the world came to be." (Rashi 21:33, ויקרא שם וגו')

THE AKEIDAH

- 16 The land of Moriah.** Yerushalayim. The Beis Hamikdash was later built on Har HaMoriah. (Rashi 22:2, ארץ המוריה)
- 17 Slaughter him?** No. Hashem said only, "Bring him up," to make him an olah. Once he was up, Hashem said, "Bring him down." (Rashi 22:2, והעלהו)
- 18 The cloud.** A cloud tied to the mountain. (Rashi 22:4, וירא את המקום)
- 19 Walking together.** With willingness and joy, as happily as Yitzchak, who didn't yet realize what was happening. (Rashi 22:6, וילכו שניהם יחדו)
- 20 The ram.** Since the six days of Creation. It was prepared for exactly this. (Rashi 22:13, והנה איל)

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