

## CHUMASH NOTESRBH CHUMASH TEST 6

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Why give the background?

Because of the prophecy that Bnei Yisrael and Edom will be strangers a foreign land and then afterwards we will be able to live in Israel. Edom did not listen to this-they did not go to a foreign land (as opposed to Bnei Yisrael who went to Egypt) and therefore they don't have a right to be in the land of Israel.

Why add the word "voice"?

Because Bnei Yisrael's real strength is the voice of Jacob-our strength is spiritual as opposed to physical.

	Ramban	S'fornu
1 <sup>st</sup> Time asked	Kings Road means that we will not go into your fields and vineyards. We will not take your well water. We will go into public places (like cities).	The kings road is that on which the king's friends go on (they get an escort) so Bnei Yisrael is also getting an escort to make sure we don't conquer them.
Response	We are afraid that you are going to conquer us.	Edom responded that he [the king] has no control over his people and they might attack Bnei Yisrael b/c they have a bad temper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Time asked	We won't even go into your cities (we will not go into a population area). We will drink from the public rivers.	We will completely avoid people.

Random info: Hor Ha'har is a mountain on top of another mountain.

How can we still have mountains standing up if the holy cloud cut the tops off all the mountains?

Three mountains remained-Sinai, Hor Ha'har, and Har Nevo.

Why did it say that Bnei Yisrael was near Edom?

Because they started to form a connection with the Edomites, and this is why they lose Aaron.

What blessing did Aaron get?

He got to see his successor that was his son.

Why does it say all of Bnei Yisrael cried?

Both men and women mourned for Aaron because he was a "chaser of peace." He would resolve marital problems.

Why did the king attack Bnei Yisrael?

Because Aaron just died right now so the holy cloud departed so he thought that he can attack.

Why was taken by the Canaanites who attacked?

1. A single slave woman.
2. A single slave woman that we took from them.

Why did Hashem let them take this person?

Because we just sinned (had a connection with Edom).

Why does it say that Bnei Yisrael went back by the way of the Yam Soof?

The spies took this road.

Why did Bnei Yisrael get annoyed?

Because they are going back just like after the spies so they thought that their children would also sin and not be allowed into Israel.

What do fiery snakes mean?

Venomous snakes.

Why use the snake?

The snake represents Lashon harah- a few more answers are bellow in answers to other questions.

Why this specific punishment?

Because Hashem didn't do anything supernatural here-he was protecting Bnei Yisrael the whole time and he just let the snakes that he was blocking go. This is proven by the two meaning to the word שלח.

Why would looking at the copper snake be a good remedy to the snakes?

1. Bnei Yisrael forgot that Hashem was constantly protecting them from the harshness of the desert. Therefore, by looking at the copper snake, Bnei Yisrael will eternally remember that Hashem is protecting them.
2. Bnei Yisrael looked to see the snake which makes them look into the heavens which makes them think of Hashem.
3. There is no way to understand this, it's too high a level for us. (RBH said not to use this answers on the test, but, we did learn this is class)

4. To scare people into praying (like a father whips his child). They will always see the snake which scares the people.

#### What the "books of the battles of Hashem"?

1. People in those days used to write down great wars. They attributed the wars to Hashem. It's mentioned here to document that Sichon conquered Ammon and we conquered Sichon.
2. It's a book with miracles of the past written down in it. It's mentioned now because similar miracles happen here.

#### What are 4 examples of where Bnei Yisrael are unaware of miracles taking place?

1. Balack
2. The 2 mountains here.
3. The snakes that Hashem protected them from.

#### Why is Moshe afraid?

1. Moshe was afraid that Avraham's merit for Og would still stand.
2. Og's intentions were bad when he saved Abraham! Why would he have any merit? We only know now that Og's intentions were bad. Therefore, Moshe was fearful because he thought that Og's intention were good (in regards to Abraham).

#### Why was so significant about Bnei Yisrael defeating the Emorites?

Balak thought that no one could destroy Sichon (Emor) but Bnei Yisrael did-so now he fears them because of that.

#### What does each way of saying Bnei Yisrael mean?

<u>Way of saying it</u>	<u>Who said it</u>	<u>Why did they say it</u>
Yisrael	Balack	This refers to Jacob who defeated the Emorites back in his time. Balack was worried that if back then with such few people they defeated the Emorites, then it's worse because they have more numbers now.
Am (עם)	masses	This refers to the Erev Rav-and they're afraid of them because there are a lot of them.
Bnei Yisrael	Masses	The great people Bnei Yisrael deserved to throw out the "thorns" (Balack and his people) and take it for the people who deserve it (the great people).
Kahal (קהל)	Moab to Midian	Moab was trying to convince the Midianites to join them in their war against Bnei Yisrael. Kahal refers to Joseph who the Midianites sold to Potiphar in Egypt.

		They say that Bnei Yisrael will now take revenge on the people of Midain for selling him.
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Why would one think that Bilam has powers?

1. Balack goes to him
2. He converses with Hashem
3. Hashem needs to reverse his curses.

Why would I think he has no powers?

He doesn't seem to be a good guy.

Was he a prophet?

1. Yes, we had to give the non-Jews a prophet so that they cannot say that if they would have had a prophet they would've repented.
2. No, he could only predict the future and people thought he had power because he would see someone was going to go downhill and then fake curse them.
  - a. So why did Hashem have to reverse his curses?  
So people don't say that Bilam had control over Bnei Yisrael.
3. No-he wasn't worthy of having prophecy-it says Hashem came to Bilam instead of Bilam came to Hashem which means that he wasn't a prophet (like Avimelech and Lavan in Bereshit). He would only practice black magic.

What lesson does the donkey who spoke teach us?

To show Bilam that Hashem gave man the ability to speak and He can take it away. He can also control what you say (like in "Bruce Almighty")

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*These notes are not to be used to replace conventional studying. Some material may have been left out. Please double check.*