

Parashah 17 Yitro - יִתְרוֹ “Jethro”



Torah: Sh'mot (Exodus) 18:1-20:23

- Aliyah 1 - 18:1 - 12 Yitro brings Moshe's wife and sons; recognizes Adonai; offers sacrifice
- Aliyah 2 - 18:13 - 23 Yitro observes and advises Moshe on delegating leadership for the good of all
- Aliyah 3 - 18:24 - 27 Moshe implements Yitro's suggestions, Yitro departs.
- Aliyah 4 - 19:1 - 6 Israel sets up camp at Sinai; Moshe goes up the mountain; God offers covenant
- Aliyah 5 - 19:7 - 19 People accept, are separated to God, Adonai descends onto the mount
- Aliyah 6 - 19:20-20:14 God speaks the Ten Words to all the people
- Aliyah 7 - 20:15-23:26 People request Moshe mediate; idolatry forbidden; proper altar described

Haftarah: Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 6:1-7:6 (Messianic adaptation to 14); 9:5-6

B'rit Hadashah: Matthew 5:17-32, Hebrews 12:18-24

1. (18:1-6) Who is Yitro? Why does Yitro come to Moshe? Who does he bring with him? When did we last see Tziporah?

2. (18:23) How does Yitro present his advice to Moshe? (18:21) What three characteristics of leadership that he suggests? Why is this event described before the giving/receiving of Torah?

3. (19:1-6) What picture is painted in Aliyah 4? How has He proved his intentions? What is required of the people? To what is God calling his bride if she agrees?

4. (19:8-13) What is the brides answer? What were God's instructions? Why were these boundaries required?

5. (20:1-2) What is the first "commandment" of the Ten Commandments? How does this revelation end the speculation about "gods?"

6. (20:15(18)) What was the "thunder" that the people heard? Who heard it?

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7. The events of Acts 2 occurred during Shavuot/Pentecost. What was significant about the events in relation to the feast of Shavuot?

Questions for reflection and application:

1. (18:1) Have you heard about God's great works? What are you doing to follow after Him? (Exo 15:14-15, Jos 2:9-10, Isa 63:12-13, Act 7:36, 1Co 10:1-2, Heb 11:29, Mat 2:2, Isa 40:7-8, Mat 24:32-35)
2. (18:13) Do the people in authority over you enjoy their service? How do you view/treat them? (Jud 4:4-5, Deu 17:9, Pro 31:23, Mat 23:2-3, Heb 13:17, Isa 62:6, Acts 20:28, 1Th 5:12-13)
3. (18:25) Do you live a lifestyle of "valor?" (Exo 18:21, Rut 2:1, Rut 3:11, Psa 24:3-4, 1Ti 2:8-9, 1Ti 3:1-13, Tit 2:1-10)
4. (19:1) God courts Israel for 3 months before she accepts His proposal. Have you accepted His proposal to you? (Gen 2:24, Psa 45:10-11, 2Co 5:17, Mat 10:34-37, Exo 24:7, Son 2:10-13, Isa 55:1-3, Phi 3:7-9)
5. (19:7) Are you prepared to put God's Word before all the people He sends your way? (Mat 3:2, Mat 4:17, Mat 21:28-32, Luk 10:36, Luk 18:8, 2Ti 4:2, 1Pe 3:15)
6. (19:20) Are you comfortable with the physical manifestation of God? (Heb 1:1-2, Psa 40:6, Psa 16:10; Isa 42:1-9, 49:1-13, 50:4-9, 52:13-53:12; Luk 4:32, Mar 15:39, Rev 19:11-16, Neh 9:13-15, 1Jo 4:2-3)
7. (20:15) Have you had an experience and an encounter with God that you can never forget? (Isa 24:20, Joh 1:14, 1Jo 1:1, Heb 1:1-3, Luk 2:8-14, Mat 2:1-2, Act 2:1-4, Act 2:7-11, Act 4:19-22, Isa 66:18-19)