

B”H

DO YOU LIKE OUR PROJECT? DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS OR
ANOTHER PARSHA? SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS AT:
persnicketyfinicker@gmail.com

PRODUCTION FACILITATED BY A GRANT FROM ZACHARY LERNER

Edited and compiled by Avi Garelick, Zachary Lerner, and Rico Altman-Merino
Art by Abigail Teller



Q1: What is the relationship between peace and violence revealed by Pinchas?

Q2: Did Pinchas do what the Torah commands?

Q3: What is God's "pact of priesthood" which he grants to Pinchas? Isn't he already a priest?

Q4: When did one generation pass on to another? What portion of the forty years of wandering is represented in the narrative of Numbers?

Q5: In chapter 16, we learned of the dramatic deaths of Korach's entire household, but now in chapter 26 we discover that his sons survived. Is this contradictory? What do different biblical genres--narrative, genealogy--say differently about a remembered past?

Q6: Tzelofchad, according to his daughters, died of his own sins. Is this a part of their case, or incidental to it? Didn't everyone in that generation die of the sin of the collective?

Q7: Joshua's appointment as a successor to Moses seems to be a product of Moses' initiative, not God's. Did God expect the people to be without a leader? If so, why?

Q8: Why is this calendar of the communal offerings presented separately from the sacrificial system in Leviticus?

Q9: Every day of The Feast of Matzah requires an identical holiday sacrifice, while each Feast of Booths sacrifice is different--in particular, the number of bulls is reduced by one each day, from 13 to 7. What does that illuminate about the character of each holiday?

Q10: The particular formula for sacrificial calendar employed in this section is notably devoid of individual details of the various rituals and their meanings. Most holidays are not even called by name. What is being emphasized instead?

Q11: How much more wine did the altar drink on holidays than on the average day?