

Challenge

Your

Table

שבת קודש

# פרשת חקת-בלק

July 4, 2020

י"ב תמוז תש"פ



בס"ט

## Good Shabbos!

Welcome to **Challenge Your Table** - the Shabbos trivia game for the entire family!

### Here's how it works:

- Start at Section א.
- The leader asks a question to the first contestant.
- If he answers correctly, the table earns the point value of that question, and a new question is asked to the next contestant.
- If he does not know the answer, no worries! The next contestant can give it a shot.
- If the table earns 20 points by the end of the game, everyone wins!

Enjoy!

## Key Words

The leader announces the key word. Everyone else shouts out words that are associated with that word. A point is earned for each answer listed in parenthesis. Or try the reverse!

1. **cow** (red, חוק, עגל הזהב)
2. **donkey** (sword, hit, מלאך)
3. **בלעם** (bless, רשע, נביא)

1 point

## Quest for the Question

Here's the answer. You try to figure out the question!

1. **Q: ??? A: Because he touched a dead person.**  
Why did one have to go through the process of אדומה?
2. **Q: ??? A: On the 3rd and 7th day.**  
When did the הזאה of the אדומה take place?
3. **Q: ??? A: Because he was afraid בני ישראל would fight his people and win.** Why did בלק hire בלעם?
4. **Q: ??? A: Because he blessed the בני ישראל three times instead of cursing them.** Why did בלק get upset at בלעם?

2 points

## Questioning Initials

Figure out the question. Then answer it!

1. **W was B the way of the D?**  
What was blocking the way of the donkey? **Answer:** מלאך ה'
2. **H M T did בלעם B the בני ישראל?** How many times did Bilaam bless the Bnai Yisroel? **Answer:** 3
3. **W made H happy at the end of the P?**  
Who made Hashem happy at the end of the parsha?  
**Answer:** פנחס
4. **H did B D?** How did Bilaam die?  
**Answer:** He was killed by a sword.

2 points

## Broken Telephone

Try to pass this message around the room in a whisper. If the person at the end of the line can "decode" the message, you've earned another point!

Hashem was upset at בני ישראל for making the עגל הזהב, but through the פרה רה, a כפרה he offered out of love.

1 point

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לעלוי נשמת  
רייזה בת ברוך

# שבת קודש פרשת חקת-בלק

בס"ד

## ה Crazy Text

Can you decode this text and figure out the message?

In this week's פרשה, the Torah describes the process of the **Para Shkula** (Para Aduma). When a person became impure by touching a **lead** (dead) person, he would have to bring a **plow** (cow) as a קרבן.

A whole procedure would take place on the 3rd and 8th (7th) day.

The animal had to be completely **white** (red). Even only two white pieces of **pair** (hair) would make it פסול.

Later on the Torah tells us the story of בלק who reached out to **Paroh** (Bilaam) to help him **purse** (curse) the בני ישראל. Balak saw how the בני ישראל won all the previous wars and was afraid.

Instead of cursing them, בני ישראל blessed בלעם.

1 point

## 1 Random Riddles

Try to figure this out!

1. Who was the first person to learn חומש with רש"י?

Answer: רש"י's father

2. What day is stronger than the rest?

Answer: Shabbos, all others are "weak" days.

1 point

## 1 Story Stop

Rav Aryeh Levin successfully persuaded all the local Jewish shopkeepers to close their stores on Shabbos—all except one. There was one man, one store owner, a fellow who refused to close his store. The owner was not very observant; he was not a religious man, and he didn't see the need to close his doors on Shabbat.

The store owner thought that he would lose too much business if his shop were closed on Friday night and all day Saturday. Even so, Rav Levin would often speak to the man and gently try to persuade him to change his mind.

However, the man continued to refuse to close his store on Shabbos. One Friday evening as Shabbos was coming in, Rav Levin did what he always did before Shabbos: He dressed in his finest garments, and he got ready to go to shul. As the sun began to set, Rav Levin left his home and began to walk.

But this time he did not walk in the direction of the shul; he went in the opposite direction. People were surprised to see Rav Levin walking away from the shul! They watched him as he walked toward that one shopkeeper's store. When Rav Levin entered the store, he wished the owner Shabbat Shalom. He then asked the owner, "Would you mind? Could I just have a seat in your store to sit and to rest a little bit?"

The store owner felt honored that the rabbi was there, and he brought over a little stool for the rabbi to sit on. Rav Levin sat on the little stool in the corner of the store as Shabbos was coming in. And as Shabbos services were being chanted in the Shul just a few blocks away, Rav Levin remained, sitting on the little stool in the corner of the store.

Rav Levin watched as many, many people came into the store. They

bought food; they bought newspapers and cigarettes. After about an hour and a half, the Rav got up. He thanked the shopkeeper for giving him a place to sit and rest. Rav Levin wished the store owner Shabbat Shalom and left the store. The owner of the store could not understand what had just happened. The rabbi had missed services on Friday night!

The rabbi had been sitting in his store, a store that was open and doing business on Shabbos! What's more, this rabbi had sat on a little stool in the corner of the store for an hour and a half, and he hadn't said a thing! The store owner found the rabbi's behavior very strange. It bothered him. So, on Sunday morning, the store owner went to the rabbi's house. He knocked on the rabbi's door, and the rabbi invited the store owner into his home.

"Please explain to me what happened this past Friday night," the shopkeeper said.

→ Can you guess what happened next?

And this is what the Tzaddik of Jerusalem told him: "You know that I have asked you to close your store on Shabbos; we have spoken about that many times.

But I wanted to understand for myself—I wanted to see for myself—what it would be like for you to close your store. I wanted to see with my own eyes and to feel with my own heart what it was that I was asking you to give up. And now I realize how difficult it would be for you.

And I see how much business you do on Friday night, and I now know how much you would be giving up by closing your store. And now that I truly understand, I can't ask you - and I won't ask you - to close your store on Shabbos."

1 point

For questions, comments, or to sponsor the next issue of **CHALLENGE YOUR TABLE**, email [challengeyourtable@gmail.com](mailto:challengeyourtable@gmail.com).