

Parashat Re'eh



BATSHEVA WOLF

Tribe Educator

"Re'eh, look", says Moshe to the Jewish people, as he tells them about the blessings and curses that will happen if the Jews do or do not follow the Torah, as they are about to enter the Land of Israel.

Moshe shows the Jewish people that we all have freedom of choice,

free will. I can choose how I behave and naturally, that has a consequence or reaction - good or bad. How do you use your free choice?

In the rest of the parasha we read about the building of the Temple, a place to serve God. We also hear again about the signs of a kosher animal. (Do you know them? If not, look them up in Devarim 14:4!).

The mitzvah of *tzedaka*, charity, is mentioned too. And did you know that, according to Torah Law, if a person has a loan with someone else,

that loan gets cancelled in the *Shemita* year (every 7th year)? This gives the poor who have had to borrow money the opportunity to start afresh with a clean slate, rather than living with the burden of permanent debt.

And lastly, we read about the *Shalosh Regalim*, the three pilgrimage festivals: Pesach, Shavuot and Succot. In Temple times, Jews went up to Jerusalem three times a year to celebrate these festivals and bring offerings in the Temple.

Parasha Alphabet

How well do you know the Parasha? Fill in the blanks! (Tip: they are in alphabetical order!)

1. All offerings must only be brought on the in the Temple
2. Moshe tells the Jewish people about the
3. And the
4. It basically says: transgress the Torah's commandments
5. We read about the laws of what animals we can and can't
6. For example, a fish needs to have and
7. The blessings at the beginning of the parasha were to be delivered on Mount
- 8./9. This was done right before the Jews went into the , which we also call
10. Sacred foods were to be eaten only in the city of , in Israel