

## שאלות למחשבה אסתר פרק א'

### Posuk 'א -

1. ויהי בימי אחשׁוּרוֹשׁ - What are we told in the book of Ezra (ד:ז) about what happened during the reign of a king by the name of Achashveirosh? (1 point)
2. דניאל - What can we understand about Achashveirosh from דניאל? (1 point)
3. -Who in the Torah is said to have married a woman from Cush (במדבר י"ב:א)? What happened there? (1 point)
4. - The Midrash says the following:

*Rabbi Akiva noticed his students were falling asleep and he wished to wake them.*

*He said:*

*Why did Esther rule over 127 provinces?*

*Let Esther the granddaughter of Sarah who lived 127 years come and rule over 127 provinces.*

רבי עקיבא היה יושב ודורש, והצבור מתנמנם. בקש לעוררן, אמר: מה ראתה אסתר שתמלוך על שבע ועשרים ומאה מדינה? אלא תבא אסתר שהיתה בת בתה של שרה, שחיתה מאה ועשרים ושבע, ותמלוך על מאה ועשרים ושבע מדינות:

Research an explanation of this midrash. (2 points)

### Posuk 'ב -

5. -According to דניאל ח:ב where was the city of Shushan located? (1 point)

### Posuk 'ב -

6. - What does ב:ז say about going to a house of a משתה? Why? (1 point)
7. - What does Daniel see in his vision ח:ג-ז? What is the explanation of that part of his vision (ח:ט"ט-כ"א)? (2 points)
8. -Whom do the people of מדי descend from? (בראשית י:ב) (1 point)

### Posuk 'ד -

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9. וְאֵתֵיקָר תַּפְאֶרֶת גְּדוּלָתוֹ – The Rabbis say this alludes to the fact that Achashveirosh wore the clothing of the גדול? How is this hinted to in the posuk? Note: Support your answer from שמות כ"ח:ב. (1 point)
10. שְׁמוֹנִים וּמֵאָת יוֹם – The Megillah does not tell us why Achashveirosh had his first feast last 180 days. Interestingly, the number 180 is a very divisible number. How many different whole numbers can 180 be divided by? What related number does the Rambam use in הלכות קידוש החדש ו:ב because it is also highly divisible? What unit of time is he measuring there? (3 points)

### Posuk 'ו' -

11. חוֹר | כַּרְפָּס וְתַכְלֵת אָחוּז בְּחַבְלֵיבוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן – Which specific items of clothing contained both תכלת and ארגמן in פרק כ"ח? (2 points)

### Posuk 'ז' -

12. וְהִשְׁקוֹת בְּכֵלֵי זָהָב וְכֵלִים מִכְּלִים שׁוֹנִים – Our Rabbis say Achashveirosh took out vessels that had come from the בית המקדש. Which other king did something similar? From whom did he get the vessels from? (דניאל ה:א-ד) (1 point)
13. וַיֵּין מַלְכוּת רַב כְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ – Name two other people in the book of Beraishit who got drunk from wine. What happened when they go drunk? (See בראשית ט:כ-כ"ז) (י"ט:ט"ל-א"ל-ח) (1 point)

### Posuk 'י' -

14. שְׁבַעַת הַסְּרִיסִים – Which king in Sefer Beraishit had "סריסים"? Who were they? (See בראשית ל"ז:ל"ו, מ:ב) (1 point)

### Posuk י"א -

15. טבת מראה - להראות העמים והשרים אתיגפיה כייטובת מראה היא - Who is referred to as טבת מראה or יפת מראה in the book of Beraishit? (See בראשית י"ב:י"א, כ"ו, כ"ט:ט"ז) (1 point)

### Posuk י"ז -

16. לְהַבְזוֹת בְּעִלְיָהּ בְּעִינֶיהָ – Which woman degraded her husband? Why did she degrade him? Describe the ensuing argument. See שמואל ב' ו:ט"ז-כ"ג (2 points)
17. לְהַבְזוֹת בְּעִלְיָהּ בְּעִינֶיהָ – How does the Rambam describe the attitude a husband and wife should have for each other in הלכות אישות פרק ט"ו הלכות י"ט-כ'? Any thoughts about what the Rambam writes? (3 points)