

HADAR
Children & Families

י"ד אדר ב' תשפ"ב March 16-17, 2022



שאלות הפזילה • Megillat Esther Scavenger Hunt

פרק א CHAPTER 1

1. How many days did Ahashverosh's parties last?
2. Why did Vashti refuse to come to Ahashverosh's party?



פרק ב CHAPTER 2

3. Who was Mordechai's great grandfather?
4. When was Esther taken to King Ahashverosh?

פרק ג CHAPTER 3

5. What mouthful of words describes the governors of Ahashverosh's provinces?
6. What did Ahashverosh give to Haman?



פרק ד CHAPTER 4

7. What did Esther hear from her servants that made her very upset?
8. How long did Esther ask Mordekhai and all of the Jews of Shushan to fast with her?



פרק ה CHAPTER 5

9. What did Esther ask Ahashverosh at the feast?
10. What did Zeresh and all of Haman's loved ones tell him to do?



פרק ו CHAPTER 6

11. What event did Ahashverosh's book of memories remind him of?
12. After Haman returned home from parading Mordekhai around town, what did Zeresh and Haman's loved ones say to him?



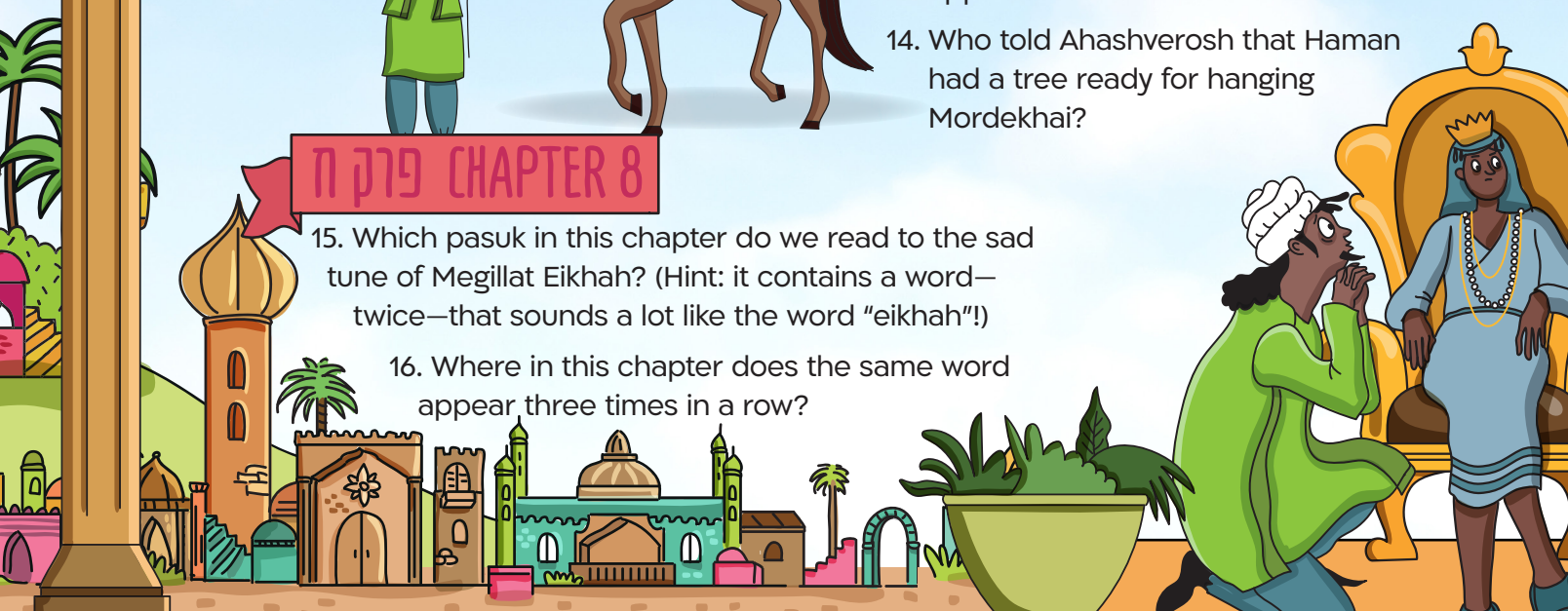
פרק ז CHAPTER 7

13. There is an unusual, rare note in this chapter. On what word does it appear?
14. Who told Ahashverosh that Haman had a tree ready for hanging Mordekhai?



פרק ח CHAPTER 8

15. Which pasuk in this chapter do we read to the sad tune of Megillat Eikhah? (Hint: it contains a word—twice—that sounds a lot like the word "eikhah"!)
 16. Where in this chapter does the same word appear three times in a row?



פרק ט CHAPTER 9

17. What words in the chapter explain that Haman's decree was overturned and the opposite happened?
18. There is one pasuk in this chapter where four words are repeated twice, one after the other. Can you find it?

פרק י CHAPTER 10

19. What was Mordechai's new role?
20. What countries are mentioned in this chapter?



הלכה • Halakhah

There are four special mitzvot on Purim. This is your once-a-year opportunity to observe them!

(1) Reading the Megillah

The mitzvah is to either read Megillat Esther yourself or hear someone else read it. This has to be done twice, once at night and once in the morning (Mishneh Torah Hilkhos Megillah 1:1-2). The source for this mitzvah is this line from the Megillah (9:28): וְהַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה נִזְכָּרִים וְנִבְעָשִׁים (and these days are remembered and observed). Reading the Megillah is how we do this "remembering".

It's very important to hear every single word of the Megillah, even the name of a certain wicked guy that we try to block out with noise!

The other three mitzvot come from this line in Megillat Esther (9:22):

לַעֲשׂוֹת אוֹתָם יְמֵי מוֹשָׁתָהּ וְשִׁמְחָהּ וּמִשְׁלַח מְנוּחַת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ וּמִתְּנוּת לְאֶבְיָנִים:

... to make the days of Purim days of **feasting and joy**, and **sending food** each person to their friend, and gifts to people who are poor.

(2) Feasting and joy

The "feasting and joy" on Purim is called the Purim סְעוּדָה (seudah, meal). Almost everyone agrees that it should be eaten during the day, not the night before, and should be a fun occasion with friends and family (Shulhan Arukh Orah Hayyim 695:1).



(3) Sending food

This is called מִשְׁלוּחַ מָנוֹת (mishloah manot). The core of this mitzvah is to give two different kinds of food to another Jew on the day of Purim (Shulhan Arukh Orah Hayyim 695:4). It can actually be two portions of the same food, as long as they taste a little different from each other. According to Terumat Ha-Deshen (111), the point of mishloah manot is to make sure everyone has food for their seudah. So whatever you give should be ready-to-eat on Purim.



(4) Gifts to people who are poor

There is no better way to spread our joy than to give מַתָּנוֹת לְאֵבְיוֹנִים (matanot la-evyonim), to give money or food to those who need it most (Mishneh Torah Hilkhot Megillah 2:17). While the mitzvah of mishloah manot is to give two types of food to one person, the core of matanot la-evyonim is to give one gift, normally money (but it could also be food), to two different people. This mitzvah is the highest priority—it's better to spend more money on matanot la-evyonim than on the seudah and mishloah manot (Mishnah Berurah 694:3)!

You have to be sure that the money will be given directly to people in need on the day of Purim and no later. Sometimes, communities have an individual or a team whose job it is to distribute the matanot on Purim itself.



Megillat Esther Scavenger Hunt Answers:

- 187 days: 180 for the important people in the countries under his rule, and 7 days for the people of Shushan (1:4-5)
- The megillah doesn't say why! (1:12)
- Kish (2:5)
- In the 10th month (Tevet) of the 7th year of Ahashverosh's rule (they must have counted Nisan as the first month, so Tevet works out to be the 10th) (2:16)
- אֶחָשְׁדָּרְפָּנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ (the king's ahashdarpenim) (3:12)
- His signet ring (3:10)
- That Mordekhai was wearing sackcloth and ashes (4:1-4)
- 3 days (4:16)
- To come to another feast the following day, with Haman (5:8)
- Prepare a tree, 50 amot high, and tell Ahashverosh to hang Mordekhai on it (5:14)
- When Mordekhai saved his life when Bigtan and Teresh tried to kill him (6:1-2)
- That Haman will never be able to defeat Mordekhai (6:13)
- הָמָן (Haman), the note is called קַרְנֵי פָרָה (karnei parah, cows' horns) (7:9)
- Harvona (7:9)
- Pasuk 6
- שָׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה (127 provinces, every province and province) (8:9)
- וְנָהָפוֹךְ הוּא (v'nahafokh hu, it flipped) (9:1)
- דוֹר וָדוֹר מְשֻׁפָּחָה וּמְשֻׁפָּחָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְעִיר וְעִיר (generation to generation, family to family, state to state, city to city) (9:28)
- He is next in line to Ahashverosh (10:3)
- מֵדִי וּפָרְס (Media and Persia) (10:2)

