

TORAH TIME

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PARASHA

Va'eira

- Exodus 6:2-9:35
- Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
- Revelation 16:1-21

TORAH TIME

YHWH reveals Himself to Moses. He gives four special promises that we remember during the Passover season. He promises to take out the Children of Israel from Egypt, deliver them from being slaves, redeem them and take them as His own chosen people at Mount Sinai; He will then bring them to the Land He promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Moses and Aharon come before Pharaoh time after time and that he, "Let My people go, so that they may serve Me in the wilderness." Pharaoh repeatedly refuses. Aaron's staff turns into a snake and swallows the magic sticks of the Egyptian sorcerers. YHWH then sends a series of plagues upon the Egyptians.

The waters of the Nile turn to blood; swarms of frogs overrun the land; lice infest all men and beasts. Hordes of wild animals invade the cities, a pestilence kills the domestic animals, and painful boils afflict the Egyptians. For the seventh plague, fire and ice combine to rain from the skies. Still, "the heart of Pharaoh was hardened and he would not let the children of Israel go; as YHWH had said to Moses."

(This is an easy explanation of the Torah portion taken from the book "The Open Bible" available at www.emetministries.com)

MEMORY VERSE

"A man reaps what he sows," Galatians 6:7.

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LEARNING ACTIVITY

This week's Torah portion begins with the horrible plagues against Egypt. "Va'eira" is an important section of the Bible that is remembered every year during a Passover Seder. A "Seder" is a special meal that is held in the spring time and remembers the events surrounding the exodus from Egypt. Traditional Seders include bitter herbs, matzah, and four cups of wine or grape juice. These four glasses of wine are each pictures of statements made in our current Torah portion. These cups tell the Passover story and show us that Y'shua is the Passover lamb.

The first cup drank during the Passover Seder is the Cup of Sanctification. This cup of comes from Exodus 6:6 when YHWH said, "I will take you out." The first cup is the Kiddush cup, or glass of holiness. With this juice, we remember the promise of YHWH to bring the people out of slavery and establish a holy nation. Y'shua does this for us too!

The cup of deliverance is the second cup. It is with this cup that the Seder recalls the ten plagues of Egypt. Just as YHWH delivered the children of Israel, He still delivers His people today. "I will deliver you," is found in Exodus 6:6.

The third cup of juice during the Seder is the cup of redemption. To redeem something is to buy it back. Messiah bought us back from sin through His blood. This cup of blessing shows how YHWH redeems Israel from sin. Galatians 4:4-5, "But when the time had fully come, YHWH sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons."

Finally, the last cup is the cup of the Kingdom. This is also called the cup of praise or the cup of joy. YHWH says in Exodus 6:7, "I will take you as a nation." John 15:11 says, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

The pattern is simple: YHWH will bring, redeem, deliver, and take us as His people. Turn to Mathew 26 and read of how the Messiah had a Seder and took up the cups. Like the Israelites, we were once spiritual slaves to sin and Satan. Y'shua gave his life to deliver us from sin and the plague of death. The shed blood of Messiah paid the price to redeem us. Titus 2:1-5 makes this point, "Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance. Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of Elohim."

WALK THE TALK

What do you do when you have a toothache?

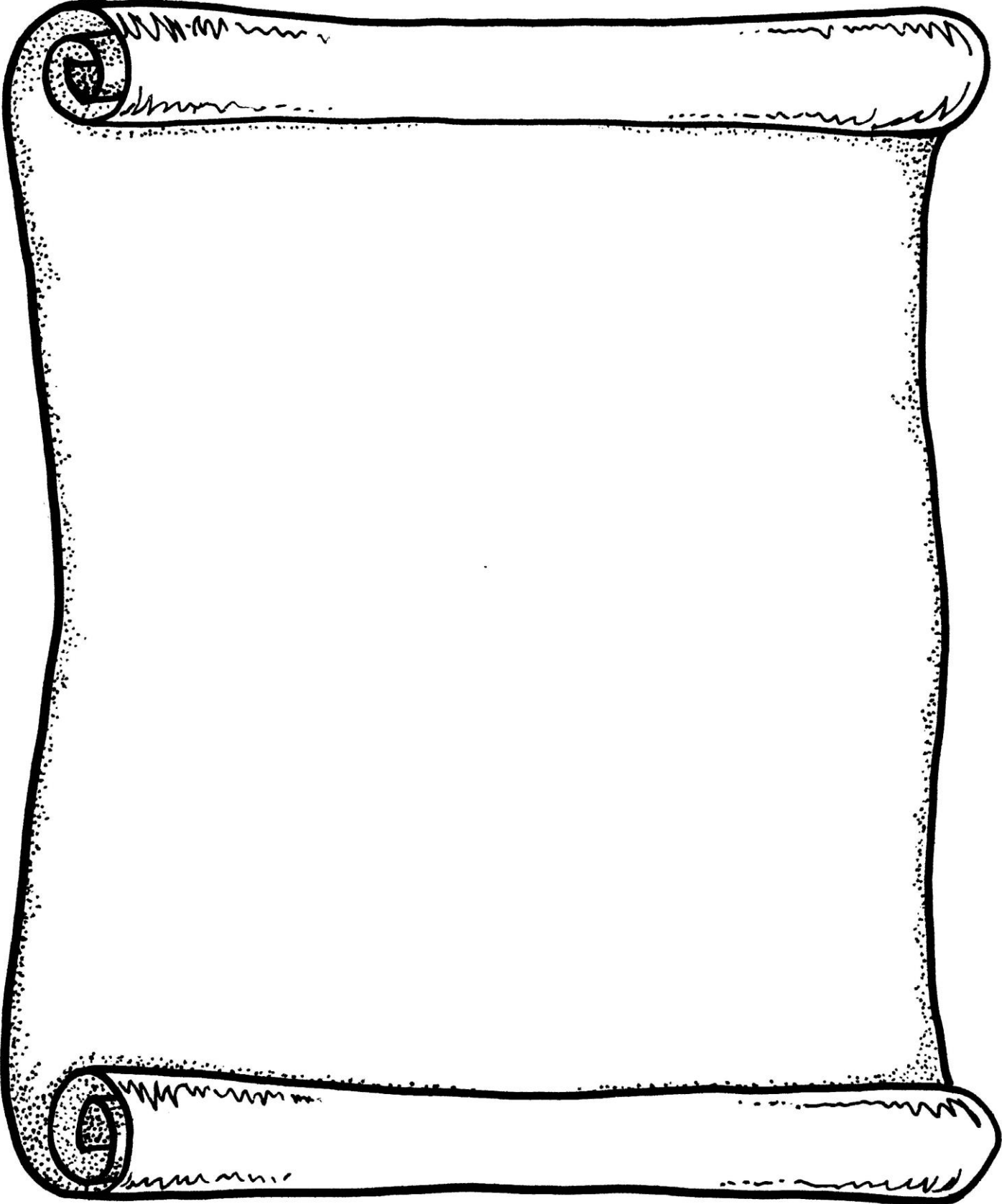
If your tooth hurts, it's smart to go to a dentist and have the pain checked out. If you ignore a tooth ache it could get worse and worse. Dentists will tell you that when you have a tooth ache, your body is telling you that something is wrong. If the pain is not treated the tooth can make you really sick. Tooth pain is a warning sign just like the plagues of Egypt warned Pharaoh to obey YHWH.

Like a tooth ache, the plagues against Egypt started small and then grew more dangerous. Pharaoh would not let Israel go. He disobeyed YHWH and brought curses upon himself and his people. "Do not be deceived: YHWH cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows," Galatians 6:7. A farmer sows seeds. Whatever he sows or plants is what he will reap or dig up. Pharaoh sowed disobedience to YHWH and reaped pain and plagues.

During the first five plagues Pharaoh's "heart remained steadfast." His heart simply would not obey YHWH. A warning sign was given each time Moshe went to Pharaoh and a plague followed. The plagues said, "you reap what you sow, if you obey YHWH then you will be blessed but if you disobey you will be cursed." Pharaoh's heart was hardened by his own choices. "Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. And the Egyptians will know that I am YHWH when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it," Shemot/Exodus 7:4-5. YHWH used the plagues to warn Pharaoh to let Israel leave Egypt.



Pharaoh was very hard headed and refused. In the scroll below draw a scene of the plagues and Egypt. Were the Egyptian people happy or sad about the plagues? Did the plagues destroy the crops, animals, or land? Make sure to include the words "Let My People Go."



TORAH TALK

What does the name of this portion mean?

Why is this portion special?

What is the main subject of this portion?

How can you live this portion?

What commandments are in this portion?

Did you read about the Messiah in this portion? Where?

How did YHWH show His love to man in this portion?

What did you learn from the Torah?

HEBREW LESSON



MEET THE NUN:

Neir=Candle

Nah-Hahr=River

Navi=Prophet

Nefesh=Soul

WRITE THE LETTER



Nun is about half the width of the letter Kaf.

REVIEW THE LETTERS



Note that there is a gap at the bottom left of the letter.

Activity Ideas

Make a book of plagues craft by drawing pictures, using stampers, or pictures from a magazine.

Find a frog craft online to glue on paper and remember FROG stands for "Fully Rely on God." Make a bookmark that says the same. Look for creative ways to make a snake.

Buy some plastic frogs from a discount store and play frog toss in the bucket.

Play the snake / frog game. Ask an adult to hide a pretend snake or a frog in the house. Then let the adult tell you if you are getting "hot" or "cold" as you get closer or farther away from the toy.

Have a bowl of clear water and take some red food coloring and put it into a straw without the kids seeing it. Have the straw represent Aaron's rod and tap it into the water and let them watch what happens! Try that experiment using hot and cold water to get different reactions!

To see how a rod can turn into a serpent look at uncooked spaghetti or linguine pasta. Then with the help from an adult, put the noodle in hot water for a few minutes. How has the pasta changed? Does it look like a staff or a serpent?

Watch a cartoon or movie about Moses and the 10 Commandments. Compare what you have learned to what the movie shows. How is the movie different than the Torah? How are the two similar?

4 Promises from YHWH to Israel



1) He _____ to take out the Children of Israel from

_____.



2) _____ them from being

_____.



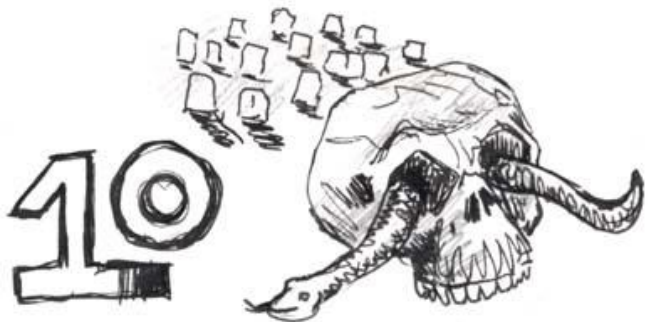
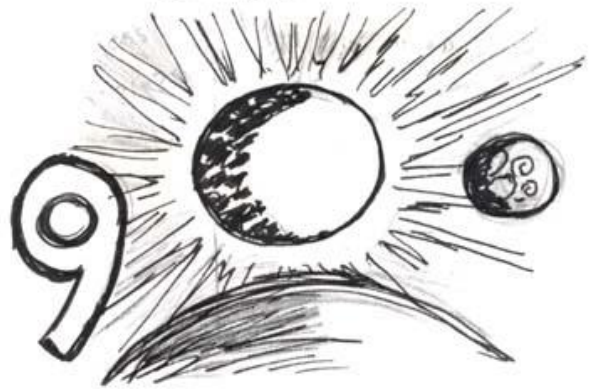
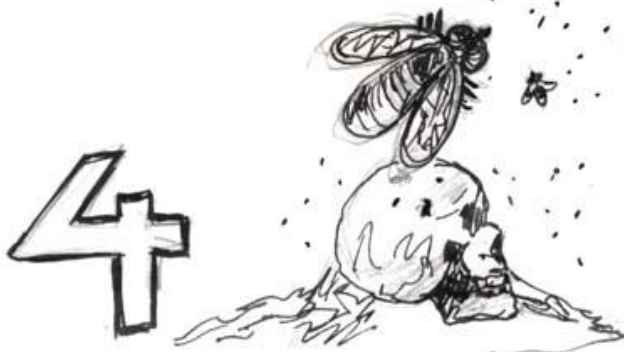
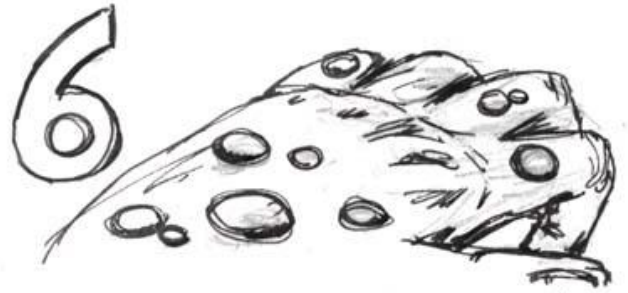
3) _____ them and take them as His own chosen people at

Mount _____.

4) He will then _____ them to the

_____ He promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.





HEBREW REVIEW

Write the following Hebrew Letters:

Aleph _____

Gimel _____

Hey _____

Tzion _____

Chet _____

Yod _____

Kaf _____

Lamed _____

Nun _____