**Questions for Understanding and Reflection**

1. How were the readings for last Shabbat fulfilled for you during last week?

I witnessed His Eminence Hakham Dr. Yosef ben Haggai going to Tennessee to bring some more Gentiles to the Torah and to emunah.

1. From all the readings for this Shabbat which verse or verses impressed your heart and fired your imagination?

I was impressed by the subtlety of Yosef’s communication with his father in the use of the wagons, in v.27. Eglah vs. Eglaot.

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 45:19?

**And you [Joseph] have been commanded** - Who commanded and what was commanded?

**Do this** – What were they to do?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 45:23?

**he sent the following** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: כְּזֹאת?

**of the best of Egypt** – What was considered the best of Egypt?

**grain, bread** - What else was considered the best of Egypt?

**and [other] food** – How was this food determined?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 45:26?

**and [they told him] that he ruled** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew phrase: וְכִי-הוּא מֹשֵׁל?

**and his heart changed** – How did his heart change?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 45:27?

**all of Joseph’s words** – Was there any non-verbal sign?

**and the spirit of…Jacob was revived** – How was this revival amnifested?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 46:6?

**that they had acquired in the land of Canaan** – What happened with those things that he had acquired in Paddam-Aram?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 46:15?

**These are the sons of Leah …and Dinah his daughter** – When enumerating the sons of Leah, why is Dinah attributed to ‘him’?

**thirty-three** – I count thirty-two; where is the thirty-third?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 46:19?

**The sons of Rachel, Jacob’s wife** – Why is Rachel singled out as Jacob’s wife?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 46:26?

**All the souls coming…with Jacob** – What do we make of the tenses used in this pasuk?

1. Please provide a “Peshat” and a “Remes” interpretation of Ps. 37:21.

**Pshat**: the wicked man borrows money and does not repay. The righteous not only repays but gives to those who have need.

**Remez**: The dead ones waste their lives, but the living ones give life to others.

1. Where do we go when we die temporarily and finally?

We first go to sleep with our fathers (Abraham’s bosom), then we go to Gan Eden.

1. What is the meaning of **“bread”** and **“famine”** at a “Remes” and at a “Drash” levels?

**Remez**: Bread = Torah, famine is an allegory for the lack of Torah.

**Drash**: Bread = king, famine is the lack of a king; famine is the lack of Mashiach ben David.

1. What is the meaning and implications of Amos 3:7?

***Amos 3:7*** *Indeed, my Lord GOD does nothing Without having revealed His purpose to His servants the prophets.*

HaShem teaches the righteous, through his prophets, what He will do when He brings judgment that affects them so that they can be prepared.

1. Where do we find the first use of a **“Kal VaHomer”** in the Nazarean Codicil and what are some of the implications in this particular place?

In Mark 4:13**,** this indicating by its position that this simile is the one that opens the door to all similes/allegories/parables on the governance of G-d (Kingdom of G-d).

1. At present and in the Olam HaBa, what is the meaning of the phrases: “Kingdom of G-d” or “Kingdom of Heaven”?

These phrases mean that that kingdom will be ruled by HaShem, no matter where it is located. The bet Din will represent HaShem to dispense justice.

1. The word **“Diaspora”** in relation to the Jewish people contains their chief mission. What is this mission, and how should we go about accomplishing it?

Their mission is to scatter the seeds of the oral law to the Gentiles. To accomplish this we must know the oral law and communicate it left, right, and center to the Gentiles.

1. Why was Cornelius appointed by G-d for blessing?

By standing as a disciple (by helping those in the famine), he stood as an example to the Gentiles on how they should act.

1. According to the Talmud (B. Shab. 17a) the sin of the golden calf was repeated at least twice. When did the last instance took place, and what were some of the major consequences of this sin?

When Hillel sat before Shammai without dispute. As a result, the ways of Shammai prevailed long after they sould have stopped. This denied conversion to many Gentiles.

1. ‎Taking into consideration all the readings for this Shabbat what is the prophetic statement for this ‎week?‎

We need to scatter seed – oral law – to the Gentile world.