

Everyone Has Value

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In this week's Parsha, Parshat Bechukotai, we learn about some of the tochacha, rebuke to Bnei Yisroel if we do not follow the Torah and Mitzvot. Following the tochacha, we learn giving one's value to the Temple known as one's erchin value. What is the connection between these two topics? If one adds up all the curses from both Parshat Bechukotai and Parshat Ki Tavo, the two Parshiot which list the curses, it comes out to 143. If one adds all up all the erchin value, it also comes out to 143. After one goes through a tochacha and still feels that he is worth something is an extremely high level. There is a story regarding the Satmar Rebbe, Rabbi Yoel Teitelbaum, after he departed from Israel to go to America, his students asked him who will they go to in order to receive Brachot? He responded that they should receive a bracha from one who puts Tefillin on over his tattoo that unfortunately was placed on him during the Holocaust. This teaches us that even one who went through such a tochacha, as was the Holocaust can still feel that he has value and can still serve Hashem with complete Emuna, faith.

Parsha Questions-Behar

- 1) Where did Hashem teach the laws of Shemitah? (Har Sinai)
- 2) How often does Shmitah occur? (Once every seven years)
- 3) During the seventh year of Shmitah can we farm or plant seeds?
(No)

- 4) Is it ok to harvest the plants that grow on their own during Shmitah? (No)
- 5) Can someone sell the food that grows on his field during Shmitah? (No)
- 6) Can someone eat the food that grows on his field during Shmitah? (Yes)
- 7) Why can you not throw out fruit that grows during Shmitah? (Because it is considered to be special)
- 8) How do we know that the food that grew before Shmitah will last a long time? (Because Hashem promised)
- 9) If you see someone who needs help, what should you do? (Help them)
- 10) Are you allowed to charge interest to a fellow Jew? (No)

Parsha Questions-Bechukotai

- 1) If we do what we are supposed to, what will Hashem bring at the right time? (Rain)
- 2) What will grow in big amounts if we learn Torah? (Crops and food)
- 3) What is the part of the Torah called that says we will be punished if we aren't doing the right thing? (Tochachah)
- 4) What causes a water drought in Israel? (The B'nei Yisrael didn't listen to Hashem)
- 5) Can a person give money to the Beit Hamikdash for his value that he is worth? (Yes)
- 6) What is this process called? (Erchin)
- 7) How much should a person give of his flock to the Beit Hamikdash as a Korbon? (One tenth)
- 8) After Sefer Vayikra is finished in Shul, what does everyone say out loud? (Chazak, Chazak V'nitchazek)

