



# בַּמִּדְבָּר

# BAMIDBAR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



1 בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ

2 הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו

3 וְצִוָּנוּ לְעֲסוֹק בְּדִבְרֵי תוֹרָה.

4 וְהֵעָרַב נָא יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶת דִּבְרֵי

5 תּוֹרַתְךָ בְּפִינוּ וּבְפִי עַמְּךָ בֵּית

6 יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְנִהְיֶה אֲנַחְנוּ וְצֹאצְאֵינוּ

7 וְצֹאצְאֵי עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל כְּלָנוּ

8 יוֹדְעֵי שְׂמֹךְ וְלוֹמְדֵי תּוֹרַתְךָ לְשִׂמְחָה.

9 בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הַמְּלַמֵּד תּוֹרָה

10 לְעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Thank you God, Ruler of the Universe  
for making us holy through Your mitzvot  
and commanding us to  
be busy with the words of Torah.

May the words of Torah, God, be sweet in our mouths  
and in the mouths of all Your people so  
that all of בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל will love Torah.  
Thank You God, who teaches Torah  
to Your people.

10 Word Challenge--10 words to summarize each book of the Torah

Genesis

בְּרֵאשִׁית

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Exodus

שְׁמוֹת

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Leviticus

וִיקְרָא

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Numbers

בְּמִדְבָּר

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Deuteronomy

דְּבָרִים

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# The Constitution of the United States

## PREAMBLE

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America.

## ARTICLE 1, SECTION 2:

The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

*Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons. (see amendment 14, section 2)\**

The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

\*Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a state, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age,\* and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Who is in charge of the census in the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

Why is the census taken? What is counted? Why is it important? \_\_\_\_\_

# בְּמִדְבָּר 1

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Fill in the missing blanks according to the Hebrew word of matching color:

1 WHO And \_\_\_\_\_

1 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל מֹשֶׁה

2 WHERE: in \_\_\_\_\_

2 בְּמִדְבָּר סִינַי

3 In the \_\_\_\_\_

3 בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד

4 WHEN: In the \_\_\_\_\_

4 בְּאַחַד לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁנִי בַּשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁנִית

5 We left \_\_\_\_\_

5 לְצֵאתָם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לֵאמֹר:

2 Lift up the \_\_\_\_\_

2 שָׂאוּ אֶת רֹאשׁ כָּל עֵדַת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל

of all of the groups of *B'nai Yisrael\**

6 לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם לְבֵית אָבוֹתָם

<sup>6</sup> By their *families*, according to their fathers houses.

7 בְּמִסְפַּר שִׁמּוֹת כָּל זָכָר לְגִלְגֻלְתָּם.

<sup>7</sup> Count their names, all

3 מִבֶּן עֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה וּמַעְלָה

\_\_\_\_\_ according to their donated 1/2 shekel contributions.

8 כָּל יֹצֵא צֶבֶא בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל תִּפְקְדוּ אֹתָם

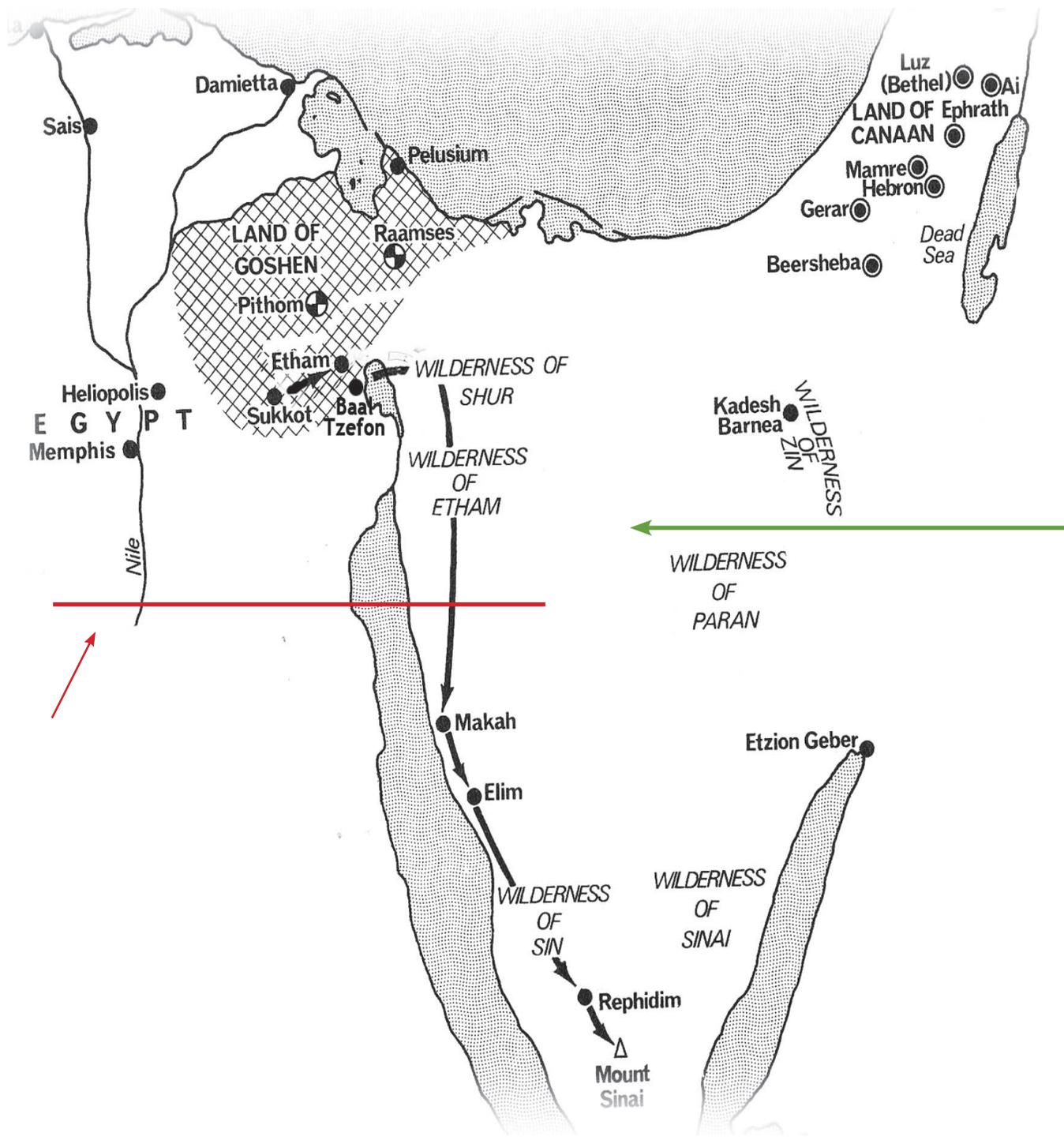
3 You and Aaron must list all who are \_\_\_\_\_ years old and up who are able to go to war for *Israel*.

9 לְצִבְאָתָם אֶתְּהָ וְאֶהְרֹן.



אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד

Label these places on the map in Hebrew based on 1 בְּמִדְבָּר:



What is the modern term for שָׂאוּ אֶת רֵאשׁוֹ  
“lift up the heads” (counting) of B’nai Israel?

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\*On page 770 in the Etz Hayim Humash, Menachem Nahum of Chernobyl explains in a דְּרָשׁ another way to think of שָׂאוּ אֶת־רֵאשׁוֹ--what is his explanation?  
Do you agree?

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שָׂאוּ אֶת רֵאשׁוֹ כָּל עַדְתּוֹ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל  
לְמִשְׁפּוֹזוֹתֵם לְבֵית אֲבוֹתֵם  
בְּמִסְפַּר שִׁמוֹת כָּל זָכָר לְגֻלְגֻלְתֵּם  
מִבֶּן עֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה וּמַעֲלָה  
כָּל יֵצֵא זָבָא בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל תִּפְקְדוּ אֹתָם  
לְזַבְּאֹתָם אֹתָהּ וְאֶהְרֹן

<sup>2</sup>Take a census of the whole Israelite community by the clans of its ancestral houses, listing the names, every male, head by head. <sup>3</sup>You and Aaron shall record them by their groups, from the age of twenty years up, all those in Israel who are able to bear arms. <sup>4</sup>Associated with you shall be a man from each tribe, each one the head of his ancestral house.

<sup>5</sup>These are the names of the men who shall assist you:

From Reuben, Elizur son of Shedeur.

Presence of God atop the mountain, so might he enter the Tent of Meeting—a Mount Sinai on earth, so to speak. The Lord’s voice came from within, from between the two cherubim facing each other atop the Ark.

2. The census described here follows the procedures of censuses in other ancient Near Eastern cultures. It even uses the same terminology. The census was indispensable for military conscription and for any government levy on persons or property. From 10:11, it is clear that the census was completed in less than 20 days.

3. *twenty years up* The age of conscription in ancient Israel. No upper limit is given here.

שָׂאוּ אֶת־רֹאשׁ כָּל־עֵדֶת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל  
לְמִשְׁפְּחֹתָם לְבֵית אָבֹתָם בְּמִסְפַּר שְׁמוֹת  
כָּל־זָכָר לְגִלְגֻלָּתָם: <sup>3</sup> מִבֶּן עֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה  
וְמֵעֵלָּה כָּל־יָצֵא צָבָא בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל תִּפְקְדוּ  
אֹתָם לְצַבָּאתָם אֹתָהּ וְאֶהְרֹן: <sup>4</sup> וְאֵתְכֶם  
יִהְיוּ אִישׁ אִישׁ לַמִּטָּה אִישׁ רֹאשׁ לְבֵית־  
אָבֹתָיו הוּא:

וְאֵלֶּה שְׁמוֹת הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר יַעֲמְדוּ  
אִתְּכֶם

לְרֵאוּבֵן אֶלִּיָּצוּר בֶּן־שְׁדֵיאוּר:

*able to bear arms* The previous statement with no age limit is now qualified.

5–15. Tribal lists throughout the Bible may vary in the names and the order of the tribes, but they share in common the concern for preserving the number 12. These lists can be divided roughly into two groups: those that include the tribe of Levi and those that omit it. All the tribal lists in Numbers fall into the latter category, because the tribe of Levi was exempt from military conscription.

*These are the names* The census supervisors, mandatory according to verse 4, are named by God.

manding way of life. The Torah portrays the people Israel as periodically wishing they were back in the predictable, morally undemanding servitude of Egypt. Yet Israel’s willingness to accept the Torah, to be “as open as a wilderness” to let the Torah’s morality fill the moral vacuum in the lives of former slaves, was the essential first step in God’s remaking the world. For the first time, God’s world will contain a model people, guided by the Torah to live a God-oriented life.

The wilderness, untouched by human settlement, offered a contrast to Egypt, which was dominated by monuments fashioned by human hands. Thus it was a fitting stage for God’s being proclaimed sovereign of the world. We may even see a parallel between the revelation at Sinai (when God imposed moral order in the midst of a wilderness) and the creation of the world (when God imposed natural order on chaos).

2\**Take a census* Literally, “lift the head.” This prompted the comment, “Let the Israel-

ites hold their heads high in pride as they contemplate who their ancestors were” (Menahem Nahum of Chernobyl). Although the purpose of the census was purely functional, mustering the Israelites for battle, the Midrash uncovers another dimension to it, by comparing God to a person who had a store of precious jewels. From time to time, this individual would take out the jewels and count them to take pleasure in their beauty and to be reassured that they were all safely there (Num. R. 4:2). For Ramban, the census testifies to the miracle of Israel’s survival and increase despite the efforts of Pharaoh and Amalek and the rigors of the wilderness journey. He points to the enduring lesson of Jewish history: We have not succumbed in spite of devastating losses and persecution. Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev connects the final total of 603,550 Israelites (v. 46) to a tradition that there are 603,550 letters in the Torah. Just as the absence of one letter renders a Torah scroll unfit for use, the loss of even one Jew prevents Israel from fulfilling its divine mission.

Compare this **שָׂאוּ אֶת רֹאשׁ**--census  
to the others in the Torah.  
How are they similar, how are they different?

**בְּרֵאשִׁית 46:8-27**

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**שְׁמוֹת 12:37**

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**שְׁמוֹת 30:11-16**

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**שְׁמוֹת 38:26**

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בְּמִדְבָּר 3:14-51

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בְּמִדְבָּר 4:21-49

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בְּמִדְבָּר 26:1

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דְּבָרִים 10:22

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How were people counted in the Torah?  
What were they counted for?

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How are people counted today?

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## QR CODE

Pick an agency that you think promotes the idea of contributing to community and explain how.

Write the names of the organizations under the QR codes.  
Put a check mark in the box next to the organization that you pick.

Why did you pick this organization?

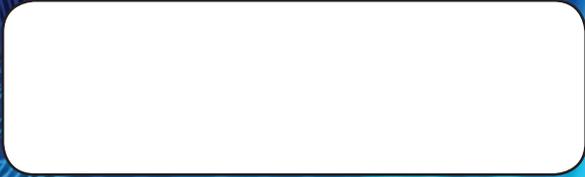
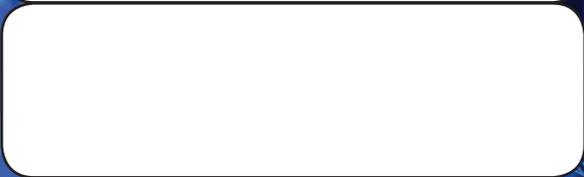
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What does this organization do?

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# בְּמִדְבָּר 13



1 And Moshe sent them to scout the land of Canaan, <sup>2</sup>he said to them:

<sup>3</sup> Go up onto the hills in the Negev

18 And check out the land <sup>4</sup> what kind of people are there.

<sup>5</sup> Are the people strong or weak, <sup>6</sup> few or many?

19 And what kind of land where they live in, <sup>7</sup> is it good or bad <sup>8</sup> and what kind of cities do they live in, <sup>9</sup> are they open or fortified?

20 And what is with the land, <sup>10</sup> is the soil rich or poor, are there trees? <sup>11</sup> Be courageous and bring back some of the <sup>12</sup> fruit of the land (the spies were there during the grape harvest season.)

What do you think Moshe was looking for in the land?

What would you look for in a new place to live?

What is the most important factor in choosing a place to live?

If God promised the land of Canaan to the Israelites and led them there, why did it matter what was in the land?

17 וַיִּשְׁלַח אֹתָם מֹשֶׁה לְתוֹר אֶת אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם: <sup>2</sup>

<sup>3</sup> עָלוּ זֶה בְּנִגְבַּ וְעַלִּיתֶם אֶת־הָהָר.

18 וּרְאִיתֶם אֶת הָאָרֶץ

<sup>4</sup> מָה הוּא וְאֵת הָעָם הַיֹּשֵׁב

<sup>5</sup> עָלֶיהָ הַחֹזֶק הוּא הַרְפָּה

<sup>6</sup> הַמְעַט הוּא אִם רַב.

19 וּמָה הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר הוּא יֹשֵׁב

<sup>7</sup> בָּהּ הַטּוֹבָה הוּא אִם רָעָה

<sup>8</sup> וּמָה הָעָרִים אֲשֶׁר הוּא יֹשֵׁב

<sup>9</sup> בָּהֶנָּה הַבְּמִחְנִים אִם בְּמִבְצָרִים.

20 וּמָה הָאָרֶץ

<sup>10</sup> הַשְּׂמֵנָה הוּא אִם רָזָה הֵישׁ בָּהּ עֵץ?

<sup>11</sup> אִם אֵין וְהִתְחַזְקֶתֶם וּלְקַחְתֶּם

<sup>12</sup> מִפְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ וְהֵימִים יָמֵי בְּבוּרֵי עֲנָבִים.

21 They went up and scouted the land from the <sup>13</sup> desert of Zin to the road to Hamat.

21 וַיַּעֲלוּ וַיִּתְרוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ  
מִמִּדְבַּר צֵן עַד רֶחֶב לְבַא חֲמַת. <sup>13</sup>

22 They went up in the Negev and came to Hebron <sup>14</sup> where the Ahiman, She'shai, Talmi and <sup>15</sup> giants lived. Hebron was established 7 years <sup>16</sup> before Zo'an in Egypt.

22 וַיַּעֲלוּ בְּנֵגֶב וַיָּבֹאוּ עַד חֶבְרוֹן  
וְשֵׁם אַחִימָן שֵׁשׁי וְתַלְמִי יְלִידֵי הָעֵנָק  
וְחֶבְרוֹן שְׁבַע שָׁנִים נִבְנְתָה  
לִפְנֵי צֵעַן מִצְרַיִם. <sup>16</sup>

Trace the trail of the spies based on the text above.



וְחֶבְרוֹן שְׁבַע שָׁנִים נִבְנְתָה  
לִפְנֵי צֵעַן מִצְרַיִם.

*Hebron was established 7 years before Zo'an in Egypt.*

Rashbam taught that this line was included because the older the city, the more important it was. Hebron, according to Rashbam was more important than the city in Egypt.

How is the principle that the older something is, the more important it is still true today?

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25 They returned after 40 days of **scouting** the land.

26 They went straight to **Moshe** and **Aaron** and all of the community of Israel at Midbar Paran in a place called **Kadesh**. They spoke to the entire community and showed them the **fruit of the land**.

27 They explained to them:  
*We came to the land you sent us.  
It was indeed flowing with milk  
and honey and fruit.*

*28 But, the people who live there  
in the land are fierce and the  
cities are fortified and very large.  
We also saw the giants there.*

30 Caleb quieted the people before Moshe and said: Let us **go up** at once and take possession of it because we are able to overcome it!

25 וַיָּשׁוּבוּ **מִתּוֹר** הָאָרֶץ מִקֶּץ אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם.

26 וַיֵּלְכוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל **מֹשֶׁה** וְאֶל **אַהֲרֹן**  
1 וְאֶל כָּל עֵדַת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל מִדְבַּר  
2 פָּאֲרָן **קִדְשָׁה** וַיִּשְׁיבוּ אֹתָם  
3 דָּבָר וְאֵת כָּל הָעֵדָה וַיִּרְאוּם  
4 אֶת **פְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ**.

27 וַיִּסְפְּרוּ לוֹ וַיֹּאמְרוּ:

5 בָּאוּנוּ אֶל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר שְׁלַחְתָּנוּ  
6 וְגַם זָבַת חֶלֶב וּדְבַשׁ הוּא וְזֶה פְּרִיָּהּ.

28 אָפֶס כִּי עַז הָעַם הַיֹּשֵׁב בְּאֶרֶץ  
7 וְהָעָרִים בְּצֻרוֹת גְּדֹלַת מְאֹד וְגַם  
8 יְלָדֵי הָעֵנָק רָאִינוּ שָׁם.

30 וַיִּהְיֶה כָּלֵב אֶת הָעַם אֶל מֹשֶׁה  
9 וַיֹּאמֶר **עֲלֵה נַעֲלֵה**  
10 וַיִּרְשָׁנוּ אֹתָהּ כִּי יָכוֹל נוֹכַל לָהּ.

*The other spies said:  
The land we saw is one that devours its settlers-  
-the people there are huge and we looked like  
grasshoppers compared to them!*

וַיִּהְיֶה כָּלֵב אֶת הָעַם אֶל מֹשֶׁה  
וַיֹּאמֶר עֲלֵה נַעֲלֵה  
וַיִּרְשָׁנוּ אֹתָהּ כִּי יָכוֹל נוֹכַל לָהּ.

All of the scouts saw the same sites and people in the land, why were there different reports by כָּלֵב and יְהוֹשֻׁעַ?

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Which spies were telling the truth?

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Why did מֹשֶׁה need spies?  
Why didn't God just tell B'nai Yisrael what was waiting for them in the land?

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Who do you think you would have listened to? כָּלֵב and יְהוֹשֻׁעַ or the other spies?

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