

PARSHAS SHEMINI

ת"ס

Motiv8

M8

with R' Ori Strum



PARSHAH OVERVIEW

The parshah discusses the eighth day of inauguration, the passing of Nadav/Avihu, laws of mourning during service, and the prohibition of being intoxicated during services. The parsha also highlights the laws of Jewish Kashrus.



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PARSHAH STATS

Pesukim - 91

Words - 1,238

Letters - 4,670

Mitzvos - 17



GEMATRIA



The numerical value of שמני, the name of the parsha, is 410, which is the same as קדוש - holiness. In the realm of numbers, the number שמני - or 8 - represents holiness, as it is one more than seven, which is nature.

THOUGHTS IN CHASSIDUS

The Opter Rav, in his Sefer Ohev Yisroel, brings a fascinating reason why there is a custom to make shlisel challah right after Pesach. We just started counting Sefira, and we are now climbing the 50 שערי בינה - gates of understanding. We need a key for each gate!



DID YOU KNOW



We know that food has an impact on one's mental health! According to WebMD, if you eat lots of processed meat, fried food, refined cereals, candy, pastries, and high-fat dairy products, you're more likely to be anxious and depressed.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Good leaders create followers, but great leaders create leaders."

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks zt"l

QUICK VORT

The Parshah discusses the qualifications and laws of the Kosher Diet.

Parshah Shemini falls out most years right after Pesach, and the timing is of course not a coincidence.

The Meor V'Shemesh explains that we just celebrated a Yom Tov of eating Matzah, a food filled with so much holiness, which gave our mouths an elevated spiritual experience.

The message of Parshas Shemini - through its discussion of Kosher and non-kosher foods - is meant to teach us to take this holy Pesach food experience and continue it!

Keep guarding your mouth - not just what comes out, but also what comes in - and in that merit, we will attain great levels of holiness and Torah in our lives.

Have a holy Shabbos!