**Questions for Understanding and Reflection**

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

My imagination was fired by the Targum to Bereshit (Genesis) 14:14: And when Abram heard that his brother was made captive, he armed his young men who were trained for war, grown up in his house; but they willed not to go with him. And he chose from them **Eliezer the son of Nimrod**, who was equal in strength to all the three hundred and eighteen; and he pursued unto Dan.

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:1?

**Amraphel** – Who is this ‘masked’ man?

**the king of Goyim** – Is Goyim a real place?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:5?

**And in the fourteenth year of their rebellion, Chedorloemer came** – Why is Chedorloemer mentioned?

**and the kings** – How many kings were there?

**and the Zuzim** - Who are the Zuzim?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:12?

**and he was living in Sodom** - What brought this about to him [that he was taken captive]?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:13?

**And the fugitive came** – Who was this fugitive?

**the Hebrew** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: הָעִבְרִי?

**Abram’s confederates** – What caused them to be confederates?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:14?

**and he armed** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: וַיָרֶק?

**his trained men** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: חֲנִיכָיו and who are these trained men?

**three hundred and eighteen** – How is this to be understood?

**until Dan** – Why is this place mentioned?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:18?

**And Malchizedek** – Who is this man?

**bread and wine** – Why were these brought?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:21?

**Give me the souls** – What are we to understand from this request?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 14:24?

**the lads** – Who are these lads?

1. Why does the Ramban reject the statement in Beresheet Rabba: **“However, the Torah declares the end from the beginning”** as applicable to either a Peshat or Remes interpretation?

Because the Midrash is to be interpreted at the level of Drash, and the Midrashic interpretation is not derived in the remez or pshat.

1. The Rabbis have stated the key principle: **“However, the Torah declares the end from the beginning.”** To which modes of interpretation does this principle **only** apply?

The drash and sod level. (Consider the sod in sefer Revelation 1:8 where we see “I am the alef and the Tav [alpha and omega]…)

1. Isaiah 40:17 is a restatement of Genesis 12:3; Genesis 18:18; Genesis 28:14Why? Please explain your answer.

Because the Gentiles were delivered into Avraham’s hand and he could either bless them or curse them. Without being blessed, by being grafted in, they are nothing. When they are blessed and grafted in, then they are counted.

1. Why is Psalm 10 composed as a Psalm for times of war?

Because King David was commenting on our Torah portion and he was seeing the war of the four kings vs. the five kings as a prototypical war and that men would need help in the times of war.

1. Why is the word **“immediately”** intimately connected with the word **“to serve”** or **“servanthood”?**

We see both of these words side-by-side in our portions from Mark and Luke, and we know that adjacent words are related.

Only the one who runs immediately to do his master’s bidding can be considered a true servant. The true servant considers his Master’s life and welfare before his own.

1. What is being hinted in the following three statements from Deuteronomy: **“the LORD your G-d will raise up to you a Prophet from the midst of you, of your brothers, One like ‎me. To Him you will listen, (De. 18:15) “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brothers, ‎one like you, and will put My words in His mouth.” “And He will speak to them all that I will ‎command Him.” (De. 18:18) And it will happen, whatever man will not listen to My Words which He ‎will speak in My name, I will require it of him. (De. 18:19)‎”‎?**

That Mashiach is a gilgul of Moshe.

Giberet Laurie: It means that Yeshua the Messiah is a second Moshe, Yeshua will be a blessing to the nations by turning us away from wickedness and to the way of the Torah. We must listen to his words, and become part of his nation, whoever does not listen to his words will be cut off, will be as nothing.

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

Trust in HaShem and carefully prepare for war by diligently pursuing both the study of the written and the oral Torah.

Adon Ezra: Always be on the lookout to help those who are trying to cross over to the other side and have a true desire to attach (be grafted into) the cultivated olive tree.

Dr. Elisheva Oakley: Strive to become true servants…… move immediately when called upon.

HH Adon Eliyahu: Be an immediate constructive, part of building and securing community with all our resources.

Giberet laurie: We have to make every effort to listen to Yeshua, so that we will remain grafted into the nation of Abraham. Not tomorrow, but immediately, today.