

Lesson 4 - Structure of פרק א

Objective: Students should be able to find the structure of פרק א. They should realize that Moshe gives a historical review of Bnei Yisrael's travels but inserts two digressions into important events that occurred during those travels.

Activity: (1 period)

Worksheet:

1. What does Hashem command Bnei Yisrael to do in p. 6-8?

2. Scan the perek to see where this command is fulfilled. Which part of the commandment is fulfilled?

3. Which sections don't fit into the story of the travels?

4. What do those sections talk about?

[L04 Perek 1 - Judges - Worksheet.doc](#)



Hashem commands Bnei Yisrael to (1) leave Horeb and go to Har Haemori which refers to the southern border of Israel at קדש ברנע (this is indicated in pasuk 19-20), and (2) to continue into the land and inherit all of it. Pasuk 7 is important for understanding the geography of Israel. It lists from East to West all of the major regions: ערבה is the Jordan valley, בהר is the central mountain range, ובשפלה is the lowlands, ובנגב is the south, ובחוף הים is the Mediterranean coast. Before Bnei Yisrael can fulfill the commandment, however, Moshe must appoint judges in order to properly lead the people since their population has grown since year 2. Once that is accomplished, they fulfill the first part of the commandment (pesukim 19-20). Before completing the commandment, however, they send spies, become afraid to continue, and are punished. Pasuk 46 ends the chapter by stating that they had to remain at קדש ברנע and that generation was never able to fulfill the complete commandment. The next two lessons will deal with the two digressions in פרק א.

Summary Blackboard and Sheet:

Structure of פרק א.

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| Command to travel from Sinai to Israel | ו-ה |
| Appointing Judges | ט-יה |
| Partial fulfillment of command in p 6-8. Arrive at Kadesh Barnea. | יט |
| Further command to go inherit the land | כ-כא |
| Spies | כב-מה |
| Remain in Kadesh Barnea and never completely fulfill the commandment | מו |

Structure of פרק א

Introduction to Historical Speech א-א-ה

1. Command to leave from Sinai and travel to Har ha-Emori at southern border of Israel,
 (ו) וְדַן אֱלֹהֵינוּ דְבַר אֱלֵינוּ בְּחָרֵב לֵאמֹר רַב לָכֶם שָׁבַת בְּהַר הַזֶּה:
 (ז) פָּנוּ וְסַעוּ לָכֶם וּבֵאוּ הַר הָאֵמֹרִי

2. and to continue to inherit all of the land
 וְאֵל כָּל שְׁכֵנֵי בְעֶרְבָה בְּהַר יְבִשְׁפָלָה וּבְנֶגֶב וּבְחֹרֵף הַיָּם אֶרֶץ הַקְּנַעֲנִי וְהַלְבֹנוּן עַד הַנְּהַר הַגָּדֹל נְהַר פְּרָת:
 (ח) רְאֵה נָתַתִּי לְפָנֵיכֶם אֶת הָאָרֶץ בָּאוּ וּרְשׁוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁפַע דְּדַן לְאַבְתֵיכֶם לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וּלְיַעֲקֹב לְתֵת לָהֶם וּלְזֶרְעָם אַחֲרֵיהֶם:

Appointing Judges ט-יה יח
 הָבוּ לָכֶם אַנְשִׁים חֲכָמִים וְנֹבְנִים וַיִּדְעִים לְשִׁבְטֵיכֶם
 וְאֲשִׁימָם בְּרִאשֵׁיכֶם

1. Fulfillment of first part of command
 (יט) וַנִּשַׁע מִחֲרֵב וַנֵּלֶךְ אֶת כָּל הַמִּדְבָּר הַגָּדוֹל וְהַנוֹרָא הַהוּא אֲשֶׁר רְאִיתֶם דְּרָךְ הַר הָאֵמֹרִי כַּאֲשֶׁר צָנָה
 וְדַן אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶתְנוּ וְנָבֵא עַד קֹדֶשׁ בְּרַנֵּעַ:
 (כ) וְאָמַר אֲלֵכֶם בְּאֵתֶם עַד הַר הָאֵמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר דָּן אֱלֹהֵינוּ נָתַן לָנוּ:

2. Repetition of second part of command
 (כא) רְאֵה נָתַן דְּדַן אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְפָנֵינוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ עֲלֵה רֵשׁ כַּאֲשֶׁר דְּבַר דְּדַן אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֲבֹתֵינוּ לָךְ אֵל תִּירָא וְאֵל
 תַּחַת:

Spies כב-מה
 נִשְׁלַחְהָ אַנְשִׁים לְפָנֵינוּ וְיַחְפְּרוּ לָנוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ

2. Failure to fulfill second part of command
 (מו) וַתִּשְׁבּוּ בְקֹדֶשׁ יָמִים רַבִּים כְּיָמִים אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּתְתֶּם: