

**nageela**

**Shabbos**

SEASON 1, EPISODE 29

Registration is  
open for Camp  
Nageela West  
2023  
[nageelawest.org/summer](http://nageelawest.org/summer)

HAVE A

A Kid Friendly Torah Magazine by Nageela West Coast

## Dvar Torahites by Rabbi Dani Locker

## DVAR TORAH

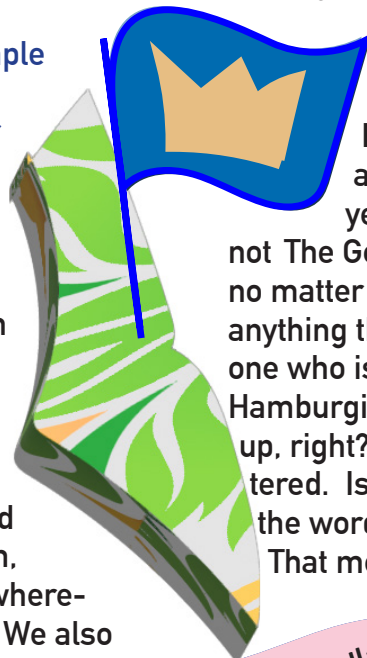
Why did God give us the land of Israel? (Please choose all that apply)

- (a) Because North Dakota was already taken.
- (b) So that we could learn to make falafel.
- (c) Because He promised it to our forefathers.
- (d) Because God loves Israeli politics.
- (e) Because the other people living there were naughty.
- (f) So there would be people to sell stuff at mall kiosks.
- (g) So that we could build a Holy Temple and be close to Him.
- (h) Because Israeli pickles are better than dill pickles.

God has many reasons for the things He does. Surely we can't assume to know or understand them all. However, if you picked choice D, you need to read the Torah again much more closely. Or possibly Eichah.

We know that God promised the Land of Israel to our forefathers. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob all had prophecies where-in our special land was guaranteed. We also understand that one of the reasons God

wanted us to live in the Land of Israel is because of the greater potential for awesomeness, in the presence of the incredible Beis Hamikdash, the crown jewel of Jerusalem (I suppose it's accurate to call it the crown jewel of the world, as well). Yet in this week's parsha, the Torah tells us that we get the land of Israel because the other nations who lived there did bad stuff. While that may be true, why do the sins of the Canaanites, weird as their name may be, have anything to do with us? God promised us the land! The Jevusites and the Veganites and the Gergashites and the Disney-ites and the North Carolinites... I'm not sure those are all actual nations. What does their behavior have to do with us? Ralbag explains (that's the title of an awesome Rabbi who lived just about 700 years ago- he's also called Gershonides- not The Gershonites- that would be awkward) that no matter what God promised us, He will never do anything that isn't fair and appropriate for everyone who is affected. Had the Gorgonites and the Hamburgites (you know I'm making these names up, right?) not sinned, we. Would. Not. Have. Entered. Israel. Period. [Do I need a period after the word period? Seems a bit redundant] That means that anything that happens in the world, whether it's an



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# QUESTION OF THE WEEK

A LOTTERY IS FEATURED IN THIS WEEK'S PARSHA, AS THE WAY OF CHOOSING BETWEEN TWO GOATS; ONE OF WHICH WAS SENT OFF A CLIFF. WHAT OTHER TWO INSTANCES OF A LOTTERY (USING 2 DIFFERENT WORDS) ARE MENTIONED IN BIBLICAL LITERATURE?

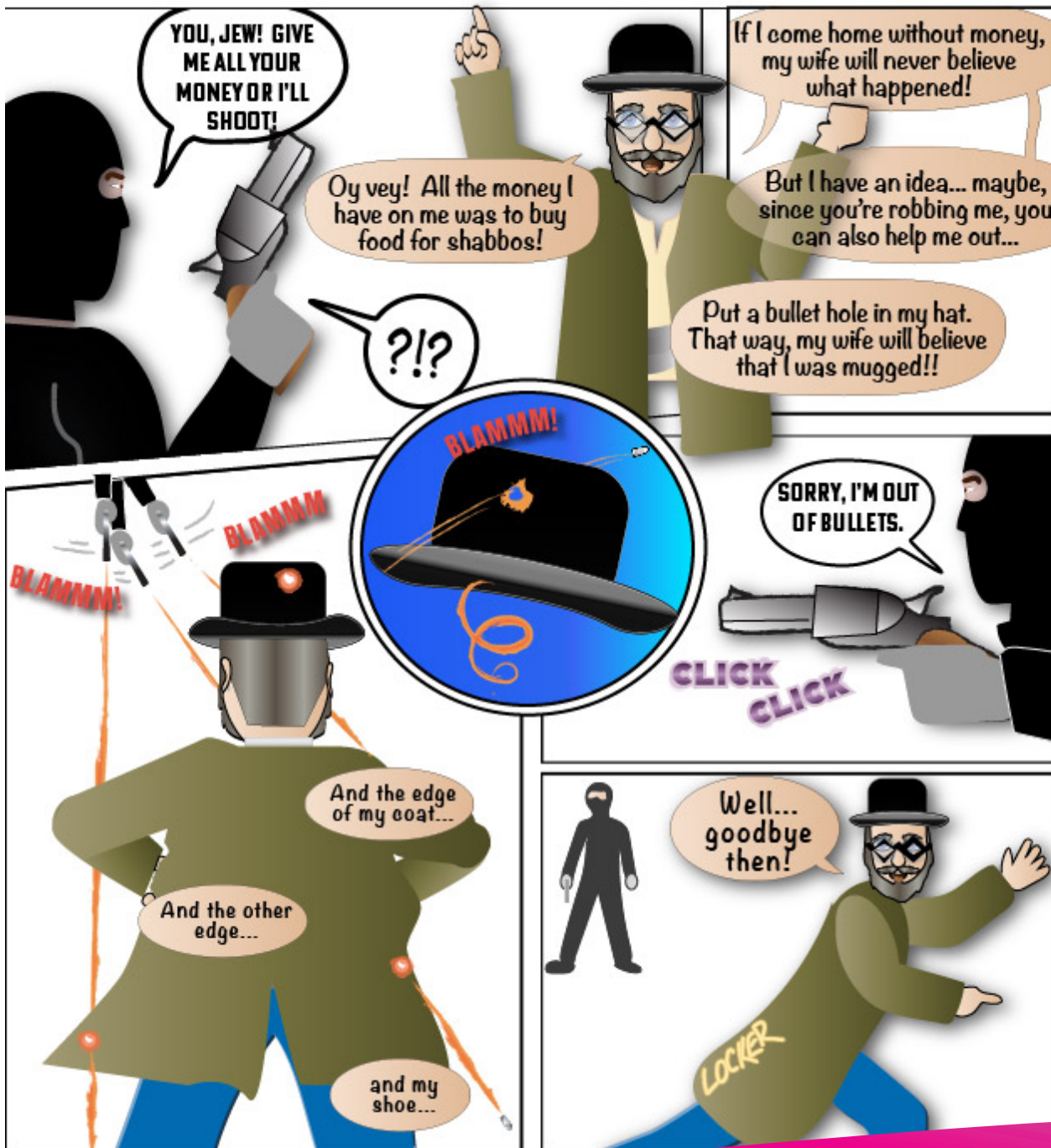
**NO CHEATING**  
ANSWER ON PAGE 4

earthquake, a lottery winner, a pandemic or a poorly made film adaptation of a book- will not affect you unless God actively decides it should affect you. There's a lot of math and logistics involved, and no, you can't check an app to see whether you're likely to be affected. Yet we can be confident and secure in knowing that if we do our part, be the best people and best Jewsites we can be, we won't be negatively affected by incidents that occur around us. Was there an ancient nation called Website?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

## CRAFTS GROUP FOR GIRLS- THIS Wednesday

@ LAS VEGAS KOLEL. CONTACT US FOR INFO



GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED  
COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2023

PICKLE JEWS

# STUMP THE RABBI

Stump the Rabbi is a forum where kids can ask ANY Jewish question.

Have a question? Please send it in to [stump@nageelawest.org](mailto:stump@nageelawest.org)

(Most) questions here are real. Names and some wording have been changed.

**Note & Disclaimer:** We call this 'Stump The Rabbi' for fun, but that's not really the point. The goal is to learn something important in an interesting way. The answers here should not be taken as halachic decisions. You should always ask a competent Rabbi personally.

Hi Rabbi,

**My science teacher keeps talking about the Big Bang theory. I'm pretty sure Jews don't believe in the Big Bang. What should I say?**

**#238**

**Bang, bang!  
You're created!**

Thanks,

Ian Stein

Dear Ianstein,

Oh gosh. There are so many jokes you've just opened the door to. What happens to criminal photons? They get sent to prism. I'm basically allowed to make any science joke that pops into my head. Or bangs into my head. But the patience of readers, like the universe, is finite. Which is really the point, so I'll get to it. I hear from many kids that they assume the Big Bang theory contradicts the Torah. That's simply not true. Today isn't the day when we'll get heavily involved in Science vs. Torah debate. There's a lot to discuss. For now I'll just talk about this one tiny theory, called the Big Bang theory. I am going to try to make this as simple as possible so all our readers can gain something. If you want to understand the matter at a greater depth, I recommend you read the books by Dr. Gerald Schroeder.

You see, there was a problem. A problem with a dude named Aristotle. He believed, as did many other philosophers and scientists, that the universe has always existed. Like, there was no first birthday or bar mitzvah or anything. It was just always there. That it is eternal

and infinite. Now THAT theory definitely does not agree with the Torah's claim that God created the universe, meaning that first there was nothing, and then there was something. Until around 1960, most scientists agreed with this mistaken idea that the universe always existed. Then came the Big Bang theory. The foundation of the theory is that the universe did not always exist, and then 'some event' happened which created the universe. In other words, there was nothing, and then there was something.

There are a few variations among scientists of exactly what happened and how it happened. Many scientists do believe (in theory) that this explosion happened spontaneously, like the explosion that happens any time you leave your 7 year old in charge of baking a cake all by herself. Yet those are just details. Most scientists at this point agree that something- some event created the universe as we know it. We like to call that thing God. It seems far more likely that a universe that



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DAYS UNTIL  
CNW GIRLS  
2023

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DAYS UNTIL  
CNW BOYS  
2023

# DEEP THOUGHTS

## DRAGONS MIGHT THINK IT'S WEIRD THAT PEOPLE CREATE WATER IN OUR MOUTHS.

very suddenly came into being was guided in its birth rather than a completely spontaneous bang.

So when your teacher speaks about the Big Bang theory, you shouldn't feel threatened. You can be proud that scientists have figured out what the Torah has been saying for thousands of years.

Please keep in mind that this is a very short and oversimplified answer to an extremely complex discussion. Anyone who is interested or concerned about getting to the bottom of this should reach out to an experienced Rabbi for further discussion.

Have a Nageela Shabbos,

*The Rabbi*

WE'D LIKE TO WISH AN AWESOMETASTIC  
**MAZEL TOV** TO NAGEELA WEST CAMPER **SHADE MAZKIN**  
 WHO IS CELEBRATING HIS BAR MITZVAH THIS WEEK!

**LAS VEGAS KIDS, JOIN US AT BRUSTERS ICE CREAM EVERY MONDAY!**  
 4/6 GRADERS FROM 5-6PM  
 7/8 GRADERS FROM 6-7PM

# HBD

We'd like to wish a happy birthday to:

MARYGRACE BOWER  
 BERTHA COHEN  
 DOVID NIMAN  
 JACOB BASHKIN  
 SHADE MAZKIN  
 DANIEL ANSON  
 OSHRI LUGASI  
 HUNTER BYRD  
 MAX BYRD  
 MAIA ZELKHA

FIND MORE INFO ON OUR YEAR-ROUND EVENTS BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW



READ OVER 250 EPISODES IN OUR ARCHIVES BY SCANNING THE CODE BELOW

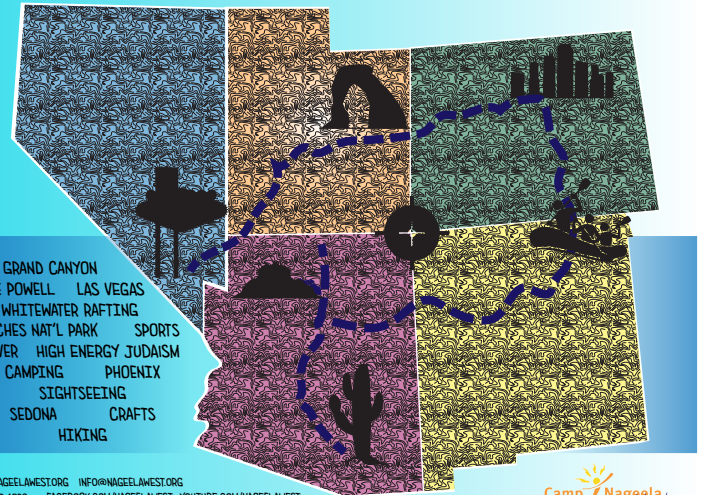


# CAMP NAGEELA WEST 2023

PREMIER JEWISH TRAVEL CAMP- AGES 9-15  
\*MAP REPRESENTS APPROXIMATE ITINERARY. SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



SESSION 1: JUNE 26- JULY 13 [GIRLS]  
 SESSION 2: JULY 17- AUGUST 3 [BOYS]



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## ANSWER OF THE WEEK

QUESTION ON PAGE 2

HEY! STOP! THINK FIRST. NO PEEKING!

THE WORD 'GORAL' OR LOTTERY IS MENTIONED IN CONNECTION TO HOW THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE DIFFERENT TRIBES AND FAMILIES.  
 THE OTHER WORD IS 'PUR' WHICH OF COURSE REFERS TO THE LOTTERY MADE BY HAMAN IN MEGILAS ESTHER.

## LITZ THREE CONSPIRACY THEORISTS WALKED INTO A BAR...

YOU CAN'T TELL ME THAT'S A COINCIDENCE!

THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER? YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. SEND YOUR JOKES IN TO DLOCKER@NAGEELAWEST.ORG



www.nageelawest.org

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