Season 8, EPISODe 23 Shmini- Hachodesh 5784

future. pigs might fly. not However, they will chew. IS it even safe to chew and fly at the same time?

In

the

DVAR

TORAH

In this week's Torah portion, we are told not to eat pigs. We also shouldn't eat LIKE pigs, but that's a different conversation. The reason we don't eat pigs is because they don't chew their cud. FYI, I don't chew my cud either. Usually.

Recently a kid told me, "I'm not Kosher." I replied, "I'm not either. It's gross to eat people." But back to the pigs, the Torah specifies that we don't eat pigs because they're missing that one ingredient- the ruminating chewie function that cows and sheep have. The implication is that if pigs WOULD have that sign, they would be Kosher. In fact, some sources (specifically, the Or Hachaim and Chasam Sofer) say that in the future (perhaps when Mashiach arrives, or after the resurrection) pigs WILL chew their cud (cuds?) and will therefore be

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When Pigs Fly

by Rabbi Dani Locker

Kosher. bacon So breakfasts will completely legal.

be

There's something interesting here. If God wants to make pigs Kosher, surely, God can make pigs Kosher. Or make them fly. Or whatever! Why would it be necessary to change their very physiology to have them ruminate? The Or Hachaim explains that there's a beautiful concept here. The Torah does not change.

Ever.

Period.

lf the Torah says mammals e e d n kosher kosher. then

EXPIRATION DATE: _---two sians to be they need two signs to be Kosher. There's no way around

continued on two, too.

that. God will actually CHANGE them to something different, realign the entire body structure of a species, rather than change one rule in the Torah.

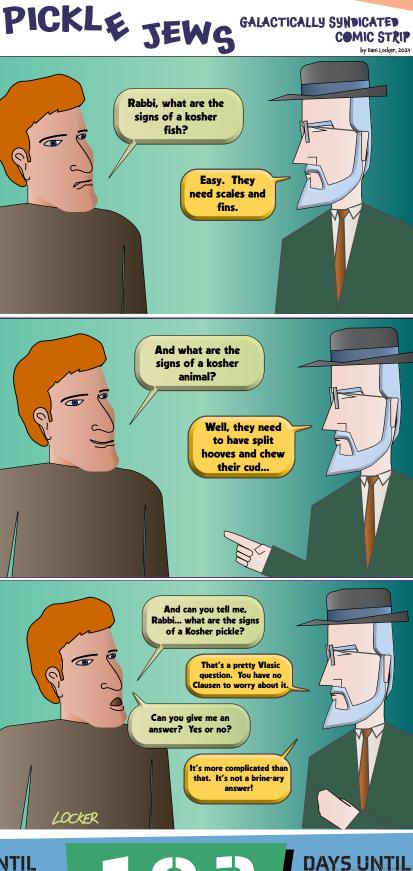
won from page one

Some people get the impression that the Torah was a wonderful book of wisdom for, say, 3,000 years ago, but that its lessons are less relevant today. Certainly many things in the world have changed drastically. We can now fly across continents in a matter of hours, and communicate Modern medicine has instantly. evolved in ways that keep people alive longer, and agricultural advances have drastically reduced the risk of starvation in the world. So may things have changed. Yet our moral compass has not. The things the Torah tells us are God's message of what's right and what's wrong. These things do not change. These things can not change. It's easier to change the universe than to change a value. When we see the Torah's lessons, it's so important for us to understand that every single lesson of the Torah is just as true and just as relevant to us in 2024 CE as they were in 2024 BCE.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Camels are mentioned in the Torah many times. In fact, out of the five books of the Torah, camels are mentioned in 4 of them.
1. Can you figure out which book does NOT contains any camels?
2. Can you think of one mention of camels in each of the other books?

Answer is on page 2. DON'T CHEAT!



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DEADLINE TO ENTER APRIL 4. 2024

If money doesn't grow on trees, then why do banks have branches?

stin

1 BOP

ANSWER OF THE WEEK

BIG THANK YOU to the Summerlin Kollel community for hosting last week's Shabbaton! Our 30+ Shabbaton participants had an amazing, uplifting Shabbos!



Yo, whatcha lookin at? You gotta think first!

J. The book of Bamidbar (Numbers), Book #4 has no mention of camels. S. Bereishis has many mentions, including Eliezer bringing camels to find a wife for Isaac, and Jacob's gift to Esau. Shemos has the mention of camels affected by the plague of dever. Vayikra and Devarim both mention camels (one in this week's parsha) in both mention camels (one in this week's parsha) in relation to their kosher status.

15TH



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DEEP

THOUGHTS

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