



## Parasha #17

# Itro

# יתרו

### Themes of this parasha



Visit of Itro



Moses appoints judges



Israel in Sinai



The 10 words



Laws of the Altar



### Mitzvot



I am Adonai your Elohim who brought you out of the land of Egypt



You shall have no other gods before me.



You shall not take the name of Adonai your Elohim in vain



Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.



Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land that YHWH your God is giving you.



Thou shalt not murder.



You shall not commit adultery.



Thou shalt not steal



You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.



You shall not covet.

MEANING:  
JETHRO  
SHEMOT 18:1-20:26

Jethro, the priest of Midian and Moses' father-in-law, heard about the miracles God had performed to deliver Israel from Egypt. He met with Moses in the desert, bringing Zipporah and his two sons, Gershom and Eliezer. Moses received Jethro with respect and recounted all that had happened. Jethro rejoiced and acknowledged God's greatness in delivering the people, exclaiming his praise. Afterward, he offered sacrifices to God and shared a meal with Aaron and the elders of Israel.



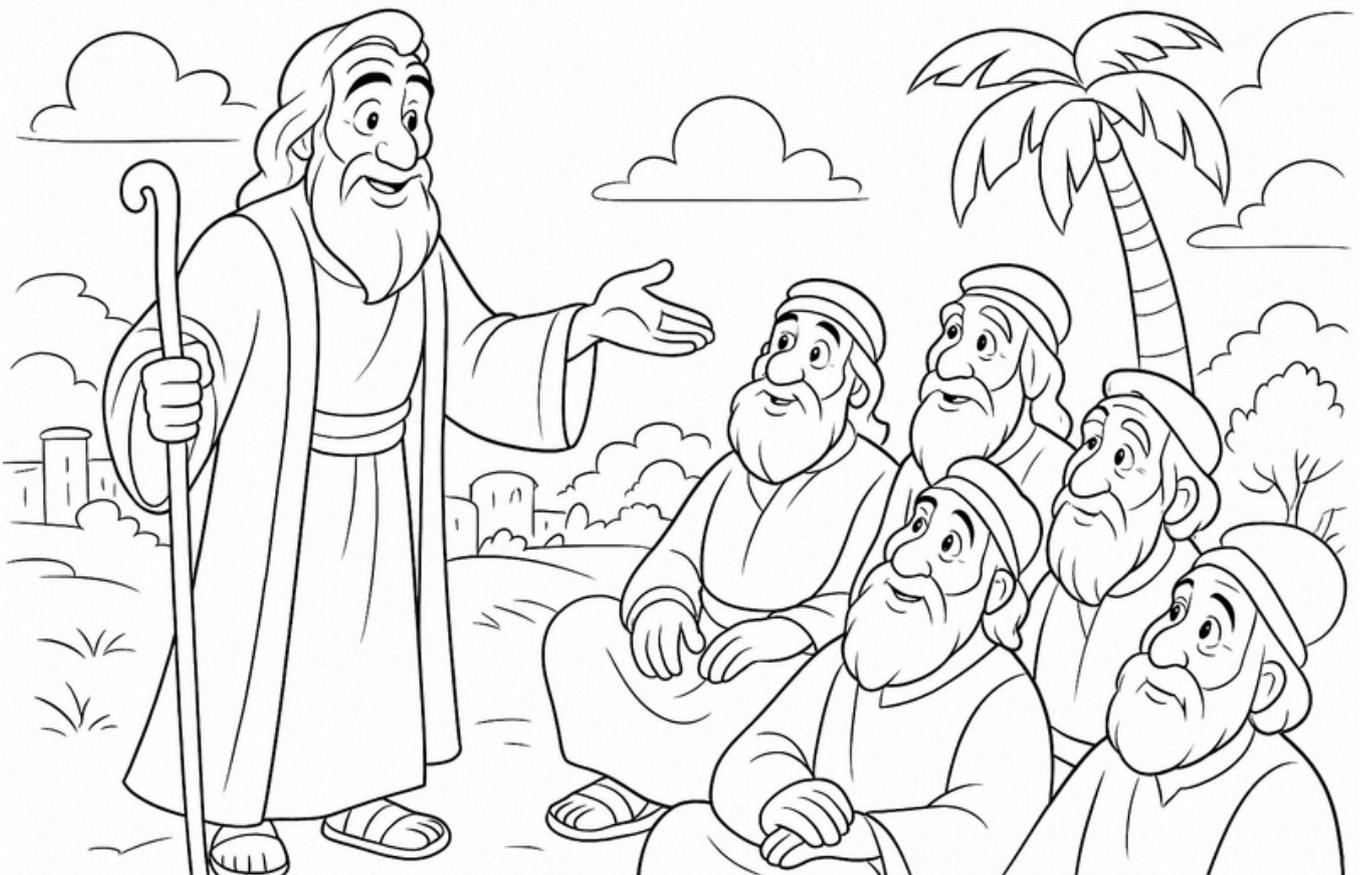


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The next day, Moses sat to judge the people, who came to him all day long. His father-in-law, seeing this, asked him why he was doing it alone. Moses explained that the people came to consult him on matters and to learn the statutes of God. His father-in-law advised him that he could not bear this burden alone, suggesting that he represent the people before God and delegate capable men as leaders to judge minor matters. Moses followed his advice, choosing leaders to lighten his load, allowing the people to return home in peace.





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In the third month after leaving Egypt, the Israelites camped in the Sinai Desert. Moses went up the mountain, where Adonai called him to deliver a message to the people: if they listened to His voice and kept His covenant, they would be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Moses conveyed these words to the elders, and the people agreed to obey. Adonai announced to Moses that He would appear in a cloud and commanded him to sanctify the people, preparing them for His arrival on the third day, warning them not to touch the mountain.

On the third day, there was thunder and lightning on Mount Sinai, where Moses had led the people to meet with God. God descended in fire, and the mountain shook. Moses was instructed to warn the people and the priests to consecrate themselves, for they were not to approach the mountain. Moses went down and delivered the message to the people.





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Elohim proclaimed the following words to the people of Israel:

- I am YHWH your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt
- You shall have no other gods before me.
- You shall not take the name of YHWH your God in vain
- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that YHWH your God is giving you.
- Thou shalt not murder.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- Thou shalt not steal
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- You shall not covet.

And all the people saw the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking. When the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance. They said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come to test you, so that the fear of him may be before you, and that you may not sin." So the people stood at a distance while Moses approached the thick cloud, where God was.





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And the Lord said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'You yourselves saw that I spoke to you from heaven. You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you fashion gods of gold. You shall make for me an altar of earth and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your flock and your herd. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you. And if you make me an altar of stones, you shall not build it of hewn stone, for if you use your chisel on it, you will profane it. And you shall not go up to my altar by steps, lest your nakedness be exposed on it.'"





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Make a pop-up card, fold the boards along the dotted line, and glue Mosheh by the tab marked A-B.

On the small tablets, write each commandment, and join the tablets in Moses' hands, using the picture as a guide.

לא תרצח

לא תנאף

לא תגנב

לא תענה

לא תזוז מוד

אנכי ה

לא יהיה

לא תשא

זכור את

סוד את

A

B



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A B

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not covet.

I am YHWH your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt

Thou shalt not murder.

Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

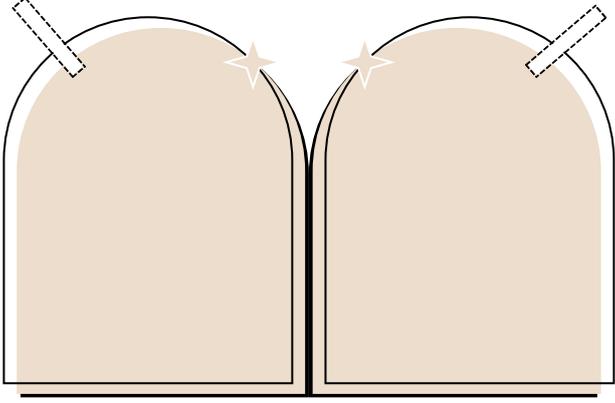
You shall have no other gods before me.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that YHWH your God is giving you.

Thou shalt not steal

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not take the name of YHWH your God in vain





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***How much did we learn from this parasha***

**1**

**What was the reaction of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, upon hearing about the miracles that God had performed to free Israel from Egypt?**

**2**

**What advice did Jethro give to Moses to lighten his burden in judging the people?**

**3**

**At what point, after leaving Egypt, did the Israelites camp in the Sinai Desert?**

**4**

**According to Adonai's message through Mosheh, what would be the conditions for Israel to become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation?**

**5**

**What phenomenon or event occurred on the third day at Mount Sinai, just before the proclamation of the Ten Words?**



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*Cut out each character from the Parasha and create puppets and have fun creating the story. Print the images, glue them onto cardboard, cut them out, glue on a stick, and create a puppet.*





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