**Questions for Understanding and Reflection**

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

I was impressed by Luke 6:24 translation: “But woe to you who are wealthy, because you have received your consolation”.

This passage impressed me because it suggests that we need to use whatever wealth we have, very carefully.

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:22?

**And God remembered Rachel** – What did G-d remember about Rachel?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:24?

**May the Lord grant me yet another son** – Why didn’t she ask for more than one son?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:27?

**I have divined** – What did he divine?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:30?

**upon my arrival** – Why is the foot mentioned?

**when will I, too, provide [something] for my household** – What did he wish for his household?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:33?

**And my righteousness will testify for me, etc**. – How will it testify?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:38?

**And he thrust** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: וַּיַּצֵג?

**into the gutters** – What are the gutters?

**where...would come, etc.** – What happened here?

**and they would come into heat, etc.** – How did this work?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:40?

**And Jacob separated the sheep** – How did he do this?

**and he made himself flocks** – How did he do this?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 30:43?

**prolific animals** – How were they prolific?

**and maidservants and manservants** – How did he acquire these?

1. What questions were asked of Rashi regarding Gen. 31:1?

**he has amassed** – What is the meaning of the Hebrew word: עָשָָׂה?

1. What determinate Halakhot are found in the Nazarean Talmud for the Sidra of B’resheet (Genesis) 30:22 – 31:2‎‎?

“Let your house be a gathering place for sages.

“And wallow in the dust of their feet.

“And drink in their words with gusto.”

1. Why was Rachel especially troubled while barren?

She was afraid her barrenness would lead to her divorce and subsequent marriage to Esav.

1. How do we know that Joseph is the perfect adversary of Esau?

As soon as Joseph was born, Jacob trusted in the Holy One, blessed be He and desired to return [to Canaan].-[from B.B. 123b, Targum Jonathan ben Uzziel, Gen. Rabbah 73:7]

1. What is implied when it is said that our salvation or downfall is communal?

We are our brother’s keeper and we have a responsibility to help our brothers stand.

1. What is the benefit of the cities of refuge and for that matter the Galut (Exile)?

They provide a refuge for the inadvertant manslaughterer and provide a living Torah example to emulate in the Levites.

1. There are seven Sabbaths of Strengthening/Consolation and there are seven Paqidim (officers) in the congregation. Who of the seven officers is addressed this Shabbat by all the readings for this Sabbath?

The Moreh.

1. What consolation/s (strengthening/s) are offered in the readings for this very special Sabbath?

v.1 - Until I accomplish salvation for Zion, I will not give rest to the Gentiles, and until I bring consolation for Jerusalem, I will not give quiet to the kingdoms; until her light is revealed as the dawn, and her salvation (Yeshua) burns as a torch.

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

Now is the time to seek refuge from our sins.