



**Project:** Sermon Resource for Shluchim  
**Distribution Date:** May 27, 2008 / כ"ב אייר תשס"ח  
**Parsha:** Bamidbar – במדבר

בייה

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1. Why are Israelis more concerned with their country than other peoples? Maybe this can help us understand this week' portion.



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2. In Bamidbar the Jews begin to complain. It's about meat, equal rights, sending spies etc. Rashi says they were just looking to complain, to provoke G-d.

 For flashcards use Avery Postcards #8387 or #3263 or Quill item # 905540



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3. What suddenly happened that turned the Jews' attitude from the Joy of dedicating the Mishkan to bitter complaining?



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4. The answer has two points: Before Mishkan was built, a) Bamos were allowed and b) the firstborns ran the service. Once the Mishkan was built, Bamos were forbidden and the service went to the Levites.



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5. (The firstborns lost their rights due to their involvement with the Golden Calf. the Levites stayed out of that sin.)



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6. These changes made the people feel detached – unimportant. This leads to bitterness. And they complained, "The entire nation is holy – why should some be raised over others?"

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7. The same happened to the first Temple.  
Everything went through the kohanim. So, with the temple and prophets, the Jews lost ten tribes because they felt insignificant.



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8. The destruction of the first Temple brought about the institution of prayer. Now everyone is in control of his own service.



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9. The lesson:  
 Every person needs to take  
 responsibility for the Jewish people.



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10. The more you do for the Jewish  
 people the more you will feel a  
 personal connection to it and to your  
 own Judaism.

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