

## Parsha Points to Ponder

by Rabbi Dov Lipman

### B'har-B'chukotai

1) Why does the Torah write the word SH'VI'I meaning the SEVENTH MONTH (Tishri) without the middle letter YUD (25:9) which is usually part of its spelling?

*Ed. note: The word HASH'VI'I occurs 51 times in the Torah. Only thrice is the YUD in the middle absent.*

2) Why does the Torah repeat that the Jewish people will DWELL SECURELY (25:19) after this was already taught in the previous verse (25:18)?

3) Why does the Torah conclude the parsha about sh'mita and yoveil with the command not to make idols (26:1), especially given the fact that this commandment has appeared numerous times in the Torah?

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The suggested answers are elsewhere  
Ponder the questions first, then see further

## Parsha Points to Ponder Suggested answers

1) The Baal Haturim explains that without the YUD, the word highlights the root SAVEIA which means REACHING ITS FILL. This comes to hint to the fact that the seventh month, Tishrei, with all of its holidays is a month replete and filled with commandments.

2) The Or HaChayim teaches that the first promise of security refers to no one attacking to conquer the land as emphasized by it mentioning the words ON THE LAND (AL HA'ARETZ). The second verse refers to protection from those who may seek to rob the crops of Israel, as described by the reference to the fruits of the land in this verse.

3) The Da'at Zekainim Mi'Baalei HaTosfot answer that this commandment comes to teach us how we can achieve redemption if we are not in the land of Israel and cannot fulfill the laws of sh'mita and yoveil. The key to redemption in that circumstance is not falling prey to the sin of idolatry.