

The Daily Portion

Sivan Rahav-Meir #parasha

Attention, Boredom!

After the sin of the spies, the Nation was doomed to stay in the desert for 40 years. Immediately following that, comes the Korach portion, which describes a sad dispute between Korach and his people and Moshe and Aharon. Why do these two stories appear one after the other? What is the connection between them?

Rabbi Ben Zion Fiehrer writes that at the root of this story, is lack of activity, boredom: "When one has free time - one has to do something. And when one has nothing to do, one starts disputes. The Nation just found out that they will have to remain 40 years in the desert and that most of them would die there. There is no longer excited anticipation in the air, there is no need to prepare for the entrance to the Land, there is no great destination or an immediate goal to reach, and the feeling that time will pass aimlessly, led to a dispute. If they were all active and busy with something, it is hard to believe that a fight over honor, jealousy and ego would have broken out."

Some food for thought before the summer holiday?