

Worksheet for Debarim 1:9-18 - Appointing Judges

1. What is this digression doing here? Why do you think it is important for Moshe to bring up this event? (Opinion question. There is no one right answer so just give it your best shot.)

2. Moshe, in this final speech, reminds Bnei Yisrael of many incidents that happened before. Where are we told about the appointing of judges in the first four *sefarim* of the *humash*? (If you don't know then just continue.)

A. Read **Debarim 1:6-18** and answer the following questions. Cite the *pasuk* in Debarim where you found the answer.

3. When are the judges appointed? Before or after Matan Torah? _____

4. Whose idea is it to appoint them? _____

5. What are the qualifications to be a judge? _____

B. Read **Shemot 18:14-26**. For each question, cite the *pasuk* that proves your answer and compare with what it says in Debarim.

6. When are the judges appointed? Before or after Matan Torah? _____

7. Whose idea is it to appoint them? _____

8. What are the qualifications to be a judge? _____

9. What other similarities or differences do you notice between Shemot and Debarim? _____

10. Can you give an explanation for any of the differences? Why would Moshe change the details of the story? _____

C. Now look at **Bemidbar 11:4-34** (especially 11-17) and answer the same questions as above.

11. When are the judges appointed? Before or after Matan Torah? _____

12. Whose idea is it to appoint them? _____

13. What are the qualifications to be a judge? _____

14. What other similarities or differences do you notice? _____

15. Can you give an explanation for any of the differences? Why would Moshe change the details of the story? _____

16. What is the difference between Shemot and Bemidbar. If Moshe already has a system of judges, why can't they help him with the Bemidbar complaints? _____
