

## Rabbi's Column

Very briefly, what we see this week is the imposition of a practical administrative/judicial system as well as the broad strokes within which that system operates.

God spoke, making use of treaty language between a ruler and their vassal, proclaiming the general principles under which the people would live. God will also, over the course of the next few books, provide several detailed regulations covering what kinds of behaviors fit within the general principles.

As much of what they have done so far has been commanded by God, the operating presumption is that when there are problems, they should all be brought to God, and failing that, to God's representative. Since God's representative is only human (even if he is Moses), this does not work out too well.

Everything else in this week's portion, is, as they say, a combination of history and mystery.

What is not so mysterious is this year's Purim festivities. They begin at 10 am on Sunday, March 12. Feel free to come in costume, ready to sing, cheer and boo. See you there!