Questions for Sidra וירא

1. Why does HaShem rebuke Avrohom for Soroh's laughter rather than rebuke Soroh herself?
2. Why, do you think, ***did*** Soroh laugh? Did she really not know that HaShem can do ***any***thing?
3. What, do you think, should have been the reaction of Soroh when she heard what the angelic visitor said?
4. Whose idea is it that their son should be called "Yitzchok" ?
5. What, do you think, is the reason for this name? If it is because of Soroh's laughter, isn't it rather a shame for Soroh, to constantly and for all time to recall her laughter?
6. Why, do you think, does HaShem destroy S'dom and Amoroh (and their confederate cities) rather than let things follow their natural path? What about Man's freedom of choice?
7. How did the Dead Sea come about?
8. Why, do you think, was the wife of Lot punished in such a spectacular way?
9. What is the rebuke of Avrohom to Avimelech, the king of the Philishtim?
10. What is the outcome of these encounters of Avrohom and the kings of his times?
11. Why, do you think, did HaShem miraculously grant children to many other childless couples at the same time that Soroh and Avrohom were blessed with Yitzchok? Is HaShem some sort of a showman, to perform miracles just for the sake of showing what He can do? What need was there for the miracle of the birth of Yitzchok being repeated in those other childless couples?
12. Why, do you think, did HaShem delay the birth of Yitzchok to Avrohom and Soroh so much? After all, since it was a clear miracle that Yitzchok was born at all, why didn't He spare Avrohom and Soroh the anguish of so many years of childlessness and grant them their child somewhat sooner?
13. Why does Soroh demand that Yishmo'el and his mother, Hoggor, be sent away?
14. Can you show from the Sidra that Yishmoel and Hoggor return and re-join the house of Avrohom?
15. Why is the *Akaydoh* spoken of as the great test of Avrohom rather than the test of Yitzchok? After all, it was Yitzchok's life that was at stake. Avrohom would still be alive and HaShem could do another miracle and grant another son to Avrohom and Soroh, whereas Yitzchok would have given up his life and would have been dead!

Questions for Haftorah of וירא

16. Why did Elisha tell the woman to lock herself in her house before starting to pour the miraculous oil into the empty vessels?
17. Elisha tells Gaychazi not to insult or molest the mother of the dead child — the woman is obviously heartbroken "and HaShem has not told me about it." What does this teach us?
18. Why did Elisha lock himself in the room before he set about bringing the little boy's body back to life?