Parashat Terumah- The Mystery of the Mishkan [Tabernacle]

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of the Mishkan Shemoth [exodus] 25:1-27:19

Shemoth [Exodus] 25:1-40

The Mystery

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Shemoth [Exodus] 25: 1 And **n** spoke to Mosheh, 2 "Speak to the children of Yisra'ël, that they take up a heave offering for Me. From everyone whose heart moves him you shall take up My heave offering. 3 "And this is the contribution which you take up from them: gold and silver and bronze, 4 and blue and purple and double-dipped crimson material and fine linen and goats' hair, 5 and rams' skins dyed red and fine leather and acacia wood, 6 Oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, 7 shoham [onyx] stones and stones to be set in the shoulder garment and in the breastplate. 8 "And they shall make Me a Sanctuary [Holy] Place and I shall dwell in their midst. 9 "According to all that I am showing you – the pattern of the Dwelling Place [Mishkan] and the pattern of all its furnishings – make it exactly so. 10 "And they shall make an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide and a cubit and a half high. 11 "And you shall overlay it with clean [pure] gold, inside and outside you shall overlay it. And you shall make on it a rim of gold all around. 12 "And you shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them in its four corners, two rings on one side and two rings on the other side. 13 "And you shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, 14 and shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to lift up the ark by them. 15 "The poles are in the rings of the Ark; they are not taken from it. 16 "And into the Ark you shall put the witness which I will give you.

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17 "And you shall make a lid of atonement [mercy seat] of clean gold, two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. 18 "And you shall make two kerubim [angels] of gold, make them of beaten work, at the two ends of the lid of atonement. 19 "And make one kerub at one end and the other kerub at the other end. Make the kerubim upon the lid of atonement, at its two ends. 20 "And the kerubim shall be spreading out their wings above, covering the lid of atonement with their wings, with their faces toward each other, the faces of the kerubim turned toward the lid of atonement [the mercy seat]. 21 "And you shall put the lid of atonement on top of the ark and put into the ark the witness which I give you. 22 "And I shall meet with you there and from above the lid of atonement, from between the two kerubim which are on the ark of the Witness, I shall speak to you all that which I command you concerning the children of Yisra'ěl. 23 "And you shall make a table of acacia wood two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high. 24 "And you shall overlay it with clean gold and shall make a moulding of gold all around, 25 and shall make for it a rim of a handbreadth all around and shall make a gold moulding for the rim all around. 26 "And you shall make for it four rings of gold and put the rings on the four corners that are at its four legs. 27 "The rings are close to the rim, as holders for the poles to lift the table. 28 "And you shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold and the table shall be lifted with them. 29"And you shall make its dishes and its ladles and its jars and its bowls for pouring. Make them of clean gold.

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The Construction of the Menorah [Lampstand] Detailed

30 "And you shall put the showbread on the table before Me, continually. **31** "And you shall make a Menorah [7 branched Lampstand] of clean gold – the Menorah is made of beaten work. Its base and its shaft, its cups, its ornamental knobs and blossoms are from it, **32** and six branches shall come out of its sides: three branches of the Menorah out of one side and three branches of the Menorah out of the other side; **33** three cups made like almond flowers on one branch, with ornamental knob and blossom and three cups made like almond flowers on the other branch, with ornamental knob and blossom – so for the six branches coming out of the Menorah. **34** "And on the lampstand itself are four cups made like almond flowers, with ornamental knob and blossom, **35** and a knob under the first two branches of the same and a knob under the second two branches of the same and a knob under the third two branches are of the same, according to the six branches coming out of the lampstand. **36** "Their knobs and their branches are of the same – all of it one beaten work of clean gold. **37** "And you shall make seven lamps for it, and they shall mount its lamps so that they give light in front of it. **38** "And its snuffers and their trays are of clean gold. **39** "It is made of a talent of clean gold, with all these utensils. **40** "So see and do according to the pattern which was shown to you on the mountain.

Shemoth [Exodus] 25:1- 27:19

Introduction: This week's torah is called "Terumah" which means contribution and completely deals with the instruction regarding the building of the Mishkan or Tabernacle with the people asked to willingly contribute to this magnificent venture. However, what must first strike us is that the events are out of sequence based on our previous reading. Our last reading finished with Mosheh ascending Mount Sinai & remaining there 40 days & nights but not yet returning. Therefore, all these instructions were given to Mosheh while he was up on the Mountain & not relayed until much later.

The Instructions Within Our Portion:

- 1. Mosheh calls for contributions for the Mishkan.
- 2. The construction of the Ark and the Table of Showbread is detailed.
- **3.** Now YHWH gives instructions on making the Menorah and the Sanctuary coverings.
- 4. Dimensions for the walls, beams & their construction are then given.
- 5. Further instructions are given concerning the two divisions of the Mishkan & what they were to house.
- 6. Details are also given about the outer Altar & its transportation poles.
- Finally, the measurements of the courtyard are given being 100 cubits [approx. 50m] by 50 cubits [25m] enclosed with a mesh curtain the entrance being on the eastern side covered by a woven curtain.

The Similitude of Mount Sinai:

The true beauty of Sinai is in its unique connection that we find in the Brit Chadashah [New Covenant] so let us first begin here. This first is shown through the closing words of our previous portion when we read that Mosheh ascended the Mount & a cloud covered it for 6 days & on the 7th day the Shabbat YHWH called to Mosheh out of the midst of the cloud. We also read this in the Brit Chadashah in:



MatithYahu [Matthew] 17:1 And after six days Yeshua took Kepha [Peter] and Ya'aqob [James] and Yahuchanan [John] his brother and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves, 2 and He was transformed before them, and His face shone like the sun and His garments became as white as the light.

The similarity is striking because in **verse 5** a cloud overshadows them too & Yahweh speaks to them out of the cloud & it is also the 7th day, and the Feast of Tabernacles is near. These instructions on Mt. Sinai now are instructions to build a dwelling place [a Mishkan] or a

Tabernacle for Elohim which truly was perfectly fulfilled also with the coming of Yeshua with these words in:

Yahuchanan [John] 1:14 And the Word became flesh and pitched His tent [yishkon] among us,

Now what is fascinating is that Kepha reveals in **Kepha Aleph [2 Peter] 1:16-18** that they were on the Holy Mount since on Mount Sinai Mosheh had set boundaries around it. The true glory then is that as the cloud enveloped them, they were possibly in a moment, found on Mt. Sinai that Mount that was Holy testifying to the location of Yeshua's transfiguration. Surely this is feasible since we know later that Shaul [Paul] also went to Arabia surely to the Mount of Elohim to seek him. These 3 disciples were set-apart by the Master to accompany Him just as Mosheh & Aharon were. Mosheh had said there was coming one like unto himself & that Yisrael were to listen to Him. Then on this mountain a voice came out of the cloud and said;

"This is My beloved Son, hear Him."

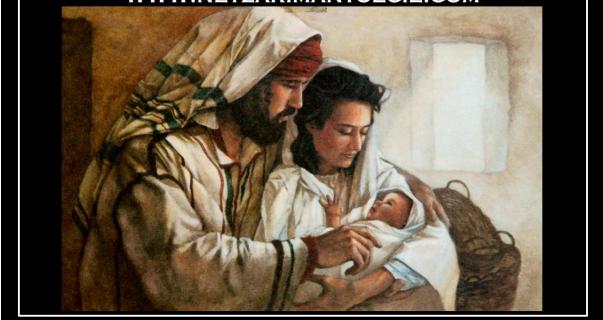
The Mishkan Construction:

We know that elohim on the mount is about to give Mosheh the tablets which are the point of contact between mankind and the Divine. The very construction of the **Mishkan** [the dwelling place], one would think begins with the building before considering the furniture. However, everything here is opposite.



Yahweh begins with the construction of the Ark that will house the very words of Elohim on tablets written by His own hand. These would form the foundation for everything written later.

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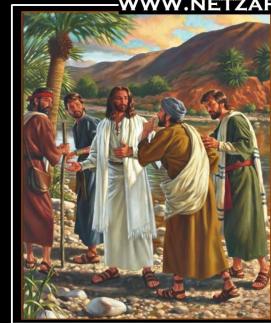
Truly the glorious coming of the Divine Word was even more wondrous when it entered into human flesh, when the **Ruach ha Kodesh** [the Holy Spirit] came upon Miriyam & the very word of Elohim was housed in the child Yeshua the Ark of Elohim. Just as the Ark of the Covenant housed the Tablets so too the flesh of the infant Yeshua housed the Word made flesh. In our Torah reading everything else that is made is described in relation to the tablets in the Ark. Not only that but let's look at the names given to the Mishkan itself as it is in this verse:



Shemoth [Exodus] 39:32 Thus all the work of the Tabernacle [the Mishkan] of the Tent of Appointment was completed.

By calling the Mishkan an **"Ohel Moed"** – a Tent of Meeting the Torah defines the function of the Mishkan as being the Testimony of where Yahweh would meet with Mankind. Surely these Tablets of the Words of Elohim are perfectly revealed in the person of Yeshua where we meet Elohim. Therefore, just as the Tablets represent the constitution of the set-apart nation of Elohim from which a Nation is founded, Yeshua himself is our constitution from which the Kingdom of Elohim is founded.

Yeshua therefore is the Word of Elohim & must aways be central to everything we build in this world. His Words, character & actions must form the constitution that we all live our lives by. This is why He says to Nathaniel these words:



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Yeshua the Ladder

Yahuchanan [John] 1:51 And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the malakhim [angels] of Elohim ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Yahuchanan [John] 1:51 And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the malachim [angels] of Elohim ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Yeshua then is the meeting point, the Tent of Appointment where Heaven & Earth meet with his blood covering the mercy seat. Just as the Mishkan rested in the centre of Yisrael Yeshua must always be at the heart of every believer as a reminder of who we represent.

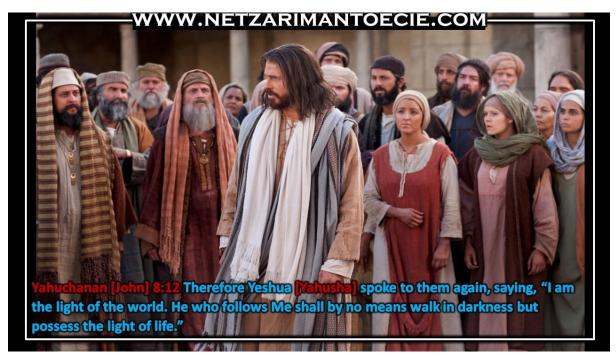
The Outward Structures of the Mishkan:



As we move out from the Ark, we come to see the 7 branch Menorah which is the only light within the Holy place and so **Yahuchanan** [John] too makes this great statement in connection to it in:

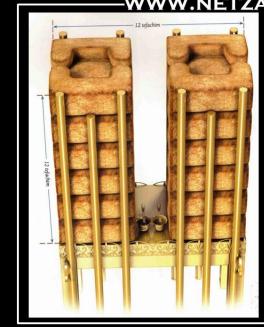
Yahuchanan [John] 1:4-5 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Yeshua also amplifies this concept when he is at the feast of Tabernacles in:



Yahuchanan [John] 8:12 Therefore Yeshua [Yahusha] spoke to them again, saying, "I am

the light of the world. He who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness but possess the light of life."



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Yahuchanan [John] 6:33 For the bread of Elohim is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

The Bread of the Face

Yahuchanan [John] 6:35 And Yeshua said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

Another amazing piece of furniture is the table of showbread which is located opposite the menorah and so we also find Yeshua speaking with words that turn our thoughts to this Showbread with this statement in:

Yahuchanan [John] 6:33 For the bread of Elohim is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

After this statement Yeshua then goes on to refer to Himself as the bread of life in:

Yahuchanan [John] 6:35 And Yeshua said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

It is by all these elements of the furnishings that we come to see how they reveal our Master with the next being the Altar of Incense:



The burning of sweet-smelling incense represents the prayers of Humanity that rise up through faith in Yeshua the Lamb since we also read in:

Hithgaluth [Revelation] 5:8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Finally in the **outer court** of the **Mishkan** [the Tabernacle]:



We find the laver of bronze which was a wash basin used by priests in the tabernacle in the wilderness, as a place where they cleansed their hands and feet. In considering this part of the priestly entry into the Mishkan we read this from Shaul [Paul] in:

Ephesians 5:26 That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **27** that He might present her to Himself a splendid assembly, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.



Now we come to the **Altar of Sacrifice** which surely most appropriately represents our Master Yeshua who was the perfect sacrifice for all sins that gives the right of believers to enter the dwelling of Yahweh best represented by what happened when Yeshua on the Tree gave His life as we read in:



MatithYahu [Matthew] 27:51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

Consolidating the Truth of the Mishkan:

The true measure & Magnificence of Yahweh the creator of all can only be seen by his great desire to dwell among His people.



Even in Judaism the Rabbis fully grasp that it was never the intent for YHWH to dwell in an enclosure through which man had to enter through various hurdles & representatives to approach Him which was the **Mishkan** but because of Yisrael's constant failures it was necessary. We however have had the joy of seeing the wondrous means by which Yahweh has made it possibly for us to come to Him which was through His son being the brightness of His esteem who willingly sacrificed Himself that we would have access to His presence to receive Everlasting life.

Conclusion:

May we never fail to see how Yeshua is so wonderfully revealed in the Mishkan [the Tabernacle] but even more may we never forget that the Mishkan was only a shadow of the Heavenly Sanctuary. It is with the knowledge of how Yahweh longs to dwell with mankind and what he has done to secure it, that we surely should be empowered to desire to share this great news with all the World.

Haftarah: Melechim Aleph [1 Kings] 5:12-6:13



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Melekim Aleph [1 Kings] 5 : 12 [Heb 26] And יהוה gave Shelomoh wisdom, as He promised him. And there was peace between Chiram and Shelomoh [Solomon] and the two of them made a covenant. 13 And Sovereign Shelomoh raised up compulsory labour out of all Yisra'ěl. And the compulsory labour was thirty thousand men. 14 And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by courses – they were one month in Lebanon, two months at home. And Adoniram was over the compulsory labour. 15 And Shelomoh had seventy thousand bearing burdens and eighty thousand hewing stone in the mountains, 16 besides three thousand three hundred from the chiefs of Shelomoh's deputies who were over the work, those ruling over the people who laboured in the work. 17 And the sovereign commanded and they quarried & brought large stones, costly stones, to lay the foundation of the House with hewn stones. 18 And Shelomoh's builders and Chiram's builders and the men of Gebal did hew and prepared timber and stones to build the House.

Melekim Aleph [1 Kings] 6: 1 And it came to be, in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Yisra'ël had come out of the land of Mitsrayim, in the fourth year of the reign of Shelomoh over Yisra'ël, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the House of **Delay**.

Net Shelomoh Builds The Hekel [The Temple] Of WIWH 2 And the house which Sovereign Shelomoh built for uss sixty cubits long and twenty wide and thirty cubits high. 3 And the porch at the front of the hekal [the Temple] of the House was twenty cubits long, according to the breadth of the House and its width ten cubits, from the front of the House. 4 And he made for the House windows with narrowed frames. 5 And against the wall of the House he built side chambers all around, against the walls of the House, all around the hekal and the innermost part of the Sanctuary. Thus, he made side rooms all around. 6 The lowest side chamber was five cubits wide and the middle one was six cubits wide and the third one was seven cubits wide; for he made narrow ledges around the outside of the House, so as not to lay hold on the walls of the House. 7 And the House, when it was being built, was built with finished stone made ready beforehand, so that no hammer or chisel or any iron tool was heard in the House while it was being built. 8 The doorway for the middle side section was on the right side of the House. And they went up by stairs to the middle side chambers and from the middle to the third. 9 So he built the House and completed it, and he paneled the House with beams and boards of cedar. 10 And he built the side chambers of the structure against all the House, each five cubits high and they were fastened to the House with cedar beams. 11 And the Word of came to Shelomoh, saying, WINNIPS Fromise to Shelomoh & To Visrael 12 "This House which you are building – if you walk in My laws and do My right-rulings and shall guard all My commands and walk in them, then I shall confirm My word with you, which I spoke to your father Davig, 13 and shall dwell in the midst of the children of Yisra'ěl and not forsake My people Yisra'ĕl."

This week's haftarah describes the construction of the **Beyith Ha Mikdash** (the Holy Temple) under the direction of **King Shlomo (Solomon)**, echoing this week's Torah portion. Yahweh in closing this reading charges Shlomo [Solomon] to walk in His statutes, keeping His Commandments & then He would be with Shlomo & not forsake Yisrael. Yeshua also makes this charge to his faithful followers in:

Yahuchanan [John] 14:15 if you love Me keep My Commandments.

It is statements like this from our beloved Master that should stir us up to serve Him more diligently in keeping his instructions to bring Him esteem since we are truly called to reveal Him to the world by our actions & words.

Netzarim Ketuvim: Yahuchanan [John] 2:13-22



Netzarenes of Australia The True Missilan [Temple] Of VIIVIE

Yahuchanan [John] 2:13 And the Passover of the Yahudim [Jews] was near, and الجهابي [Yeshua /Yahusha] went up to Yerushalayim. 14 And He found in the Mikdash [Temple] those selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers sitting. 15 And having made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the Holy Place, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the moneychangers' coins and overturned the tables. 16 And He said to those selling doves, "Take these away! Do not make the house of My Father a house of merchandise!" 17 And His taught ones remembered that it was written, "The zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." 18 And the Yahudim answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, since You are doing this?" 19 reshua /Yahusha] answered and said to them, "Demolish this Heykal [Temple], and in three days I shall raise it up." 20 Then the Yahudim said, "It took forty-six years to build this Temple [Dwelling Place], and You are going to raise it up in three days?" 21 But He spoke about the Dwelling Place [Mishkan/Temple] of His body. 22 So, when He was raised from the dead, His taught ones remembered that He said they believed the Scripture and the word which "reshua /Yahusha] had said.

Our reading speaks about the celebration of Pesach or Passover when Yeshua would go as commanded to celebrate Yisrael's deliverance from Mitsrayim [Egypt]. However, He found a horrid scene where greedy merchants set up business in the outer court of the Gentiles to capitalize on the need for sacrifices to make exorbitant profits. Yeshua drove them out of the Temple and when asked why he did this He reveals what is the True Temple of Yahweh as we have seen since the true Mishkan of Elohim came to dwell among Men, in that He spoke the truth. His death & resurrection as we see was known to Him from the very beginning of His ministry to the praise of Elohim. His resurrection also ended the need for the Temple which the Romans destroyed in AD 70 because now believers became the spiritual Temple being built together for a dwelling place a Mishkan of Elohim in the Spirit.

May the truth of Yeshua always find in us a place of exceeding joy that bears much fruit.

Tehillim: Mizmor [Psalm] 29:1-11



As we have read about the construction of the Mishkan [the Tabernacle] in our Torah portion this Mizmor reveals the overwhelming greatness of YHWH that surely cannot be contained in any structure. Our Mizmor reveals YHWH as the unique creator & supreme Sovereign over all therefore over Heavenly beings [Messengers/Angels], over all forces of nature & over all humanity. Just as He however was able to Manifest Himself through the **Mishan** meaning the **dwelling place**, He also Manifested Himself **vayishcon [& tabernacled]** among us as Yeshua our Master. How truly wondrous and Majestic is our Elohim who truly is limitless in His greatness. May we never cease praising & exalting Him in His Holiness.

Amein! Shavua Tov Aleykhem [A Good Week Unto You]