

Sheepfold Gleanings

TERUMAH - PORTIONS

Exodus 25:1 to 27:19

1 Kings 5:26 to 6:13

Hebrews 8:1-6; 9:23-24; 10:1

Review

From the past lessons in the book of Exodus we have read and learned how Moses led the Israelites from Egypt to Mount Sinai. There, Yahweh had them review their Covenant (given originally to Abraham) and gave them the Ten Statements or categories of *how* to keep their Marriage Covenant with Him (Genesis 15; Exodus 19:5-8). Those categories were agreed upon by both parties and were found in the Mosaic Covenant. This covenant was also called *the gospel, the testimony, the will, the good news* and *the Wedding Covenant/ketubah*. The ketubah is a legal document detailing the vows spoken and agreed upon by both parties in a Hebrew marriage relationship. Given at the betrothal (in the case of Yahweh and His Bride, at the Feast of Pentecost/*Shavuot*), it was the basis and foundation for the couple's wedding and marriage. At this stage the Bride and Bridegroom were officially married but not living together until their wedding day. (Exodus 20:1-23:33).

The Mosaic Marriage Covenant did not, and does not negate the Abrahamic Covenant but holds *the key* or *the instructions* to it. Both Covenants are dependent on each other. The Mosaic Covenant explained the moral code for those walking in the Abrahamic Covenant. The Bride's *ketubah* taught her the proper care of Yahweh's Kingdom and respect for His people and their property, about clean and unclean, holy and unholy, and about Yahweh's Sabbath, Feast Days/*moedim* and New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh* festivals. The Bride said, "***We will do everything Yahweh has said.***" If the Bride chose to walk in the vow she made with her Bridegroom and make it her *lifestyle*, matching her walk with her confession, she would remain in His right way/righteousness and be kept holy by her respectful obedience to His Word. This would lead her "*without spot or wrinkle*" to her wedding day (Exodus 20:1-23:9; Exodus 24:3; Ephesians 5:27; 1 Timothy 6:14; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:19; 2 Peter 3:14; Revelation 19:7).

📖 **Galatians 3:17** "The law [*Mosaic Covenant*], introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God [*Abrahamic Covenant*] and thus do away with the promise [*Abrahamic Covenant*]."

The Mosaic Covenant is an eternal wedding gift to the Children of Israel—all twelve tribes—and is still active and binding today (Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:8-10). Moses read out the conditions of the Covenant and the people responded again, "***We will do everything Yahweh has said; we will obey***" (Exodus 24:7). When the people agreed upon the Covenant, Moses wrote it down and set up twelve stones as a remembrance and memorial to what they had vowed (Exodus 24:4).

With the vows in place, the Covenant was made valid by a burnt offering and the shedding of blood. Moses then took the blood of the sacrifice and sprinkled half the blood on the altar, the other half of the blood he *sprinkled on the people* as a blessing to bind and activate the Covenant Yahweh made with them. Then Moses and Aaron and his two eldest sons, along with the seventy elders, went up and saw Yahweh. They *ate* and *drank* with Him, sealing the Covenant made between them (Exodus 24:5-11).

📖 **Matthew 27:25** “And all the people answered and said, ‘*His blood be on us and on our children.*’” (Hebrew 10:22; 1 Peter 1:2).

Traditionally, after the betrothal, the Bridegroom went to prepare a place for his Bride-to-be. He would be gone for a period of time and the Bride would not know the exact day of his return. In the same way, Yeshua’s Bride does not know the exact *day* of His return, but she does know the *season* because He has given her His Feast Days to celebrate at their appointed times. The Feasts are rehearsals called the *paths of righteousness* that helps prepare and lead the Bride to her wedding day. "For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready." (Leviticus 23; Revelation 19:7).

With this review, we enter the study...

The Blueprint

Exodus 25

Moses went up Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights. While there, Yahweh showed him the plans for the house, a dwelling place, called a tabernacle or *mishkan* in Hebrew, that Yahweh has already prepared for His Bride. Yahweh instructed Moses to make an exact replica of this tabernacle so the earthly house would be a perfect “shadow” of the heavenly one. Yahweh revealed the heavenly pattern ahead of time so that it would not be foreign to His Bride when she arrived and that she would feel comfortable living in His House before the actual wedding event took place. The "house" Yahweh made for His Bride is *His Kingdom*, is the heavenly tabernacle and the dwelling place He resides in. The functions of service in His Kingdom are called *the realms* of the Kingdom. The realms of the Kingdom are all the words recorded in their Marriage Covenant/*ketubah* at Mount Sinai that the Bride vowed to keep, the *ketubah* that is written and sealed in blood before Yahweh. (Exodus 24:18; Hebrews 8:1-2, 5).

📖 **Acts 7:44-50** "Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as He appointed, instructing Moses to make it according to the pattern that he had seen, which our fathers, having received it in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers until the days of David, who found favor before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob. But Solomon built Him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: *Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool.* What house will you build for Me says Yahweh, or what *is* the place of My rest? Has My hand not made all these things?"(Isaiah 66)

- ✠ **John 14:2-4** “Yeshua said, ‘I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way [*through the paths of righteousness: the Feast Days and Covenants*] to the place where I am going.’ ”
- ✠ **Acts 15:16** “After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle [*Covenant*] of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up;”
- ✠ **2 Corinthians 6:16** “For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."
- ✠ **Revelation 21:2-3** “Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.”

Offerings for the Tabernacle - Mishkan

Exodus 25:1-9

Again, tabernacle in Hebrew is *mishkan* (Strong’s 908), meaning: a dwelling, to dwell, reside with others and inhabit. To show the importance of the *mishkan* to His people, Yahweh devoted *thirteen chapters* to it in His Word.

- ✠ **Hebrews 8:1-2, 5** “We have such a High Priest [*Yeshua*], who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which Yahweh erected, and not man. They [*the Israelites in the wilderness*] serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned [*by Yahweh*] when he was about to build the tabernacle: ‘*See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.*’ ”

Yahweh asked the people whose hearts prompted them to bring voluntary freewill offerings to build the tabernacle/*mishkan*. Freewill giving reveals the heart of the Bride, as only the true Bride will be *inspired* to give. Giving with a free heart reveals an open heart toward Yahweh and a desire to bless and be blessed in return. The Bride who reluctantly gives reveals a more independent heart, one that is not totally given over to Yahweh yet, that is why Yahweh called for a *freewill* offering. The true Bride is made up of those who understand the heavenly tabernacle/*mishkan* and do all they can to help build the earthly representation; the gathering starts in the Bride’s heart first.

- ✠ **Isaiah 66:1** “Thus says Yahweh, ‘Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?’ ”
- ✠ **John 14:23-24** “Yeshua replied, ‘If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching [covenant given at Mount Sinai]. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home [*mishkan / teaching / dwelling*] with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching.’ ”

The articles needed to build the *mishkan* included: gold, silver and bronze; yarn of blue, purple and scarlet, fine linen; goat hair; ram skins dyed red and hides of sea cows; acacia wood; olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and the fragrant incense; stones of onyx and other gems for the priest's ephod and breastplate. In giving with open hearts, the people would create a sanctuary for Yahweh to dwell and live among them.

While the materials necessary for the construction of the tabernacle might have changed, freewill offerings are still a voluntary response to Yahweh's calling, as His Kingdom is still operating and being built upon. Our offerings today are worship and prayer (at 9 AM, Noon and 3 PM), and include freely giving to Yahweh of our time and increase. Whatever our increase is, it has come originally from Yahweh; that is why He asks for the praise offering from our remaining ninety percent personal time. He will always give us enough so that we can sow back into His Kingdom. It is His universal principle of sowing and reaping. This principle reflects the truths of our hearts; that is why Yahweh asks for the tithes and offerings - they are the *principles of abundance/multiplication* for those who walk after them. A principle will provide for us but a preference chosen over a principle will flat line us and may even bring *poverty* for those who do not sow fruit into others' lives. Freely and willingly offerings are the key to prosperity and abundance in our lives, not merely monetarily but in all areas. We will be richly blessed when observing this. Our walk in Yahweh's kingdom will be as big as our hearts are generous (Exodus 25:1-7).

"Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you" (Exodus 25:8-9).

Ezekiel 43:10 "Son of man, describe the temple [*Strong's 1004 bayit meaning: house, household, home, place, temple, inward or family*] to the people of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their sins. Let them consider the plan, and if they are ashamed of all they have done, make known to them the design of the temple [*1004*] -- its arrangement, its exits and entrances-- its whole design and all its regulations and laws. Write these down before them so that they may be faithful to its design and follow all its regulations. This is the law of the temple [*1004*]: All the surrounding area on top of the mountain will be most holy. Such is the law of the temple [*1004*]."

The Ark

Exodus 25: 10-22

Yahweh taught us about His *mishkan* starting from the inside out. The Ark is the "*heart*" of His dwelling with us. This Ark is a reflection of our thoughts and what is in our hearts, and how we reflect His Glory; but first His Glory must be placed inside the Ark. The Ark was to be made out of acacia wood, which is a very hard, heavy, indestructible wood that resists insects and rot. Acacia wood reflected the incorruptible. Of Yeshua, David said, "For You will not leave my soul in Sheol [*outside of Torah*], nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption" (Psalm 16:10). The acacia wood of the Ark was to be overlaid with pure gold inside and outside, thus forming three boxes in *one*, teaching us that what is in our hearts will reflect on us outwardly. Our body,

soul and spirit will reflect Yeshua's righteousness when our hearts are patterned according to *His Ark*.

Two poles were to be placed on the side of the ark and not removed symbolizing the portability of the Ark and that we always need to be ready to move as the Spirit leads (Two poles: Two trees / two witnesses / two houses (Israel and Judah).

Exodus 25:16 And thou shalt put into the ark the *testimony* which I shall give thee.

Is the testimony that is in our hearts a reflection of Yeshua? If Yeshua is the walking Word, this testimony Yeshua shared with Moses at Mount Sinai, our Marriage Covenant, should be the reflection and testimony of our hearts. When Torah and the Spirit meet, the Kingdom of God has come - it is within us.

"The Kingdom of God does not come visibly, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the Kingdom of God is *within you*" (Luke 17:21).

Yeshua is Yahweh's testimony put in our hearts (the Ark). When Torah and Messiah meet, there is *Malchut Ha Shamayim*, the glory of Yahweh, the Kingdom of Heaven (John 1:1,14).

🌿 **Hebrews 8:8-10** "Behold, the days are coming, says Yahweh, when I will make a *new covenant* [*a re-newed Marriage Covenant*] with the House of Israel and with the House of Judah [*united together they represent the whole House of Jacob/Israel and also called the House of David*]- not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My [*Marriage*] Covenant, and I disregarded them, says Yahweh. For this is the Covenant that I will make with the [*whole*] house of Israel after those days, says Yahweh: ***I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts*** [*it will no longer be written on stone!*]; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people [*Bride*]." (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

New Covenant

The word *new* in Hebrew 8:8 does not mean *brand new* as the English translations indicate, but is the word *kainos* which means *renewed*, Strong's # G2531. Yahweh is saying He will renew His Marriage Covenant with the House of Israel and with the House of Judah.

Which Covenant is He referring to? It was through Abraham that Yahweh *mercifully* changed our status from the unclean realm of sin and death into the clean realm of walking in His kingdom (Deuteronomy 28). It is the *Covenant of Abraham* that we enter into when we become born again and are given the gift of salvation. (Galatians 3:8-9, 29).

Building upon the promises that He gave Abraham, Yahweh delivered His next Covenant to Moses at Mt. Sinai. It was His Marriage Covenant to His Bride and contained His kingdom principles codified in the Ten Commandments or Statements. These principles became known as the *gospel* or *Mosaic Covenant*. It is in Moses' *gospel* that the Children of the Israel - yesterday

and today- learn the pattern for life - the priesthood - and are given the guidelines to correctly walk in Yahweh's Kingdom.

This is important because learning to live in Yahweh's principles as a priest and a king carries the Bride/believer into the next Covenant, called the Davidic Covenant which is in the order of Melchizedek (as king and priest). Without walking in the wisdom, understanding and knowledge of the *gospel* of Moses, exemplified through Yahweh's tabernacle pattern, one cannot enter into the Davidic Covenant. Yeshua is looking for a Bride who is walking in His truth, serving in holiness (actions/lifestyle matching His Word/Marriage Covenant). Without holiness no one will see Yahweh (Hebrews 12:14).

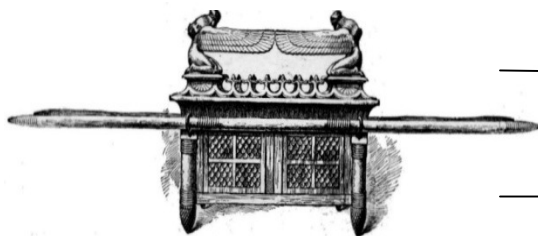
By Yahweh's design each Covenant reinforces and is built upon the one prior to it. In approximately 324 AD, the emerging Christian Church decided that the teachings and instructions given to Moses at Mount Sinai were too *Jewish* and they were officially rejected. Harsh restrictions and threats of death were imposed upon anyone wishing to practice the Marriage Covenant and Godly principles thus David's tent/Covenant fell.

Today, the Covenant that is being re-newed or re-stored is the restoration of the House of David (Davidic Covenant). Many are realizing that the Mosaic Covenant holds the empowerment of the Bride and arrays her in the necessary Wedding garments (the priestly garments) – thus a redemption revival is underway returning a wayward Bride to walk in Yahweh's orderly tabernacle pattern and principles empowered by the *re-newed* Mosaic and Davidic Covenants.

Prophetically Jeremiah 31:31-33 and Hebrews 8:8-10 are being fulfilled before our eyes. The whole "New" Testament (Re-Newed Covenant) is written to the Bride, those desiring to walk as a kings and priests in the order of Melchizedek and when they do, the prophecies in Amos 9: 11 and Acts 15:15 will also be fulfilled – thus restoring David's fallen tent - the *Restoration of the House of David*.

The ark is covered by an atonement cover called the *mercy seat* which is a representation of Yeshua. The cover, including the cherubim, was made from one piece of hammered pure solid gold and corresponds to the Abrahamic Covenant. In this Covenant our hearts are covered by Yeshua's atonement. His sacrifice completed and ended the sacrificial system for the sin of dishonor once and for all. That is why the atonement cover is over the Ark.

The Mercy Seat representing: Spirit and Mercy



The Ark of the Covenant

The Mercy Seat - Spirit
The Abrahamic Covenant

The Ark representing: Truth and Law /Torah –
The principles that govern His kingdom –
The Mosaic Covenant

When **Spirit** (*Abrahamic Covenant*) and **Truth** (*Mosaic Covenant*) come together, **the Davidic Covenant** is restored (re-newed) – called the Restoration of the House of David / the order of Melchizedek – they usher in the Messianic Era which we are in today.

Two cherubim guard over the ark, representing the two witnesses of Yeshua's testimony. Only two people groups share Yeshua's testimony today, the House of Israel and the House of Judah (with those who sojourn with them in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob). They have been hammered/sanctified by Yahweh out of one piece of gold in Yeshua. Bowing cherubim represent people who walk in the Davidic Covenant in the order of Melchizedek as kings, priests - Yeshua's Bride. True witnesses are those kneeling/submitting their hearts to the Testimony/Word/Torah of Yahweh in the Spirit of Yeshua. They realize that Yeshua their Bridegroom is looking for the betrothed Bride, one who embraces and desires His mirrored image found in the Marriage Covenant (*ketubah*) given at Mt. Sinai.

✠ **John 4:23-24** "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in **spirit and truth**; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in **spirit and truth**." (1 John 5:6).

The Table of Showbread

Exodus 25:23-30

Yahweh then shared with Moses the pattern for making the table for the bread of His Presence, traditionally called "showbread," to be displayed on. This table was also to be made of acacia wood covered with pure gold and have two carrying poles inserted into rings on the sides for travel. The bread of the Presence was to be before Yahweh at all times. The bread, as we learned from the previous study, *Beshalach* (Exodus 16), represented the manna, the sinless Presence of His flesh. He is the sacrifice and no sin (yeast/dishonor) was found in Him. This *unleavened bread* kept the Israelites alive, sustaining them forty years in the desert. Yeshua is the Torah, Yahweh's teaching and instruction, made flesh. Moses was instructed to always keep *the Word* (their Marriage Covenant) *before them*. There were to be twelve loaves of bread displayed on the table of showbread, one for each tribe as each tribe represented the *Song of Moses* and were His witnesses to the Nations (Luke 22:19).

✠ **John 6:53-58** Yeshua said to [*His disciples*], "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. *This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever*" (John 6:23-59).

The Lampstand - Menorah

Exodus 25:31-40

"Make a menorah of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. Six branches are to extend from the sides of the menorah-- three on one side and three on the other. Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the menorah. And on the menorah there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." (Exodus 25:31-40).

The menorah represents the Messiah of Israel. Yeshua said, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12) As the Bridegroom of Israel, He will light the path and show the Bride the way (Psalm 119:105). The menorah is a symbol of the Bride's mission: that she is a light to the nations (Isaiah 42:7).


Just as the *mishkan*, made in the pattern given, reflected the Heavenly House; the Bride, when she walks in Yeshua's Right ways, will reflect His Heavenly principles that uphold His Kingdom.

It is said that pure gold is one of the easiest metals to work with. It can be beaten into a transparent gold foil over five hundred times thinner than a human hair. Thus Yahweh asked for the menorah to be fashioned and ornately decorated using one piece of pure gold.

The pattern of the menorah called for three decorative cups to be on each of the six branches extending from the lampstand. Only on the main shaft itself was there to be four cups. The cups on the menorah remind the Bride of the "cups" she drank when saying her Marriage vows to her Bridegroom at His appointed feasts, vowing to be His faithful Bride.

The cups on the menorah and the branches were in the shape of open almond blossoms. The almond tree represents firstfruits and is the earliest tree to bloom after the winter in Israel. Yeshua is the firstfruits from the dead and we are His firstfruits. We were dead outside of Yeshua. When He redeemed us and raised us from death to life, we became His firstfruits (Ezekiel 37:1-14).

The almond blossom turns into fruit that contains edible seed called a nut. Almond in Hebrew is *shaqad* (Strong's # 8246) from the root verb (Strong's # 8245) meaning "to diligently watch."

 **Jeremiah 1:11-12** "The word of Yahweh came to me: 'What do you see, Jeremiah?' 'I see the branch of an *almond tree*,' I replied. Yahweh said to me, 'You have seen correctly, for I am *watching* to see that my word is fulfilled.' "

The Bride is to be diligently watchful (rightly walking in His ways), and eagerly awaiting her Bridegroom, Yeshua the Messiah's/*HaMashiach's*, return.

🌿 **Song of Solomon 2:10-12** “My lover spoke and said to me, ‘Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, and come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.’ ”

The three cups on the six branches of the menorah are symbols that represent the commandment for the Israelites to come up to the feasts three times a year. They are to come to the appointed feasts to meet with Yahweh to worship Him.

- 🌿 The first cup represents the cup the Bride drinks at the first Feast in the spring at the Passover and seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread, *the cup of acceptance*.
- 🌿 The second cup represents the cup the Bride has at the second feast in early summer, the Feast of Shavuot also called the Feast of Pentecost. This was *the cup of the betrothal*.
- 🌿 The third cup represents the cup the Bride will drink at the third feast in the fall at the Feast of Tabernacles (which is a name that incorporates the three Fall feasts). This will be *the wedding (Yom Kippur) and celebration cup* at the Wedding supper of the Lamb, the Messiah of Israel.

Only the main shaft of the menorah is there a fourth cup. The main shaft represents Yeshua, and the fourth cup represents the cup he drank on our behalf at His death called *the cup of bitterness*, in fulfillment of the Law of Jealousy regarding a wife suspected of being unfaithful to her husband. The Whole House of Israel has been the unfaithful Bride; it has not been just one House or the other. In Yeshua’s faithfulness to His Bride, He drank the cup of judgment and deliverance on our behalf, taking our death upon Himself (Numbers 5:5-31; Luke 22:42). (Reference: Chapter Six - *Mishpatim*)

Yahweh’s pattern for the menorah also had *buds* and *blossoms* on both the main shaft and on each branch; they were to be placed directly below the cups. These buds and blossoms represent how, when we abide in Yahweh and keep the Feast Days and His Wedding vows we made, we will start to bud and blossom and bear much fruit that will also bear seed and glorify Yeshua. That is why the menorah is hammered out of one piece of solid gold.

A solid piece of gold, in the shape of a menorah, cannot stand on its own without some internal strength. Yeshua has been tried. He is the Living testimony, the true menorah, the Light of the world. Only He can perfectly keep the Covenant. His testimony is told in the Feasts. He will be Faithful to fulfill all that He has appointed concerning us, His heirs.

Today the menorah is lit in our hearts as our hearts are set up after the real pattern of the *mishkan* in heaven; the true Temple of Yahweh now lives in us (1 Corinthians 6:15,19; 2 Corinthians 6:16). Without maintaining the Light of the menorah or the showbread table of His Presence in her heart, how will the Bride know the timing of her wedding and be prepared to meet with her Bridegroom? The menorah, the only light in the Holy Place, represents the light that the Bride needs to see her way to her wedding. So too, the *Bread of His Presence* or *Bread of life* (Torah) is what is needed to sustain her life that she might make her way to her wedding day.

The pieces of furniture in the *mishkan* are all prophetic pictures that apply to our hearts today.

The question is: Will the Bride prepare herself by obeying the vows of the Covenant she accepted and sealed by the cup she drank at her betrothal? It is time for the Bride to make herself ready. We are to keep the Feasts today; they are rehearsals of the Wedding soon to come (Matthew 25:1-13).

The oil for the menorah was produced from olives that were crushed and ground. We, at times, feel like we are being crushed and ground also. The oil used was refined enough for it to burn very bright; after the *purifying* process it was then poured into the seven bowls/lamps on the menorah. He is purifying us, His Bride, that we might also shine brightly for Him. The light could not burn on its own. Wicks were needed that came from worn out white linen priestly garments, cut in strips and woven together. These fed the oil to the flame. Without a “priestly connection” there would be no flame in the temple lamps. Yeshua is our High Priest. Walking in His ways produces light in our lives. Without His light in our lives we have no light in us, just as the tabernacle had no light of its own. If we do not keep Yeshua’s light (pictured in the menorah) shining brightly in us, we will not be able to see the light of His Word (pictured in the Bread of the Presence). Yahweh’s Word is also said to be a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our paths as it is a reflection of the source of the light coming from the menorah (Psalm 119:105).

The extra light needed for the Bride to enter when her Bridegroom returns is found in abundance when she meets with Him at His appointed times, rehearsals and Sabbaths. (Matthew 25:1-13)

The model of the menorah holds significant revelations that still speak truth to us today. One understanding is that there will always be two witnesses of the Messiah just as there are two trees patterned in the menorah, the almond tree (by the buds and blossoms) and olive tree (by the olive oil used). Also represented was the flax plant, from which the linen for the wicks was produced. Just as the almond tree is the earliest to bloom in spring in Israel, flax is one of the earlier plants harvested. It is interesting that after the flax has flowered, a seed pod forms that contain separate cells to house ten seeds that vary in size and color. These represent the ten lost tribes of Israel who are multicolored and still identifiable as part of Israel today hidden in Messiah.

When the stock of the flax plant is ripe, it goes through a refining process. By soaking, drying and beating it we get long fibers that are woven and made into cloth called linen. Linen represents the righteous acts of the saints who have chosen to mirror their walk after Yeshua and His ways. All three plants produce oils that provide healing and health benefits.

🌿 **Isaiah 53:5** “He was pierced for our transgressions, *he was crushed for our iniquities*; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and *by his wounds we are healed.*”

🌿 **Zechariah 4:2-3, 14** "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a solid gold Menorah with a bowl at the top and seven lights on it, with seven channels to the lights. Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." "*These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.*"

The Two Houses of Israel, the House of Judah and the House of Israel, are the two witnesses of the Messiah. When they come together, one brings the Torah and the other the Messiah; when

Torah (Kingly portion) and Messiah (Priestly portion) meet (in the order of Melchizedek), oil will flow from the two olive trees and the menorah will fill with oil and become a light to the Nations (Ezekiel 37:15-28).

The Tabernacle - Mishkan

Exodus 26

Yahweh now describes the framework and curtains for the structure of the *mishkan* to Moses. The detail prophetically pictures Yeshua, who is the fulfillment and goal of the *mishkan*. The fabrics of the *mishkan* and curtains are embroidered with blue, purple and scarlet yarn and are woven together with a cherubim design. The blue represents the heavenly realms of Yeshua, the purple represents His royalty, and the scarlet represents Yeshua's death and resurrection.

The framework is held in place by silver bases; silver almost always represents redemption in scripture. The roof was made of layers of various coverings. First, a large goat hair curtain, then a layer of ram's skin dyed red, and lastly, a layer of hides of sea cows covered the rest. These all represent Yeshua's righteousness, the model and character of humility. There is nothing in and of us that has any redeeming value. We are made in Yeshua's image who is the only beauty within us; we have nothing good outside of Him (Psalm 16:2).

🌿 **Isaiah 53:2** "He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him."

Once the *mishkan* pattern was given to Moses, Yahweh then communicated the proper placement of the furniture. The ark with its atonement cover was the only furniture in the Holy of Holies. A curtain was used to separate the Holy and Most Holy Places. The table containing the bread of the Presence was placed on the north side of the Holy Place and the menorah was placed on the south side. Another curtain completed the *mishkan*.

Altar of Burnt Offering

Exodus 27:1-8

The outer court description started with the altar of burnt offering. This is the place where the Bride (Believers) leaves the sinful dishonoring nature of the soul behind in order to continue the walk of redemption into the tabernacle to serve in the royal priesthood of Yeshua. The walk of redemption we have been called to is a sacrifice at first but one that leads to freedom. The burnt offerings are also the place of thankfulness and where we offer praises to our King.

The altar was made of acacia wood covered with bronze to endure the heat of the altar.

The Courtyard

Exodus 27:9-19

Around the *mishkan* was a large courtyard, defined by huge draped linen curtains. This is where the character and attitude of the Bride/believer is formed. The closer the Bride came to the

mishkan, and eventually learned how to walk as a High Priest able to enter into the Holy of Holies where Yahweh comes down to meet with His people in intimate face-to-face presence, no unresolved issues of “self nature” could exist. In the redemptive process, the believer’s soul becomes like *dust* as he is transformed into the Father’s House and for His use.

🔥 **Jeremiah 18:3** "So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of Yahweh came to me: ‘O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?’ declares Yahweh. ‘Like *clay* in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.’ "

🔥 **2 Timothy 2:20** "In a large house [*tabernacle/mishkan*] there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."

"They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: ‘See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain’ “(Hebrews 8:5; 5 Exodus 25:40).

To be continued...



Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker

Since its inception in 2003, *Sheepfold Gleanings* has been written under the pen name of *Carl and Julie Parker*. It will now be published under the author’s name *Julie Parker*, with her husband Carl’s continued support and covering.

Note: We are in the process of publishing the studies in soft spiral study format and soft bond format for prison ministry (an eBook format is coming!). **Exodus** is the second book in a five part series: **Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers and Deuteronomy**. Each book is part of the yearly Torah cycle starting in Genesis and is designed to be used each year for study purposes. To pre order please contact the information below.

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Torah: Law or Grace by Rabbi Ralph Messer www.torah.tv

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