

Sheepfold Gleanings

KI TISA - WHEN YOU TAKE

Exodus 30:11 to 34:35

1 Kings 18:20-39

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Continued from the last two studies: Terumah and Tetzaveh

Review: The Israelites betrothed themselves to Yahweh at Mount Sinai, and Moses set himself apart for a time (forty days and forty nights) to receive the plans for the Bridal Chamber called the *mishkan* or tabernacle of Yahweh (Exodus 24:1-11). These plans are taught in three parshiyot (Torah portions). Two studies ago we learned of the plans for the tabernacle/*mishkan* and the furnishings, in the last study we looked at the priestly garments and this week we complete the instructions for the Bridal Chamber and see Moses return to camp to share all this news with Yahweh's people. The Israelites who betrothed themselves to Yahweh mirror our betrothal to Yeshua, the King and Bridegroom of Israel. It is as if we were with them at Mount Sinai as the covenant/*ketubah* (Marriage Covenant) was made not only with those who were standing there in the presence of Yahweh that day but also with their future generations who were not there, us included. This teaching from Exodus is a prophetic parable for us today.

Deuteronomy 29:14-15 "I make this covenant and this oath, not with you alone, but with him who stands here with us today before Yahweh our God/Elohim, as well as with him who is not here with us today."

Atonement Money

Exodus 30:11-16

Yahweh shared with Moses that He required each male Israelite from twenty years old and up, who had *crossed over*, to give a half shekel for their atonement when the census was taken so that a plague would not fall on them. The atonement shekel was to be used for the service of the Tent of Meeting as a memorial for the sons of Israel before Yahweh, to make atonement for them. This was not a volunteer offering but a commandment from Yahweh.

In **2 Samuel 24:15**, David counted his fighting men without the payment of the half shekel. This tragic mistake led to the plague that followed and the death of seventy thousand men throughout the land.

The silver of the half shekel is a symbol of Yahweh's redemption. Yahweh's tabernacle was to be built on His redemption, and as such, how it was built reflected that truth. The bases of the framework for the support of the tabernacle/*mishkan* were made of silver. The white linen curtains defining the outer court surrounding the *mishkan* were held in place by silver hooks.

Silver for redemption is a symbol of Yeshua the Messiah who fulfilled our redemption price so that no plague would come upon us.

The definition of **silver** is: a soft, white, precious univalent metallic element having the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any metal.

The Basin for Washing - The Laver

Exodus 30:18-21

“You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. And you shall put water in it, for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to Yahweh, they shall wash with water, lest they die. So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die. And it shall be a statute forever to them – to him and his descendants throughout their generations.”

The word for bronze in Hebrew is Strong’s 5178 *nechosheth* which is the word used for both copper and bronze. Bronze is made from a mix of copper and tin. Copper is a metal used for prevention of disease. Bacteria will not grow on a copper surface because it is biostatic. Copper doorknobs are used by hospitals to reduce the transfer of disease, and copper tubing in air-conditioning systems suppresses the spread of Legionnaire’s Disease. One of the famous Dead Sea Scrolls found in Israel was made of copper instead of the more fragile animal skins. Today, technologically advanced surgeons save lives and precious blood by using copper-clad scalpels. Copper is also the standard benchmark for electrical conductivity. It conducts electrical current better than any other metal except silver.

In a recent newspaper article on the benefits of copper it was noted that “Most people check into a hospital with the hope of getting better. However, many patients pick up serious infections during their stay in the health-care system. Despite fastidious cleaning and the routine use of gloves by staff, the number of hospital-acquired infections in Canada has swelled to an estimated 250,000 cases a year, resulting in 8,000 to 12,000 deaths. Other developed countries are facing a similar threat to patient safety.”

“But U.S. researchers now think they have hit upon a relatively easy way to overcome this serious problem – cover frequently touched surfaces with copper. Bacteria and viruses can’t survive for very long on the metal, thereby reducing the risk of harmful bugs spreading from one person to another.”

“It is a simple, elegant solution,” said Michael Schmidt, a professor at the Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Schmidt led a pilot study in which copper was used instead of stainless steel and plastic in a wide range of objects in the intensive-care units of three U.S. hospitals. Copper covered the bed rails, tray tables, call buttons, IV poles and chair arms.”

“When the researchers took culture swabs from the copper surfaces, they found the level of microbes had “dropped well below what is considered to be a risk,” Dr. Schmidt said.

“And it doesn’t need any intervention other than normal cleaning.” The findings were presented at a recent medical conference in Atlanta.”

“Previous lab studies have shown that copper and copper alloys, such as brass and bronze, kill 99.9 per cent of bacteria within two hours.”

“Scientists aren’t sure why copper has such powerful anti-microbial properties. But Dr. Schmidt suspects that copper’s killing power is related to the fact that the metal is a tremendous conductor of electricity. “What I think is probably happening is that microbes are literally short-circuiting,” he said, adding that bacteria would lose electrons if they remain in constant contact with copper.”

“He noted that some astute ancient civilizations used copper as a purifier. For instance, the Phoenicians stored water in copper pots to make it drinkable.” (End)

The priests attending to the tabernacle could not come before Yahweh in the Holy Place unless they had washed their hands and feet with water from the brazen laver or they would die. The hands and feet are the extremities of our physical bodies, and consecrating them implies consecrating the whole body. We are raising our bodies from earthly common work to holy Kingdom work. We see from the information above that there was a status change evidenced by even a *chemical* change that happened when they washed their hands and feet in the laver. Not only were they physically clean, but spiritually cleansed also. Now their bodies were prepared to go into the Holy Place and not die (Exodus 30:20).

Having the priests wash at the laver served to cleanse them of anything that might have contaminated them or kept them from serving Yahweh in a holy state as they went in to perform their duties. Consistently in scripture we see the correlation between the physical and the spiritual, how one inherently affects the other, i.e. a famine of food implies a spiritual famine, such as a famine for the Word of God. When the priests cleansed themselves at the laver, it was not necessarily a physical purity they were seeking, but a spiritual. Though the details of such cannot be perfectly proven out scientifically or intelligently, this is not what Yahweh was after – He was after the *heart*. We can identify with the physical act of obedience – that of washing, coming in contact with the water – as signifying the priests wholly coming in line with Yahweh’s holiness, thus changing their status. To start His earthly ministry as a priest, Yeshua had an immersion/*mikvah* when John the Baptist baptized him in the Jordan River. Because we believe that Yeshua was perfect according to Torah, we know this immersion/*mikvah* was not for sin but for a *status change*.

🔥 **Psalm 24:3-5** “Who may ascend the hill of Yahweh? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.” (James 4:8)

🔥 **Exodus 30:17** Regarding the laver: "This is to be a lasting ordinance for Aaron and his descendants *for the generations to come*.”

After giving our lives to Yeshua and having experienced a status change by coming from an unclean realm (of sin and death) to Yeshua’s Kingdom of Life/*chai* - we now experience

Yeshua's sanctifying work operating in our lives, but the sanctifying cleansing of the *soul* is our work. Today we have the *rachatz*, which is the water libation for the hands marking a distinction between common and holy, literally taking us from an unclean realm to a clean realm. Not only are we washing our hands, but our minds (the seat of the soul) as well. In our walk of redemption, many are bringing the *rachatz* back into their fellowships and homes as a continual work of sanctification. It literally purifies our thoughts and cleanses our minds. If we are in need of mind/soul renewal, this is invaluable for us today, as Yahweh sanctifies and purifies us through our *obedience* to His commands. It is not a work of or for salvation but a work of obedience leading to holiness and blessing.

✿ **John 13: 5-8** "Yeshua poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel ...He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Yeshua replied, 'You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'No,' said Peter, 'you shall never wash my feet.' Yeshua said 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.' "

Yeshua was preparing Peter for his role as a priest in His Royal priesthood and preparing the twelve disciples as holy nation of priests to go out into the Nations to search for the lost sheep (Bride) of Yeshua, and unless Yeshua washed Peter's feet for change of status Peter would not be allowed to represent Yeshua's Heavenly Court on earth. Obedience brings the blessing.

✿ **James 4:7-8** "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. *Wash your hands*, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Anointing Oil

Exodus 30:22-33

"Anoint Aaron and his sons and consecrate them so they may serve me as priests" (Exodus 30:30).

Anointing is required before service to Yahweh. This oil was sacred and not for any other use. The definition of "consecrate" in the Hebrew, *qadash* (Strong's 6942), is to consecrate, sanctify, prepare, dedicate; be hallowed, be holy, be sanctified, be separate; to be set apart, to be consecrated. It denotes two concepts: separation from the world and thoughts thereof, as well as the implication of total devotion to Yahweh, leaving the worldly things behind and completely dedicating oneself to Him.

Bezalel and Oholiah

Exodus 31:1-11

The appointment of the men who would be in charge of the great undertaking of putting the design of the tabernacle together was given to *Bezalel* from the tribe of Judah and his assistant *Oholiah* from the tribe of Dan. Effectively these two men represented the two Houses of Israel: House of Judah and House of Israel. Yahweh had gifted these two to oversee and work the

intricate designs of the tabernacle, from the fabric design to the design of the furniture. There will always be two witnesses of the Messiah.

- ✚ Bezalel (Strong's #01212) means: *in the shadow (protection) of El (God)*.
- ✚ Oholiah (Strong's #0171) means: *father's tent*.

Together their names mean "In the shadow of God [*in*] the Father's tent."

The Sabbath

Exodus 31:12-17

"And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, **for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you** [*Who makes you holy*]. You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to Yahweh. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. 'It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.'"

What is the Sabbath?

Creation: There are seven days of Creation called Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, Day 5, Day 6 and The Seventh Day, a day of rest. Rest in Hebrew is *shabbat* from where we get the Sabbath day. We are told in Psalms 90:4 and in 2 Peter 3:8 that a day is as a thousand years. The days of creation are also seen as years 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000 and 7000 years.

Millennial means seven thousand from where we get the millennial kingdom, the Messianic Era, the Day of the Lord and in that day. On the 7th day Yahweh rested, or, on the 7000th year period of time, was the era of Yahweh's Sabbath. In Hebrews 4:1-10 we are told we are heading *to a Sabbath-rest...in our day*. When we walk in Spirit (Yeshua) and Truth (Torah) we are going back to the Garden – resting/Shabbating.

Today on the Biblical Hebrew calendar we are in the year 5772/2012. There are 271 known missing years, which brings us to the year 6012. In Hebrew understanding, any year passed 6000 is entering into the 7000 year. Thus *today*, we are in the end times, the *Age of the Messiah*, where Torah (the Age of Law) and Messiah (the Church Age) join together to become one in His people. There has never been a time like it since Mount Sinai where the people of Yahweh, who are believers in Yeshua the Messiah, desire to walk in Torah.

- ✚ **Hebrews 4:1-11** "Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest [*Sabbath/Messianic Era*], let us fear [*obey our Marriage Covenant*] lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel [*Mosaic Covenant*] was preached to us as well as to them [*all twelve tribes of Israel at Mt. Sinai*]; but the word, which they heard,

did not profit them, not being mixed with faith [*in Yeshua's faithfulness to up hold His Marriage Covenant*] in those who heard it. For we [*the Bride*] who have believed [*walk in obedience to the Marriage Covenant*] do enter that rest [*Sabbath/Messianic Era rest*], as He has said: 'So I swore in My wrath, "They [*the disobedient Bride*] shall not enter My rest," ' although the works [*of the Bridegroom*] were finished from the foundation of the world [*Revelation 13:8*]. For He has spoken in a certain place of the *seventh day* [*Messianic Era*] in this way: 'And God rested on the seventh day from all His works;' and again in this place: 'They shall not enter My rest.'

"Since therefore it [*the Sabbath rest/7000 Messianic Era*] remains that some [*believers*] must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience [*to Yeshua's commandments/Wedding Covenant*], again He designates a certain day [*re-newed the Marriage Covenant*], saying in David [*reference to the Davidic Covenant which is made in the order of Melchizedek - raising up Kings and Priests*], Today, after such a long time, as it has been said: 'Today [*those in Messiah who walk in His Kingship and Kingdom*], if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts. For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest [*for those who were brought up under the Age of Law (law with no Spirit) and those who were brought up under the Church Age (Spirit and no law) that both Ages are now joined (Law and Spirit) in the Messianic Age*] for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. *Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.*"

The Sabbath incorporates many terms: the seventh day and Sabbath years. Yahweh's Feasts days are also called Sabbaths. "Today" in Scripture is a reference to Sabbath but focused more on the Age or period of time we are in. The Sabbath is a term used for Yeshua's lifestyle and Kingdom. The Sabbath is eternal and before Creation, it was an appointed time in the Garden with Adam and Eve. The Sabbath remains the same even to this day. It is not affected by time. Those who enter into the Sabbath transcend time. The Sabbath is an appointment with Yahweh, the King and His Kingdom and will be a delight to those who keep it.

The Sabbath is the sign of the Mosaic Marriage Covenant. The Mosaic Covenant is the teaching and instruction booklet to the Abrahamic Covenant that reveals to the Bride all about her Bridegroom Yeshua and His Kingdom. It is His wedding gift to her of how to receive her identity in Him and her inheritance; namely a land, a people and a blessing. When the bride is obedient to the Groom's Covenant, she is accorded as part of the commonwealth of Israel. It is Moses who leads the Bride to her betrothal and prepares her for the wedding. The Spirit of Elijah will take the Bride to her wedding. The Sabbath is a test (once a week, multiples of seven years, the appointed Feast Days etc) given to see if the Bride will be a faithful Bride, faithful to Yahweh's Covenant (Exodus 16:4; Hebrews 8:8-10). Those who keep the Sabbath receive a double portion (Exodus 16:5). The Sabbath is the wedding ring of the Messiah. It is the mark, a *sign* on believers that identifies the bride of Yeshua.

 **John 5:46** Yeshua said, "If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me."

🌿 **Isaiah 58:13-14** “If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and Yahweh's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in Yahweh, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.’ The mouth of Yahweh has spoken.”

The Sabbath is there for us to choose to conform to for our sanctification that leads to holiness. Breaking the Sabbath profanes Yahweh’s Holy Name and breaks the Covenant set between the Bridegroom and the Bride. The commandment of the Sabbath is eternal and remains constant, unchangeable today. Sabbath leads to the goal of the Living Torah, Yeshua, and back to the Garden. If we walk with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and call ourselves Israel, then the Sabbath is for us to keep. The Sabbath is timeless and out of this world. It is in eternity and it is in the Garden. We are going back to the Garden—and are already there, for those who choose to grab hold of the life found within it. The Sabbath is Kingdom lifestyle (Hebrews 4, Luke 17:20-21). Selah.

Moses Returns to Camp

Exodus 31:18

With these final instructions regarding the Sabbath, Moses’ forty days and nights on the mountain with Yahweh came to an end. He returned to camp holding the two tablets of the covenant inscribed by the finger of Yahweh in his hands. He was eager to share the Wedding Covenant with all its blessings with the people of Yahweh. Meanwhile, while Moses was up the mountain with Yahweh, He reveals to us what had been going on in camp....

The Golden Calf and the Adulterous Bride/Believer

Exodus 32

As Moses tarried up the mountain, the people lapsed into pursuing their own interests. They soon forgot their betrothal to Yahweh and pursued the idols in their hearts. Not waiting for Yahweh or “this man Moses,” they were led astray and enslaved by *their* double-mindedness, influenced by the desires of their hard hearts. They wanted to worship what they thought was a better god than the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob at Mount Sinai. In spite of the cloud covering by day and the fire by night plus all the signs and wonders they had witnessed, they ignored all these signs of Yahweh’s presence and devised plans to make their own god. Aaron yielded to their rebellion and called for their gold earrings. It was Aaron who formed an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. When he gave it to the Israelites he said, “O Israel, these are your gods, who brought you up out of Egypt.”

This golden calf the people made was a counterfeit of the Red Heifer, the shadow of the Messiah (Numbers 19:1-22). Only the ashes from this Red Heifer (Yeshua) could cleanse the heart and soul of Israel from all their sins, not this manmade calf.

When Moses returned, the shock of seeing the newly betrothed Bride of the Messiah so quickly abandoning her vows to dance and adulterate herself before this pagan idol was devastating. After witnessing the Glory of Yahweh on the mountain those forty days and nights and returning with His wonderful plans for their lives together, this blatant act of violation caused Moses to drop and shatter the two stone tablets. They broke at the foot of the mountain, the same place their vows were made. "*We will do and we will obey*" shattered in one incident of pagan pleasure (Exodus 24:1-11).

How many of our lives have been shattered because of an idol in our heart? Marriages broken, families divided, careers ruined - all for the sake of being double minded in our hearts toward Yahweh. The tablets Moses shattered contained the solution. We need to pick up those shattered pieces of our lives and read what is written on those tablets. The Words of Yahweh are for the healing of the Nations (Revelation 22:2).

Moses took the golden calf, burned it and ground it to powder, then scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it. "He stood at the entrance to the camp and said, 'Whoever is for Yahweh, come to me.' And all the Levites rallied to him" (Exodus 32:26). He commanded those who were with him to go among the people and kill those who had been unfaithful. Three thousand lost their lives that day.

How did the Levites know which people were unfaithful to Yahweh? Numbers 5 describes the test of the unfaithful wife called the Law of Jealousy. The drink caused the unfaithful wife's abdomen to swell and her thigh to waste away. If they were faithful, no harm would come to them by the drink. In Exodus 32, those who served Moses had no trouble *seeing* who was faithful and who was not faithful to Yahweh. The people killed that day had *the extended abdomen and the rotting thigh*.

After this, Moses went before Yahweh and asked for forgiveness for those who were left. They are forgiven but the consequences for disobedience followed and a plague fell on the people. There was great tragedy in the camp that day as the Israelites were taught to be responsible for their choices and behavior, and to remember their marriage vow before Yahweh.

Many of us do not realize that when we disobey and then repent, there *is* forgiveness but a consequence still follows, like in case of David and Bathsheba. Even though David repented, they lost their firstborn son (2 Samuel 12:1-19).

As believers we need to take *responsibility* for the vows we make before Yahweh; breaking them brings curses upon us. We need to understand the terms of the Covenant we have made with Him to stop the plagues, or *curses*, in our lives as described in Deuteronomy 28. That is why we are studying the terms of the Covenant today. These terms are written in the first five books of the Bible and are upheld and fulfilled by Yeshua to this very day, as written about in the New Testament/*Brit Chadasha*.

The Tent of Meeting

Exodus 33:7-11

After the incident of the golden calf, Moses spent time with Yahweh continuing to learn and write down all he was taught about the Bride's Marriage Covenant/*ketubah*. Moses met outside the camp in a tent pitched for this purpose called the "Tent of Meeting." (The tabernacle/*mishkan* was not built yet). Moses sought out Yahweh to talk with Him. "So Yahweh spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend" (Exodus 33:11). The personification of Yahweh is Yeshua, who met with Moses outside the camp to commune under His prayer shawl/*tallit*/covering (the Tent of Meeting).

When Moses approached the *tent*, the people would rise and stand at the entrance to their tents. The cloud of Yahweh's Presence came down as Moses entered the tent. When the people saw this, they worshipped. Because of the many trials and testing, the people were, consequently, developing a reverence for the holiness of Yahweh. During these times, "Yahweh would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend."

Moses and the *Glory of YHVH*

Exodus 33:12-23

Here we are shown the conversation Moses had with Yeshua. The intimacies we witness in these scriptures are for us today and have the potential of being just as real. May we enter in just as Moses did and just as often.

We were told earlier about *the angel* who would go with them (Exodus 23:20; 33:2). Moses said to Yahweh, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people.' But you have not let me know whom you will send with me" (Exodus 33:12). Yahweh declared in response, "*My Presence [Yeshua]* will go with them, and give them rest (synonym for Shabbat)" (Exodus 33:14).

What or *who* is *His Presence*? It is a theophany, or pre-appearance of Messiah Yeshua before His incarnation as the promised and expected Messiah of Israel.

With this, Moses said, "*Now show me your glory.*" Yahweh then disclosed to Moses he would be taken to a place near Him and placed on a *rock*. When Yahweh's glory passed by, Moses would be put in a cleft in the rock and be covered by Yahweh's hand. Once Yahweh passed by, His hand would be removed and Moses would be able to see His back. We are told Yahweh is Spirit. If this is true, how could Moses *see* His back, unless he saw Yeshua? The expression *cleft in the Rock* is a way of saying *the word of Yahweh: Torah*. The word of Yahweh made flesh is Yeshua. Moses saw His pierced side (clef in the rock) and scarred hands (Exodus 33:20; John 1:1; 14).

To fulfill this promised event, Moses was invited back up the mountain. To replace the broken tablets he chiseled two stone tablets for Yahweh to rewrite His covenant on. As Moses approached, Yahweh came down in the cloud and *stood there with him*. He said to Moses, "Yahweh, Yahweh, El [*God*], compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in loving kindness and truth; who keeps loving kindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations" (Exodus 34:5-7; Exodus 20:5).

Moses bowed and worshipped saying, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your eyes, then let the Lord (His Presence, Yeshua) go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance” (Exodus 34:9).

✠ **John 1:1-3, 14** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. *The Word became flesh* and made his dwelling among us. *We have seen his glory*, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

✠ **1 Corinthians 10:4** “and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Messiah.”

The Terms of the Covenant Restated

Exodus 34:10-28

It was during this intimate time together that Yahweh restated and declared the terms of the Marriage Covenant for Israel again. These are the same ten utterances/statements in Exodus 20 that we are to responsibly obey, also known as the keys to the *Kingdom of Yahweh*. Obedience brings life and not death and suffering. Yahweh tells us to “*obey what He commands,*” *then He will drive out the enemy from our midst and no one will covet the land.*

Exodus 34:27-28 “Then Yahweh said to Moses, ‘Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a Covenant with you and with Israel.’ Moses was with Yahweh forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the *words of the Covenant.*”

The Radiant Face of Moses

Exodus 34:29-35

While Moses was in Yahweh’s presence he *radiated* and, afterward, continued to exude the Light of the Presence he had been basking in. When he returned to camp holding the two stone tablets in his hands all the people were alarmed by the *Presence* on him. Because of this, Moses covered his face with a veil. When we spend time in His Presence we too will radiate His Light.

✠ **2 Corinthians 3:13-18** Paul said, “Now if that which worked death, by means of a written text engraved on stone tablets, came with glory – such glory that the people of Israel could not stand to look at Moses’ face because of its brightness, even though that brightness was already fading away – won’t the working of the Spirit be accompanied by even greater glory? For if there was glory in what worked to declare people guilty, how much more must the glory abound in what works to declare people innocent! In fact, by comparison with this greater glory, what was made glorious before has no glory now. For if there was glory in what faded away, how much more glory must there be in what lasts. Therefore, with a hope like this, we are very open – unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face, so that the people of Israel would not see the fading brightness come to an end.

“What is more, their minds were made stone like; for to this day the same veil remains over them when they read the Old Covenant; it has not been unveiled, because only by the Messiah is the veil taken away. Yes, till today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart. *But, says the Torah, “whenever someone turns to Adonai [God], the veil is taken away.”* Now, “Adonai” in this text means the Spirit. And where the Spirit of Adonai is, there is freedom. So all of us, with faces unveiled, see as in a mirror the glory of Yahweh; and we are being changed into his very image, from one degree of glory to the next, by Adonai the Spirit.” CJB

🌿 **John 8:12** Yeshua said, “I am the LIGHT of the world.”

🌿 **Luke 11:33-36** Yeshua said, "No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead he puts it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body also is full of darkness. See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness. Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be completely lighted, as when the light of a lamp shines on you."

Yeshua’s light will shine through us as we are obedient to His Word (Exodus 20), when we are careful not to make treaties with those in the land, when we break down our idols, when we do not worship other gods or cast idols in their image and when we remove all filthy habits and addictions far from us. The light will shine in us when we appear before Yahweh, not with empty hearts or hands, but with evidence of how we have kept His covenant, such as in our observance of the Sabbath and celebration of Yahweh’s feasts at their appointed. This is what produces the Light in our lives.

🌿 **Ezekiel 36:24-38** “For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God. I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine. Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign Yahweh. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, O house of Israel!

“On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. Then the nations around you that remain will know that I Yahweh have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I Yahweh have spoken, and I will do it.' Once again I will yield to the plea of the house of Israel and do

this for them: I will make their people as numerous as sheep, as numerous as the flocks for offerings at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts. So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am Yahweh.”

✿ **Matthew 5:13-15** "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house.



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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