

תלמוד-תורה ביחד ממרחק  
**TORAH-STUDY TOGETHER FROM AFAR**  
 February 27, 2021



*"The answers we receive, the interpretations we develop, are all dependent on the questions we ask; the experiences we bring; and the preferences we have."*

– Amy-Jill Levine & Marc Zvi Brettler

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
 אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְעִסוֹק בְּדַבְרֵי תוֹרָה:

**Parashah Stats**

Weekly Portion:	T'tzaveh
Consists of:	Exodus 27:20-30:10
Sequence—	
<u>in annual Torah cycle:</u>	20 <sup>th</sup> of 54
<u>in Book of Exodus:</u>	8 <sup>th</sup> of 11



**- A Salient Selection from the Portion -**

Exodus 27:20-21

**Context:** *Exodus, second of the Five Books of the Torah, is an account of how God liberated the Israelites from Egypt and entered into a Covenant with us at Mount Sinai, and a record of the legislations they undertook for the conduct of the society they were to establish in the Promised Land.*

**Content:** *This week's portion continues the specifications of the national shrine being given to Moses atop Mount Sinai— in this case, detailing in particular:*

- the sacred vestments of the Aaronide priests;
- the ritual procedure for their subsequent ordination; and
- the dimensions of the golden altar on which they will offer incense upon entering the Mishkan/Tabernacle to carry out their sacerdotal duties.

27:20a] - Then **you are to command** the Israelites....

וְאַתָּה תִּצְוֶה אֶת-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

וְיָצַו	"then he commanded..."	22 x in Torah
צִוִּיתִי	"I have commanded..."	12 x in Torah
מִצְוָה	"I am/he is commanding..."	13 x in Torah
<b>תִּצְוֶה</b>	<b>"[you] will command..."</b>	1x in Torah
אֶצְוֶה	"[I] will command..."	1x in Torah

וְדַבַּרְתִּי אִתָּךְ מֵעַל הַכַּפֹּרֶת עַל-אֲרוֹן הָעֵדוּת אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר אֶצְוֶה אוֹתָךְ אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

A) Exodus 25:22 - For I will speak with you, from atop the covering of the Ark of the Testimony, **all that I will be commanding** you regarding the Israelites.

- more follows

27:20b] - that they are to furnish you with **fine beaten olive oil** for lighting, **וְיִקְחוּ אֵלַיִךְ שֶׁמֶן זַיִת זָךְ כְּתִית לְמִאֹר**

**- Quality Gradings of the International Olive Oil Council -**

<p>premium extra virgin</p> <p>extra virgin</p> <p>fine virgin</p> <p>virgin</p> <p>semifine virgin</p>	}	<p><i>first-press yield, up to 90% of contained oil</i></p>
<p>pure olive oil</p> <p>refined oil</p> <p>pomace oil</p>	}	<p><i>second-press yield, deriving all available oil</i></p> <p><i>previous pressings heated, filtered, or chemically modified</i></p> <p><i>steam-extracted from pressed olive pulp</i></p>

זָךְ adjective

from ז-כ-ה “worthy; pure”

כְּתִית adjective

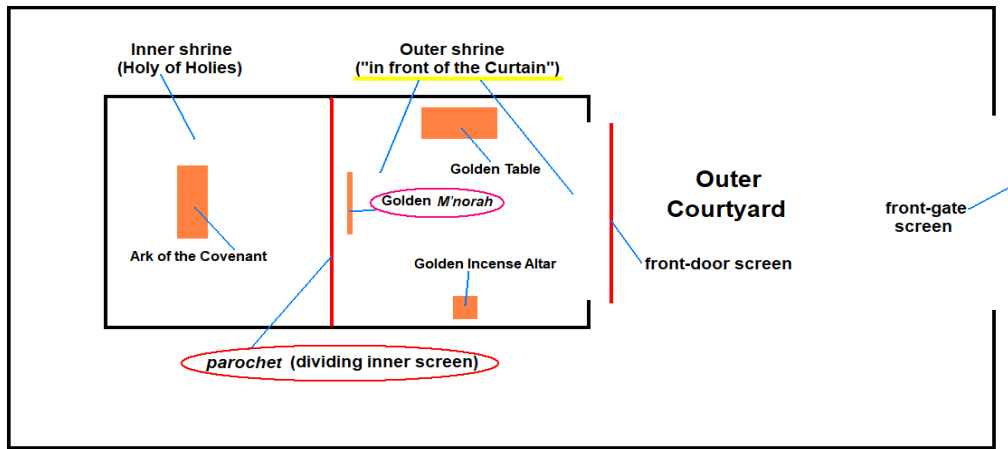
from כ-ת-ת “crush; pound; beat”

27:20c] - to offer up **a regular illumination.** **לְהַעֲלֹת נֵר תָּמִיד**

**תָּמִיד** noun “continuity; regularity; ongoing”

	constantly	regularly
<u>Exodus 25:30</u> - show-bread displayed on the Golden Table	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Leviticus 27:8</u> - show-bread is changed every Shabbat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Leviticus 6:5</u> - flame on the Altar is never extinguished	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Leviticus 24:3</u> - Aaron kindles the <i>M'norah</i> from dusk until dawn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Exodus 29:38</u> - yearling lambs offered on the Altar at dawn and dusk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Exodus 28:29</u> - Aaron wears God's Name when he enters the Shrine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Exodus 28:38</u> - Aaron wears the Headband when at the Altar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[27:21a] - **within the Tent of Meeting— outside the *parochet*** in front of [the Ark containing the Tablets of] the Testimony. **בְּאֵהָל מוֹעֵד מְחוּץ לְפָרֹכֶת אֲשֶׁר עַל-הַעֲדָת**



**- more follows**

27:21b] - **Aaron and his sons** are to array it before the Presence of The Eternal One from evening to morning

as an enduring statute throughout their generations **from and by the Israelites**.

יַעֲרֹךְ אֶת־אֹהֶל־וּבְנָיו מִעֶרֶב  
עַד-בֹּקֶר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה

חֻקֵּת עוֹלָם לְדֹרֹתֵם מֵאֵת בְּנֵי  
יִשְׂרָאֵל

**- Schematic of the *Mishkan* Narrative in Exodus -**

**previously in Exodus chapter...**

12-13	the Tenth Plague, and the departure from Egypt
14-15	crossing through the Sea
16-17	journey through the Wilderness
18	organizational interlude with Yitro
19	arrival at Sinai
20	Covenant 1: The Ten Commandments
21-23	Covenant 2: Constitutional ordinances
24	ratification of the Covenant

chapter	subject	chapter	subject
25	<b>interior furnishings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ark of the Covenant</li> <li>● the Ark-covering</li> <li>● Table of display-bread</li> <li>● golden <i>M'norah</i></li> </ul>	28	<b>priestly vestments</b> - <u>high priest</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>eiphod</i> and shoulder-pieces</li> <li>● breastplate of judgement</li> <li>● robe of the <i>eiphod</i></li> <li>● golden headband</li> <li>● linen tunic</li> <li>● linen miter</li> <li>● polychrome wool sash</li> </ul> - <u>common priests</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● linen tunics and miters</li> <li>● polychrome wool sash</li> <li>● linen breeches</li> </ul>
26	<b>exterior fittings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● draperies of the Shrine</li> <li>● goat-hair coverings</li> <li>● <i>tachash</i>-skin coverings</li> </ul> <b>interior structural components:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● support member - planks</li> <li>● “ “ “ - corner posts</li> <li>● “ “ “ - bars and pins</li> <li>● <i>parochet</i> (middle divider)</li> <li>● <i>masach</i> (front-door screen)</li> </ul>	29	ritual to consecrate the priests
27	<b>sacrificial Altar</b> <b>courtyard:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● drapery hangings</li> <li>● ferruled support posts</li> <li>● brass pegs and guy ropes</li> <li>● gateway entry screen</li> </ul> { end of " <i>T'rumah</i> " – begin " <i>T'tzaveh</i> " } <b>pure olive oil</b> as fuel for <i>M'norah</i>	30	<b>golden incense altar</b> { <b>end of "<i>T'tzaveh</i>" – begin "<i>Ki Tissa</i>" }</b> count markers in census <b>brass ewer</b> and wash-basin <b>anointing-oil</b> <b>incense</b> of fragrant spices
		31	B'tzalEil appointed chief contractor for the project

B) Babylonian Talmud, 'Arachin 16a -

**בגדי כהונה מכפרין**

**The vestments of the High Priest effect expiation.**

**כתונת מכפרת על שפיכות דמים**

The tunic atones for bloodshed...;

**מכנסים מכפרים על גילוי עריות**

the breeches atone for sexual immorality...;

**מצנפת מכפרת על גסי הרוח**

the miter atones for crudeness;...

**אבנט מכפרת על הרהור הלב**

the sash atones for lustful thoughts;...

**חושן מכפר על הדינין**

the breastplate atones for injustice;...

**אפוד מכפר על עבודה זרה**

the *eiphod* atones for idolatry;...

**מעיל מכפר על לשון הרע**

the robe of the *eiphod* atones for slander;...

**ציץ מכפר על מעשה עזי פנים**

the golden headband atones for acts of arrogance.

C) Sh'lomo Luntschitz (1550-1619),  
*K'li Yaqar 39 -*

**אולי שזה היתה כוונת הגר שהיה  
אומר אתגיייר על מנת שיעשוני כ"ג  
כדי שילבש בגדים אלו כדאיתא  
מסכת שבת**

**Perhaps this was the intent of that convert** who declared "I will convert to Judaism, on condition that they will make me High Priest so that I can wear these golden vestments," who is mentioned in the tractate Shabbat [31a].

**וכי היה כל כך שוטה שרצה  
להתגיייר בעבור לבישת בגדים אלו  
אלא ודאי ששמע קול סופרים  
מקרין וְאֵלֶּה הַבְּגָדִים אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשׂוּ  
עם פירוש כוונתם על מה הם  
מכפרים**

Was he truly such an idiot as to have wanted to convert simply for the sake of wearing these vestments? Rather, surely he had heard the sages expounding on the verse "and these are the vestments they are to make" [Exodus 28:4] with the exposition that their intent was that they would effect expiation.

**וידע הגר בעצמו שהוא עבר על כל  
אלו בגיותו והוא צריך לכל  
הכפרות האלו**

And that particular convert, having committed each one of those transgressions, **knew he required each one of those expiations.**

**אזיל איעסק ליה לבריה בי ר' יוסי בן זימרא פסקו ליה תרתי סרי שנין למיזל  
בבי רב**

D) Babylonian Talmud, K'tubot 62a - [Judah the Prince] negotiated the marriage of his son to the daughter of Rabbi Yossi ben Zimra, whom the two of them agreed should first spend twelve years studying at the Academy.

**אחלפוה קמיה אמר להו ניהוו שית שנין**

But when they brought the bride-to-be before him, [the intended young groom] told them: "Let's make that six years."

**אחלפוה קמיה אמר להו איכניס והדר אזיל**

And the next time they brought her before him, he suggested: “Let me enter the bridal chamber, and then I will go to school!”

הוה קא מכסיף מאבוה א"ל בני דעת קונד יש בד מעיקרא כתיב תביאמו ותטעמו ולבסוף כתיב ועשו לי מקדש ושכנתי בתוכם

He was embarrassed to have said this, until his father told him: “My son, **you have the same manner of thinking as your Creator.** For initially it is written: ‘you will bring [the Israelites into the Promised Land] and then plant them [by building the Temple in Jerusalem] - Exodus 15:17— but then subsequently it says [while they are still in the Wilderness]: ‘have them make Me a shrine, that I may dwell among them’ [Exodus 25:8]!”

**אָוַעַד לָכֶם שָׁמָּה לְדַבֵּר אֵלַיךְ שָׁם**

**E) Exodus 29:42-46 – I will meet with you there, to speak to you there,**

**וְנַעַדְתִּי שָׁמָּה לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִקְדָּשׁ בְּכַבְדִּי**

and I will meet there with the Israelites— who will be consecrated by My Glory!

**וְקִדְשְׁתִּי אֶת-אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְאֶת-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ**

**For I will have consecrated** this Tent of Meeting and the Altar;

**וְאֶת-אֹהֶרֶן וְאֶת-בָּנָיו אֶקְדָּשׁ לְכַהֵן לִי**

I will be consecrating Aaron and his sons, to minister to Me.

**וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְּתוֹךְ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהָיִיתִי לָהֶם לֵאלֹהִים**

**For I will be residing amongst the Israelites, to be their God**

**וַיִּדְעוּ כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי אֹתָם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְשֹׁכְנֵי בְּתוֹכָם אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם**

**that they shall know that I am The Eternal One, their God, Who brought them out of the land of Egypt to abide in their midst. I, The Eternal One, am their God!**

27:21b] - Aaron

**and his sons**

are to array it before the Presence of The Eternal One **from evening to morning**

as an enduring statute

**throughout their generations**

**from and by the Israelites.**

**יַעֲרֹךְ אֹתוֹ אֹהֶרֶן**

**וּבָנָיו**

**מֵעֶרֶב עַד-בֹּקֶר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה**

**חֻקַּת עוֹלָם**

**לְדוֹרֹתָם**

**מֵאֵת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל**

