

Week 20: March 8, 2025

Shabbat Message

Tetzaveh / *You Shall Command* / תְּצַוֶּה

[Exodus 27:20-30:10](#)

My Way or Yah's Way

A Kingdom of Priests

Introduction

In Tetzaveh the Priests were commanded to bring pure olive oil beaten for light to cause the lamp to burn continually. It was supposed to be burned from evening to morning before Yehovah. This is the Menorah that we were speaking about last week in our last Torah portion. It will be a statute forever throughout their generations on behalf of Bnei Yisrael. Notice it says

through their generation which means throughout the Levitical priesthood which obviously is not around today. However we do have Yeshua as our Light of the World He is our Menorah and He even told us that we are little Menorahs in not so many words when He told us to let our lights so shine before all men that they might see your good works and that you might glorify your Father in Heaven. Matthew 5:16 The word for good works is the word Ergon which Matthew used on purpose because this greek word if your reading it in Greek meant obeying Elohim's Commandments. The question today is how does the priesthood apply to me today in a 21st century context when the Levitical priesthood is not in affect right now however Yeshua is a Priest after the order of Melchizedek and Kefa calls us a Kingdom of Priests in 1 Kefa.

Exodus 28:1

1. The Levitical Priesthood was set up as a hereditary priesthood meaning it was passed from Father to Son throughout the History of Israel all the way up to the 1st Temple. However after the exile into Babylon it was no longer Hereditary any longer. According to Mishna the priesthood was bought and paid for by wicked men according to Mishnah Yoma 1:1.
2. In verse one we see that Aaron, Nadav, Avihu, Eleazar and Ithamar were all assembled to stand before Yehovah and before Moshe to be consecrated into the Priesthood. Interesting notes about these sons. Nadav and Avihu were struck down for offering strange fires, Eleazar and Ithamar were chosen to carry on the Priesthood and they did. The Samaritan Priesthood can trace their lineage to Ithamar and they have an unbroken

line since the year 1623/24. Before that they claimed descendancy from Eleazar but the line was cut off because there were no more male descendants from Eleazar so they transferred to Ithamar. When the Aaronic Priesthood picks back up in the Temple it will be through Eleazar though.

3. They were to be brought near to the Yehovah so that they may minister before him. The Hebrew word for come near is the word Karav which is where we get the idea of coming to do Yehovah in a spiritual act of worship. So this word can be applied to not only the the Levitical priesthood but also us as well.

Exodus 28:2-5

1. The Priest is to be clothed with special garments to signify his priesthood and that He is set apart unto Yehovah for the service of the Tabernacle.
2. We are to be clothed with Yeshua HaMashiach because it is a Scriptural command to do so. (Romans 13:14). This word in the Gr that Paul was alluding to to clothe yourself literally means to sink into a garment. Have you even sunk into clothes? We are to sink into Yeshua HaMashiach!
3. They were to put on a Ephod, a robe, a tunic of checkered work and a turban and a sash. This sounds a lot like Ephesians 6 talking about being clothed in the full armor of God. Paul wasn't alluding to a Roman soldier but the Garments of the Priest. Not only were they to serve in the Tabernacle but the Priests were the first ones to go on the Battlefield with the Shofarot and the Ark of the Covenant. The Roman soldier would have been

considered a stranger in that day look at Zephaniah 1:8. One day he is going to remove the foreign or pagan clothing from us. Heb Nokrei. You can actually find the armor of Elohim in the Tanakh every piece.

Exodus 28:9-14

1. The Priesthood was to have the two onyx stones engraved with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel.
2. The Priesthood was to carry the names of Israel upon their shoulders as intercessors.
3. We as Priests are to carry our burdens and give them to Yehovah. It says to cast your burdens upon Yehovah for He cares for us. (Psalms 55:22; 1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 11:28; Psalms 68:19).

Exodus 28:29-30

1. The High Priest was to bear the names of the Children of Israel on his heart. Yeshua prays for His People to believe in Him in John 17 and Paul prays for his people to come to Yeshua. Do we have that same heart? Do we want to see Israel accept Yeshua? Do you want to see Gentiles come to Yeshua? Do you want to see both of them following the Torah? Is this your heart to pray for?
2. Yeshua ever lives to make intercession for us. (Hebrews 7:25)
3. We are to do the same (James 5:16; 1 Tim 2:2) our responsibility is to pray for each other

and also pray for the nations and those in authority and to also intercede for cities.

(Jeremiah 29:7).

Exodus 29:44-46

1. I will sanctify the Tent of Meeting and the altar. That means He is setting apart the Tent of Meeting and the altar because it is used for sacrifice.
2. He will sanctify Aaron and His sons to minister to Him as Kohanim. He will dwell among the Children of Israel and their Elohim.... that includes in the Children of Israel the Mixed Multitude.
3. They will know that I am Yehovah their Elohim who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt so that I may live among them. I am Yehovah their Elohim. He had to get them out of Egypt first then dwell among them. We have to get rid of Egypt out of us our sin and slavery to sin out of our lives then the Holy Spirit can live freely in us. Get rid of the sin that so easily entangles us. Hebrews 12.

Take Away

1. Yehovah chose Aaron and His sons to be priests before him forever right now it is temporarily broken but it will be reinstated and also in the Thousand Year reign of Messiah the Levites will be ministering as well. Read Ezekiel.
2. The Priests were to be clothed in special garments to represent their consecration to Yehovah and they were to be separate.

3. The Priests were to be intercessors for the People of Israel.

Application

1. We as Believers in Yeshua are to be clothed with Yeshua or literally sunk down into Yeshua.
2. We have been given Armor to wear that is also based upon the High Priestly Garments.
Our worship is our warfare.
3. Yeshua wants to dwell with us just like He wanted to dwell in the Tabernacle of Moses.

Beth Ohr Messianic Congregation

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