

TORAH TIME

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PARASHA

Parasha Vayakhel and Pekudei

- Exodus 35:1-40:38
- 1 Kings 7:13-26, 40-8:21
- Hebrews 9:1-11, 8:1-12

TORAH TIME

Moses gathers the people of Israel and reminds them about the commandment to observe the Shabbat. He then gives more of YHWH's instructions regarding the making of the Mishkan (Tabernacle).

The people donate the required materials. They give in abundance items like gold, silver, copper, blue, purple and red-dyed wool, goat hair, spun linen, animal skins, wood, olive oil, herbs and precious stones. The people give so much that Moses has to tell them to stop giving.

A team of wise-hearted artists make the Mishkan and its furnishings (as detailed in the previous Torah readings of Terumah, Tetzaveh and Ki Tisa). Here is some of what is made: three layers of roof coverings; 48 gold-plated wall panels, and 100 silver foundation sockets; the veil that separates between the Sanctuary's two chambers and the screen that fronts it; the Ark and its cover with the Cherubim; the Table and its Showbread; the seven-branched Menorah with its specially-prepared oil; and the Golden Altar and the incense burned on it; the Anointing Oil; the outdoor Altar for Burnt Offerings and all its implements; the hangings, posts and foundation sockets for the Courtyard; and the Basin and its pedestal, made out of copper mirrors.

(This is an easy explanation of the Torah portion taken from the book "The Open Bible" - available at www.emetministries.com)

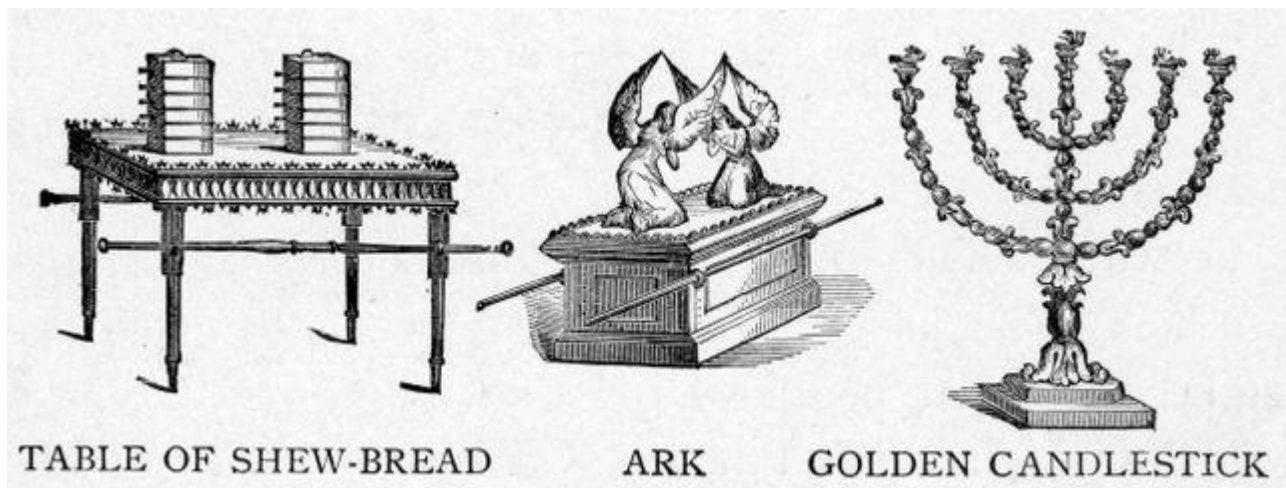
MEMORY VERSE

"Remember the Sabbath day," Exodus 20:8.

LEARNING ACTIVITY

Do you like to give gifts?

The Messiah said that it is "better to give than receive." The Hebrews understood this idea. The people gave the materials to make the tabernacle. They gave all types of items. They gave so much that Moshe had to tell them to stop giving. "Everyone whose heart stirred him and everyone whose spirit made him willing brought YHWH's offerings...both men and women," Exodus 35:21,22. While many donated, other people were chosen as skilled artists to do the actual construction. These craftsmen were "given wisdom and skill necessary to carry out the work needed for the sanctuary," Shemot 36:1. Everyone had a special part to play in making the tabernacle. Your worship center or your house is the same way. There are many needs. Just look around. You may be able to give your time or efforts to help. You could also make a craft to give others to encourage them.



WALK THE TALK

This week's Torah portion is actually two readings. It is the last two portions of the book of Exodus. The first of our readings is called "Vayakhel" which in Hebrew means, "assembled." Our portion begins with Moshe getting the people of Israel together for the construction of the house of YHWH. Moshe speaks to the assembly to give an offering of

items so the tabernacle can be made. He also reminds the people about the Shabbat. Our memory verse says, "Remember the Sabbath day," Exodus 20:8.

Moshe's meeting was to set priorities. The Shabbat is definitely a priority. The Israelites were not to work on the tabernacle during the Sabbath. YHWH gave us the Sabbath as a day of rest at creation. While the people were creating the tabernacle they also had to stop their work and relax. Certainly there are things that we need to stop "creating" on the Sabbath. The Hebrew word "Shabbat" comes from the Hebrew verb shabat, which means "to cease", or shev which means "sit."

Think about it this way... as important as it was for the tabernacle to be made, it was even more important for the Sabbath day of rest to be kept. There are so many things that happen on the Sabbath. Ball games, plays, school activities, worship services, family events, and friend time are all often scheduled on the Sabbath day. Sometimes it may be okay to do these things, but that's not why YHWH gave us the day of rest. The Shabbat was given to man so that we could have a time of rest.



The Sabbath is a gift for us to enjoy. Now, you may enjoy the Shabbat in many different ways. Each family and each congregation keeps the Sabbath a little differently. What matters is that the day is somehow recognized and observed. Building the mishkan was a huge task. It was so important for it to be made precisely right. And to ensure that the workers could do their best, they had to take a day of rest. So, how do you keep the Sabbath? What could you do differently this week to make the Shabbat more special?

Review the list of 15 ideas of how to celebrate the Sabbath. Try some of these during the next few weeks.

1. Attend worship service as a family
2. Visit family or friends in nursing homes or hospitals
3. Dramatize events from Bible stories
4. Take turns reading the Scriptures aloud
5. Pick a Psalm and add music to it
6. Prepare a meal of items that do not have to be cooked

7. Make crafts from household items and give as gifts
8. Write a story and make a book by folding paper in half
9. Use play dough to form different Bible stories
10. Watch a Bible movie together
11. Write a family song or cheer
12. Take a walk and point out how many different animals or plants you see
13. Use Legos to make a Bible scene
14. Visit a park or go outside and climb a tree
15. Play a game of Bible charades

Another way to learn about the Sabbath is to see what YHWH has to say about this subject. Below are some verses about Shabbat. Read through some of these and see what you can learn! Make a poster of the new things you have learned about the Shabbat.

Genesis 2:2-3; Exodus 16:23-29; Exodus 20:8-11; Exodus 31:12-17; Exodus 35:2-3; Leviticus 16:31; Leviticus 19:3; Leviticus 19:29-30; Leviticus 23; Leviticus 24:8; Leviticus 25:2-6; Leviticus 26:2; Leviticus 26:34-35; Leviticus 26:43; Numbers 15:32-36; Numbers 28-29; Deuteronomy 5:12-14; 2 Kings 4:23; 2 Kings 11:5-9; 1 Chronicles 9:32; 1 Chronicles 23:31; 2 Chronicles 2:4; 2 Chronicles 8:13; 2 Chronicles 23:4-8; 2 Chronicles 31:3; 2 Chronicles 36:21; Nehemiah ; Nehemiah 10:31-33; Nehemiah 13:15-22; Psalms ; Isaiah 1:13; Isaiah 56:2-7; Isaiah 58:13-14; Isaiah 66:22-23; Jeremiah 17:21-27; Lamentations 2:6; Ezekiel 20:12-24; Ezekiel 22:8; Ezekiel 22:26-31; Ezekiel 23:38; Ezekiel 44:24; Ezekiel 45:17; Ezekiel 46:1-12; Hosea 2:11; Amos 8:5; Matthew 12:1-12; Matthew 24:20-21; Matthew 28:1; Mark 1:21; Mark 2:23- 28; Mark 3:2-4; Mark 6:2; Mark 15:42; Mark 16:1; Luke 4:16; Luke 4:31; Luke 6:1-9; Luke 13:10-16; Luke 14:1-5; Luke 23:50-24:1; John 5:9-18; John 7:22-23; John ; John 19:31; Acts 1:12; Acts 13:14; Acts 13:27; Acts 13:42-43; Acts 15:21; Acts 16:13; Acts 17:2; Acts 18:4; Romans 14:5-6; Galatians 4:10-11; Colossians 2:14-17; Hebrews 4:1-11

TORAH TALK

What does the name of this portion mean?

What commandments are in this portion?

What is the main subject of this portion?

How did YHWH show His love to man in this portion?

Why is this portion special?

Did you read about the Messiah in this portion? Where?

How can you live this portion?

What did you learn from the Torah?

HEBREW LESSON

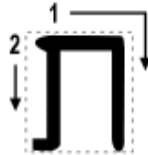


MEET THE TAV:

TORAH = THE SCRIPTURES

TOE'PUACH = APPLE

WRITE THE LETTER

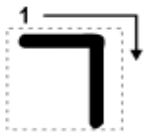


Note that the first stroke overhangs the second stroke, and that the second stroke has a small "foot" that goes to the left.

REVIEW THE LETTERS



Two strokes are used to create this letter.



This letter looks a little like a backwards English letter "r." Be careful not to confuse this with the letter Dalet.

Activity Ideas

Discuss how the Sabbath is both a physical and a spiritual rest.

What are things you and your family can do to set Shabbat apart?

Use the internet or a cookbook to make and braid challah bread by finding a recipe on the internet. Begin a new tradition of making Challah the day before the Sabbath

Review your Hebrew lessons by writing each letter than you have learned.

Make a challah bread cover. Purchase heavy cotton fabric or light canvas. Cut into a piece about 16X20 inches. Next, sketch with a pencil the words Sabbath, challah, or a picture of grapes and vines. Be creative and use your imagination. Take a bottle of white glue and trace over your outlines. This will create a border when you are painting it. Take some craft paints and finish decorating by painting. Let it dry overnight then soak in warm water to peel off the glue. Let dry again and then use to cover your challah bread!

Draw or sketch an illustration of the tabernacle and articles used in the mishkan. Include the outer court, inner court, holy of holies, and garments of the priests.

HEBREW REVIEW

י	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
Yod (Y)	Tet (T)	Chet (Ch)	Zayin (Z)	Vav (V)	He (H)	Dalet (D)	Gimel (G)	Bet (B/V)	Alef (silent)
ע	ס	נ	נ	מ	מ	ל	ך	כ	
Ayin (silent)	Samech (S)	Nun (N)	Nun (N)	Mem (M)	Mem (M)	Lamed (L)	Khaf (Kh)	Kaf (K/Kh)	
ת	ש	ר	ק	ץ	צ	ף	פ		
Tav (T)	Shin (Sh/S)	Resh (R)	Qof (Q)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Feh (F)	Peh (P/F)		



“_____ the Sabbath
day,” Exodus 20:8.