

P'Kudei פְּקוּדֵי

“Accountings”



This is the inventory of the Tabernacle, the Tabernacle of Testimony, which was counted according to the commandment of Moshe, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son of Aharon the priest.

Exodus 38:21

Then Moshe looked over all the works, and indeed they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, just so they had done it.

And Moshe blessed them.

Exodus 39:43

This week's Parasha is the last reading from the Book of Exodus (שְׁמוֹת - **Shemot**). In today's passage of Scripture we learn that 603,550 men twenty years and above were counted in the census taken on the Day of the Atonements (יּוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים - **Yom HaKippurim**). Each man numbered gave one-half shekel of silver to the treasury of the priesthood. This offering was used to mold every silver article needed to construct the Tabernacle (מִשְׁכַּן - **Mishkah**). All other articles were made from the free will offerings of the people. Everything was made just as God commanded.

Once everything was completed, Moshe (Moses) inspected the work and blessed the people. Moshe then erected the Tabernacle and its court, placing all the furnishings used for worship in the proper order. He anointed everything with oil to set it apart as holy. It was only to be used for the purposes of God. Moshe brought Aharon (Aaron) and his sons to the door of the Tabernacle. There Moshe cleansed them, clothed them with holy garments and anointed them, setting them apart to serve God as an everlasting priesthood just as God commanded.

Pray First

Father God,

We praise You for redeeming us and giving us freedom to worship You. We thank You for cleansing, clothing and anointing us to serve You. Please teach us how to honor You through worship just as You have commanded.

In Yeshua's name we pray. Amen.

Read Next

Exodus 38:21-40:38

~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~

Exodus 40:16-38

Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle of Meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. And Moshe was not able to enter the Tabernacle of Meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.

Exodus 40:34-35

For the cloud of the LORD was above the Tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Yisra'el, throughout all their journeys.

Exodus 40:38

Moshe obeyed God and did everything just as the LORD had commanded him. When reading our focus passage of Scripture I found the phrase “as the LORD had commanded” repeated eight times. How many times can you find it? Begin looking for it in Exodus 40:16.

Before the children of Yisra'el (Israel) broke their covenant with God by engaging in idolatry, God gave Moshe the instructions for how to build the Tabernacle, its court and all its furnishings. Despite the people's great sin, the instructions for the construction of the Tabernacle and its furnishings remained the same. This teaches us that there is only one **way** to worship God. Worshipping God in the manner that He has instructed is the only **way** to be blessed by Him. The number of times this phrase is repeated in today's focus passage emphasizes that it is not possible to be blessed by God without following His commandments for worship. Remember, the number eight in the Bible relates to the Kingdom of God.

In Exodus 40:17-19 we learn that it was on the first day of the first month (Aviv) of the second year after the people's redemption from Egypt that the Tabernacle was set up. This was the beginning of a new form of worship. Worshipping God in this way had never been done before. Moshe raised up the frame of the Tabernacle and the court surrounding it. He spread the coverings over the Tabernacle just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:20-21 Moshe took the Testimony of God and put it in the Ark of the Covenant. Moshe inserted the poles through the rings of the ark and put the mercy seat (כַּפֹּרֶת - **kaporet**) on top of it. Then he brought the ark into the Tabernacle and hung the veil of the covering (פָּרֹכֶת - **parokhet**) in its proper place before the ark to conceal it in the Holy of Holies (קֹדֶשׁ הַקְּדוֹשִׁים - **Kodesh Hakodashim**). He did these things just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:22-23 Moshe put the table (שֻׁלְחָן - **shulchan**) in the Tabernacle on the north side outside the parokhet in the Holy Place. He arranged bread (מַצֵּה - **matzah**) in order upon the shulchan just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:24-25 Moshe put the lampstand (מְנוֹרָה - **menorah**) in the Tabernacle across from the shulchan on the south side outside the parokhet in the Holy Place. He lit the lamps before the LORD just as the LORD had commanded him.



In Exodus 40:26-27 Moshe put the golden altar of incense

(מִזְבֵּחַ זָהָב קֶטֶרֶת - **mizbey'ach zahav qetoret**) in front of the parokhet in the Holy Place. He burnt sweet incense on it just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:28-29 Moshe hung the screen at the entrance of the Tabernacle, and he put the altar of burnt offerings (מִזְבֵּחַ עֹלָה - **mizbey'ach olah**) outside the door of the Tabernacle in the court. He offered up burnt offerings and grain offerings just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:30-32 Moshe set the laver (כִּיּוֹר - **kiyor**) between the entrance of the Tabernacle and the altar of burnt offering and put water in it for cleansing. Moshe, Aharon and Aharon's sons washed their hands and feet in the kiyor when they went into the Tabernacle or came near the altar of burnt offering. This teaches us that no one can worship God without first being cleansed and prepared. When Moshe obeyed God's order of worship, it was a witness to others to do the same. Moshe did all these things just as the LORD had commanded him.

In Exodus 40:33 Moshe raised up the court around the Tabernacle, the altar of burnt offering and the kiyor. He hung the screen across the court's gate. Moshe finished all the work.

In Exodus 40:34-35 we learn that when everything was prepared and all the work was done, the cloud covered the Tabernacle and the Glory of the LORD filled it. This signified the presence of God in the people's midst. Moshe was unable to come into the Tabernacle because it was filled with God's glory.

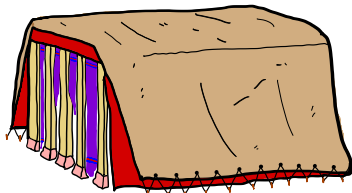
By these things we learn that one must be properly prepared to worship God. We also learn that worshipping God is a form of work or service to Him. When we prepare and participate in serving God by His order, He supernaturally makes our efforts a success to achieve His will on earth.

In Exodus 40:36-38 we learn that when the cloud was taken up from above the Tabernacle, the children of Yisra'el traveled to the next location. When the cloud remained above the Tabernacle, they did not travel until the day it was taken up. The cloud of the LORD was above the Tabernacle during the day, fire was over it by night. The entire house or family of Yisra'el could see the presence of God in their midst throughout their journeys in the wilderness. They knew exactly where He was and where He wanted them to be. This new form of worship commanded by God was true worship. It clearly revealed when, where and how to travel from one location to another in a way pleasing to Him.



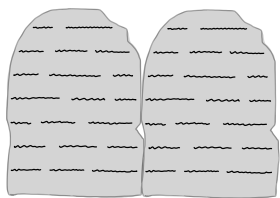
Torah Portion Review

Help Moshe put things in order to worship God. Directions: Match the picture with God's instructions for Moshe.



Mishkan

Place inside the rings to carry the Ark of the Testimony



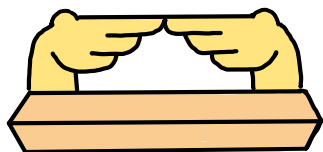
Testimony of God

Set up on the first day of Aviv



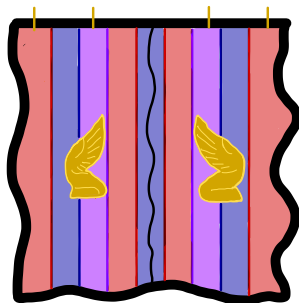
Golden Poles

Place inside the ark



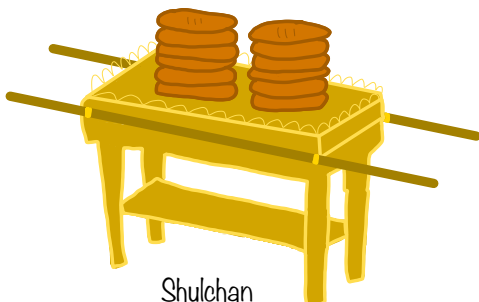
Kaporet

Hang in front of the Ark of the Testimony



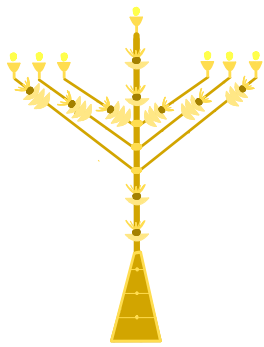
Parokhet

Place on north side of the Holy Place



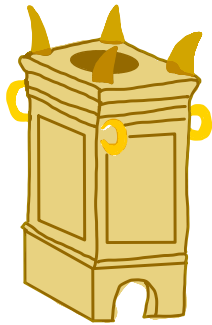
Shulchan

Place on top of the Ark of the Testimony



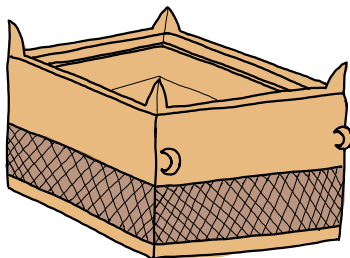
Menorah

Place outside the door of the Mishkan in the court



Mizbey'ach Zahav Qetoret

Place on south side of the Holy Place



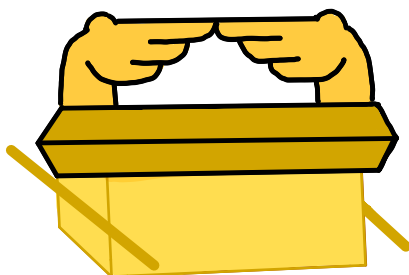
Mizbey'ach Olah

Place between the Altar of Burnt Offering and the Mishkan in the court



Kiyor

Place before the Parokhet in the Holy Place



Ark of the Testimony with Kaporet

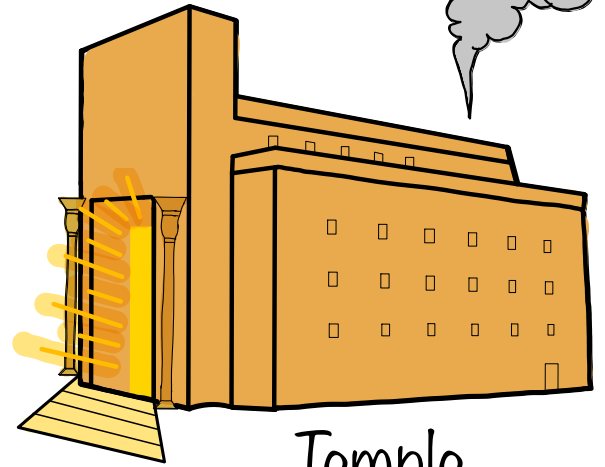
Place in the Kodesh Hakodashim

~ Haftarah: 1 Kings 7:51-8:21 ~

When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the Temple of the Lord. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled His temple.

1 Kings 8:10-11

בֵּית מִקְדָּשׁ



Temple

Approximately 479 years after Moshe first raised the Tabernacle in the wilderness King Solomon, King David's son, built the first Temple in Jerusalem. It was in the seventh month of the year when the Temple was finished. The priests took up the Ark of the Covenant and all the holy furnishings that were in the Tabernacle and placed them inside the Temple in the same order and location that they had been in the Tabernacle.

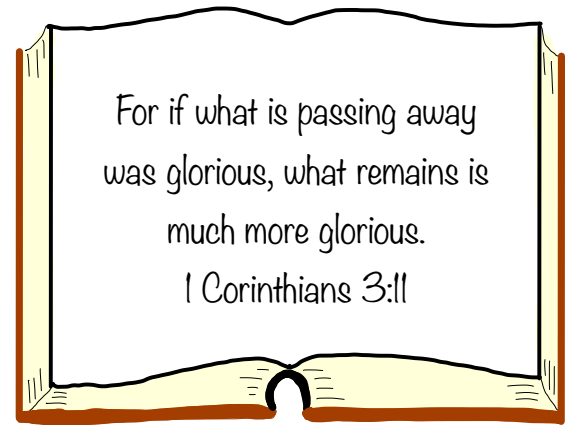
The two tablets of stone were the only items in the ark. These were the second set of tablets that Moshe had cut after he broke the first set at Mount Sinai. The words on the tablets had been written in stone by the finger of God and were guarded by the two cherubim with their wings spread above the kaporet in the Kodesh Hakodashim. These words are the words of the covenant God cut with Moshe and the house of Yisra'el. They teach us about God's character and His law. They are written in stone on the front and back to testify to the miraculous power of His Word. They are written in stone because they are perfect and do not change until they are no longer needed. They remain the same whether they are located in the Tabernacle of God or the Temple of God.

The priests came out of the Holy Place when all the work was done, and the cloud demonstrating the presence of the LORD filled the House of the LORD - the Temple. The priest could not continue ministering before the LORD because of the density of the cloud and the glory of the LORD that filled the House of the LORD. Serving the LORD in the way He commands us demonstrates His glory. When the glory of God is present, no further work is needed.

In the wilderness when the children of Yisra'el had done all that the LORD had commanded Moshe, he looked over their work and confirmed they had done it according to the LORD's instructions. Moshe then blessed the people (Exodus 39:42-43). Likewise, once the Temple was completed by King Solomon he assembled all the congregation of Yisra'el with him before the ark. So many sacrifices of sheep and oxen were given they could not be counted or numbered for multitude. The king blessed the whole congregation of Yisra'el standing before the presence of the LORD (1 Kings 8:5 & 8:14). The LORD desires to bless His people and abundantly blesses them when they participate in worshipping Him by serving in the manner He has established.

~ New Testament: 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 ~

In today's New Testament portion of Scripture Paul is teaching believers at Corinth the difference between the covenant of God written in stone at Mount Sinai and the covenant of God written in flesh - when a person trusts in Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) as their LORD and their God. The covenant of God that was written in stone is not living and cannot give life. It is valuable because it teaches the **way** to the covenant written in flesh. The covenant of God written in flesh is living and gives eternal life to all who receive it.



The covenant written in flesh is the new covenant given to those who trust in the life, death and resurrection of Yeshua for salvation. When a person receives redemption from sin through Yeshua, God writes this covenant on the believer's heart. The Holy Spirit enters the believer and guards the covenant written on his heart just like the cherubim guarded the tablets of stone inside the ark. In this way the believer has become the Temple (**ναός - nah-os**) of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

In the days of the Tabernacle when the LORD spoke to Moshe, his face reflected the glory of God. Moshe would put a veil over his face to conceal this glory from the people. Moshe did not want the people to focus on this reflection of God's glory because with time it faded away. It was not eternal. A believer's faith in Yeshua brings order to his life that glorifies God and can be seen by everyone he comes in contact with. There is no need for a veil to conceal it because it does not fade away. It is eternal.

The eternal covenant written in flesh is the living Word of God placed in every believer by the power of the Holy Spirit. This covenant insures the believer of all the promises of God and His Kingdom. It gives the believer hope, joy, boldness and confidence to receive eternal life in the very presence of God.

When God writes this covenant on the believer's heart, He only sees the righteousness of His Son when He looks at the believer. This allows the believer to reflect the glory of God from within. The presence of God is in their midst.

The covenant of God written in stone will one day fade away completely. This will happen after Messiah Yeshua rules and reigns for a thousand years on the earth and Satan is condemned forever. At this time God will create a new heaven and a new earth. All things will be new, and there will no longer be a need for the covenant written in stone.

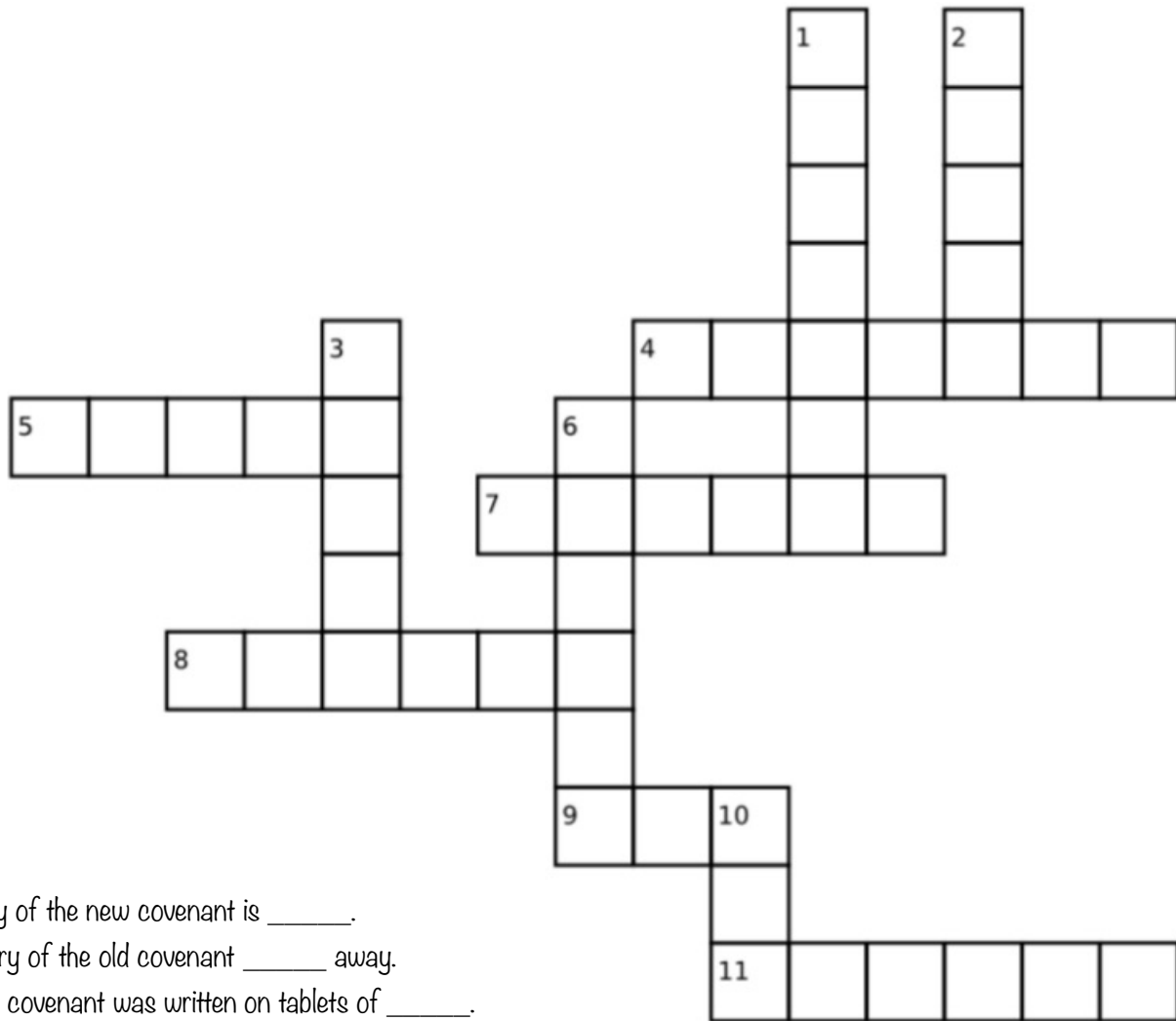
ναός



Temple

Crossword Puzzle

Directions: Complete the crossword puzzle using the word bank below.



Down

1. The glory of the new covenant is _____.
2. The glory of the old covenant _____ away.
3. The old covenant was written on tablets of _____.
6. A believer becomes a new _____ when they receive the Holy Spirit.
10. Believing in Messiah Yeshua is the only _____ to receive the new covenant.

Across

4. When a person enters into a new covenant with God, they receive all the promises of God and His _____.
5. The new covenant is written on a believer's _____.
7. When the Holy Spirit is present inside a believer, they are now considered the _____ of the Holy Spirit.
8. When a person receives the new covenant, the Holy Spirit _____ inside them.
9. The old covenant will remain for the believer's guidebook to serve and worship God until all things are made _____ by God.
11. A believer is able to reflect the glory of God because God now sees the righteousness of _____ when He looks at the believer.

Word Bank

Stone Faded Temple Dwells Kingdom
 Person Eternal Yeshua New Heart Way