9

GENESIS

Bereishit
Noach
Lech Lecha
Vayeira
Chayei Sarah
Toldot
Vayeitzei
Vayishlach
Vayeishev
Mikeitz
Vayigash
Vayechi

EXODUS

Shemot Vaeira Bo Beshalach Yitro Mishpatim

Terumah (19) תרומה

Tetzaveh Tisa Vayakheil Pekudei

LEVITICUS

Vayikra Tzav Shemini Tazria Metzora Acharei Mot Kedoshim Emor Behar Bechukotai

NUMBERS

Bemidbar Naso Beha'alotecha Shelach Korach Chukat Balak Pinchas Matot Masei

DEUTERONOMY

Devarim
Va'etchanan
Eikev
Re'eh
Shoftim
Teitzei
Tavo
Netzavim
Vayeilech
Ha'azinu
Vezot Habrachah



Overview

s we have explained previously, God created this physical world in order to make it His home. This goal was achieved for an elusive moment when the world was first created, but the miscalculations and wrongdoings of the early generations of mankind forced the Divine presence to progressively retreat into increasingly distant spiritual realms. The reversal of this process was begun by Abraham, continued through the chain of his successors, and was consummated by his seventh-generation descendant, Moses.

The first *bona fide* stage of Moses' reinstatement of God's presence here on earth was the Splitting of the Sea, which was described in *parashat Beshalach*. For as long as the sea remained divided, the physical world was host to an awareness and consciousness it had not experienced since the primordial Garden of Eden: that of God's existence and presence being readily perceptible and obvious. This consciousness in turn made the existence of this physical world—normally self-evident and beyond question—appear as it truly is, dependent and subordinate to the Divine life force pulsing within it.

But this transcendent experience was as fleeting as it was exalted; as soon as the sea returned to its natural state, "normative" consciousness returned. All that was left was the memory of the miracle, whose imprint on human consciousness paved the way for the steps to follow.

Once the sea had been split and it had been shown that Divine consciousness can indeed penetrate the entire order of creation down to this physical world, the next stages of this process could occur, namely, the demonstration that God's presence can penetrate even further, into the realms of reality that are antagonistic to Divinity and that even deny it, imparting Divine consciousness even to them. This was accomplished by the conversion of Jethro, the idolatrous priest *par excellence*.

The Torah could at last be given to humanity. In giving the Torah, God gave humanity His instructions how to turn this world into His home on an ongoing basis. But even more importantly, He made Himself—His essence—part of the Jewish soul and psyche. The Jewish people, individually and collectively, became the walking presence of God on earth, a people irrevocably obsessed (whether consciously or not) with Godliness and its implications for the world. This is why the laws of conversion to Judaism are deduced

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from the process through which God gave the Torah at Mount Sinai; it was there that the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were transformed—in a quantum leap—into the Jewish people.

These two events—the conversion of Jethro and the Giving of the Torah—are recounted in *parashat Yitro*.

However, as radical as the Giving of the Torah was, it still did not complete the full restoration of God's presence on earth. This is because it was essentially an act of *God's* initiative: "And God descended on Mount Sinai." True, there was a certain advantage to this: the revelation, not being dependent upon the world's prior preparation to receive it, was able to affect all aspects of reality equally. As our sages say, "no bird chirped, no ox lowed..." All of creation was overwhelmed and absorbed by the awesomeness of the event.

On the other hand, because the revelation was initiated entirely by God, it could not endure; it could not be integrated and incorporated into the fabric of reality. "And Mount Sinai was totally aflame"—Divinity permeated and sanctified even the inanimate rocks of Sinai, and "they couldn't touch it," but "when the *shofar* sounds they will [again be allowed to] ascend the mountain"³—once the revelation was over, the mountain returned to its prior profane state, as if nothing had happened.

It was therefore necessary, after the Torah had been given, for the Jewish people to make their own contribution to the return of God's presence to earth. True, the revelation this would elicit would not permeate all of reality—since only those aspects of reality participating in the effort would be affected, and the level of Divine consciousness elicited would be only relative to the efforts expended in achieving it. Furthermore, it would have to be a gradual process. Reality would have to be elevated little by little, both qualitatively and quantitatively. But whatever would be affected would be affected permanently. Suitably prepared for and participating in the process, the people and elements involved would be able to sustain and retain their hard-earned Divine consciousness.

The first stage of this process occurred on the mental, abstract level; this is the significance of *parashat Mishpatim*. Largely made up of legislation that human intellect could have composed on its own, this section imparts the lesson that Divinity can and must inform and motivate our efforts to create and maintain a just society. The execution of law is a painstaking process, in which every issue that comes up must be analyzed and sorted out so that the Divine principles of justice and mercy be properly applied, thus gradually refining the world and raising its level of Divine consciousness.

In *parashat Terumah*, the Jewish people's contribution to the return of God's presence on earth takes place on the physical, concrete level, in the construction of the Tabernacle. "They shall make Me a sanctuary, so that I may dwell in their midst." In the Tabernacle, God finally finds a permanent home in the physical world, and through it, a home in each and every individual. As our sages say, "He did not say 'I will dwell in *it*' but 'I will dwell in *them*.' "⁵ The presence of the Tabernacle cemented Divine consciousness into the life of the people, both as a nation and as individuals.

Terumah means "donation," literally, "a portion set aside" or "a portion lifted out" of one's possessions. The parashah opens with God's command to the people to donate materials for the construction of the Tabernacle, each according to his or her own

^{1.} Exodus 19:20. In the words of the Midrash (Shemot Rabbah 12:3): "and I shall begin it." 2. Shemot Rabbah 29:9; see on 20:15, above. 3. Exodus 19:12-13. 4. Exodus 25:8. 5. Quoted in Reishit Chochmah 2:6 and Shnei Luchot HaBrit, Sha'ar HaOtiot s.v. lamed, etc.

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generosity. A donation is, in a way, a paradox: by giving something away, we are saying—tacitly, at least—that this part of our wealth is better spent on the charitable cause than on our own affairs. We are in effect "admitting" that we are less worthy of our wealth than the individual or cause to which we are contributing. On the other hand, this way of thinking cannot be followed to its logical but one-sided conclusion, for then we would give away *everything*. By giving away only a *portion* of our wealth, we are at the same time acknowledging our own right to our wealth and asserting our own right to exist. But—back to the first hand—the fact that we have given some of our wealth away implies that our own private life is not the end-all and be-all of existence.

The result, then, is that even while retaining our sense of self, our donating makes the rest of our non-donated life subordinate to the higher cause. Even though we retain the better part of our own wealth and life, the very fact that we have given some of it away to a worthy cause reflects our selflessness and transforms the remainder of our wealth into an expression of this same selflessness. The more we donate, the more this becomes true.

In simple, practical terms, when we donate to holy causes, this very fact turns our business or profession into a means to enable more contributions; our whole life, down to its most mundane aspects, becomes consecrated to the cause and part of the cause—whether or not we are conscious of this.

Donating is therefore a process of gradual refinement: the more we donate, the more we refine the rest of our lives. We continue to donate because our awareness of the importance of the cause increases. This increasing awareness is reflected in our increasing selflessness. Ultimately, our whole life is transformed into selfless devotion to bettering and elevating the world; we have thus refined our portion of the world from its *a priori* selfishness to Divine consciousness.

Thus, in contrast to the Giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai, which effected a complete but ephemeral nullification of the worldliness of this world, contributing towards building the Tabernacle effects the gradual but permanent refinement of creation.

This is why God's command to contribute to building the Tabernacle precedes even His command to build it, and this is why this *parashah* is called *Terumah*: it is specifically in the process of *donating* to the construction of the Tabernacle that the essential nature and purpose of the Tabernacle—the concretization of the Divine presence in earthly reality as accomplished by human efforts—is most fully expressed.

This also explains why the Torah describes the people's contributions in detail: what they are to bring, how much, and so on. Every detail of the process of refining the world is a separate story, and each element of the process is significant in that it effects an elevation of the world in a way that no other element does.

Finally, this explains why the Tabernacle was constructed in the desert. As opposed to settled areas, which already (hopefully) have undergone something of the process of civilization—i.e., of being made into settings where humanity can most optimally fulfill its destiny in making the world a home for God—the uninhabited desert not has yet undergone such a process. It is "raw material," devoid of any human settlement that could serve as a means by which the Divine presence could "settle" on earth. Spiritually, therefore, it is an expression of those realms of life and creation that are as yet devoid of any Divine consciousness.

It is here, in the desert-areas of our lives, that God commands us to build Him

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a sanctuary. Even when we feel alienated from and empty of Divinity and despair of leaving our existential wasteland to enter the Promised Land, we must remember that God's command to make Him a sanctuary that He might dwell in it was first given—and fulfilled!—in the desert.

Moreover, the desert also signifies the dimension of spirituality that *transcends* the civilized, settled world. For although God seeks to dwell here below, this does not mean that He wishes to limit and contract Himself into the context of creation. Rather, it means, paradoxically, that He wants His essence—which by definition transcends any creational context—to be felt in creation. He wants the "super-desert"—the consciousness of Him as being far, far beyond any possible conception we can have of Him—to be brought "home." By making a dwelling for God in the lower desert—the aspects of our lives that appear to be anything but conducive to Divine consciousness—we cause this very darkness to shine; we tap into the side of God that "shouldn't" be able to be revealed in the finite world.

Therefore, even after the Jewish people had settled in their land and built the permanent sanctuary, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, the Tabernacle was not dismantled; it was stored away in the subterranean chambers of the Temple Mount, where it exists to this day. The Tabernacle and the lessons it embodies are everlasting—a permanent part of our lives and an integral, eternally relevant facet of our relationship with God.⁶

^{6.} Likutei Sichot, vol. 21, pp. 146 ff.

−∞ ONKELOS ଔ−

25:1 נמַלִּיל יְיָ עִם מֹשֶׁה לְמֵימָר: 2 מַלֵּיל עִם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיַפְּרְשׁוּן הַדְמִי אַפְּרְשׁוּתָא מִן כָּל־נְּבָר דִּי יִתְרְעַה לְבָּה תִּסְבוּן יַת אַפְּרְשׁוּתִי: 3 וְדָא אַפְּרְשׁוּתָא דִּי תִסְבוּן מִנְּהוֹן דְּהַבָּא וְבַסְפָּא וּנִחִשָׁא: 25:1 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהֹּנָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמְר: 2 דַבֵּר אֶל־בְּגֵיּ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיִקְחוּ־לֶּי הְרוּמֶה מֵאֵת כְּל־אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִדְבֶנִּוּ לְבֹּוֹ תִּקְחוּ אֶת־הְּרוּמֶה: 3 וְזֹאת הַהְּרוּמָה אֲשֶׁר תִּקְחוּ לְבֹּוֹ תִּקְחוּ אֶת־הְּרוּמָה: 3 וְזֹאת הַהְּרוּמָה אֲשֶׁר תִּקְחוּ מֵאָת זָהַב וַבְּפַף וּנָחִשֵּת:

-⊗ RASHI છ3-

הְרוּמַת הַמִּשְׁכָּן, נִדְבַת כְּל־אָחָד וְאָחָד. שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר הְבָּרִים הָאֲמוּרִים בְּעִנְיָן, כַּלְם הַצְּרְכוּ לִמְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן, מוֹ לְבִּגְי כְּהָבִּי בְּלָם הַצְּרְכוּ לִמְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן אוֹ לְבִּגְדִי כְּהָבָּי, בְּשֶׁתְּקְדֵּק בְּהָם: 3 זְהָב וְכָּסָף וּנְחֹשְׁת זְּגוֹ׳. כַּלְם בְּאוּ בִּנְדְבָה, אִישׁ אִישׁ מַה־שֶׁנְּדְבוֹ לְבּוֹ, חוּץ מִן הַכָּסֶף שָׁבָּא בְּשָׁנָה — מַחֲצִית הַשֶּׁלֶל לְכָל־אָחָד. וְלֹא מְצִינוּ בְּכָל־מְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן שֶׁהַצְרַךְ שָׁם כָּסֶף יוֹתֵר, שָׁנֵינוֹ בְּכָל־מְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן שֶׁהַצְרַךְ שָׁם כָּסֶף יוֹתֵר, שָׁנָאֵמַר: ״וְבֶסֶף פְּקוּדֵי הָעָדָה וְגוֹ׳ שְׁבֵע לַגַּלְגֹלֶת וְגוֹי״יּ, וּשְׁאָר הַבָּסֶף הַבְּא שָׁם בִּנְדְבָה, עֲשָׂאוּהָ לִכְלֵי שָׁרֵת:

בְּיִלְחוּ־לִּי הְּרוֹּמְה. "לִּי" – לִּשְׁמִי: הְּרוֹּמָה. הַפְּרְשָׁה, וַפְּרְשָׁה, וַפְּרְשָׁה, וַפְּרְשָׁה, וַפְּרְשֹׁה, וַפְּרִשֹׁה יִפְּרִישׁוּ לִּי מִמְּמוֹנְם נְדָבָה: יִּדְּבֶנוּ לְבּוֹ. לְשׁוֹן נְדְבָה, וְהוּא לְשׁוֹן רְצוֹן טוֹב, פרישנ"ט בְּלַעֵז': הִקְחוּ אֶת־הְּרוּמְתִּי, אָמְרוּ רָבּוֹתֵינוּ: שָׁלֹשׁ הְרוּמוֹת אֲמוֹרוֹת בָּאן: אַחַת — הְרוּמִת בָּמְוֹ שַׁמְּפֹרְשׁ בְּ"אֵלֶה פְּקוֹדִי". וְאַחַת — הְרוּמַת הַמְּדְנִים, כְּמוֹ שַׁמְּכִּרְשׁ בְּ"אֵלֶה פְקוּדִי". וְאַחַת — הְרוּמִת הַמְּלְבַּנוֹ אַבְּוֹר, לַקְפּוֹת, לְקְנוֹת מֵהֶן קְרְבְּנוֹת צִבּוּר, וְאַחַת בַּקַע לַגַּלְגֹלֶת, לַקְפּוֹת, מֵהֶן קְרְבְּנוֹת צִבּוּר, וְאַחַת

1. מַתַּנַה. 2. מגילה כט, ב. 3. שמות לח, כו־כז. 4. שם כה־כו.

did not sin at the incident of the Golden Calf—but they may contribute if they wish.⁷ No specific amount is required from each person, with the exception that each adult male is to give a half-shekel of silver now, for the construction of the bases under the planks⁸ and the hooks and bands for the pillars,⁹ and a half-shekel annually, for the purchase of the communal offerings.¹⁰

3 The following materials constitute the contribution that you shall take from them: gold, silver, and copper, of which they have plenty from the spoils of Egypt and the Sea of Reeds¹¹;

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3 **Gold, silver, and copper:** Although gold surpasses silver in its intrinsic value, silver is the metal of choice for use as currency. The very fact that silver is not as rare as gold makes it more suited for daily purposes, and in this respect it is more valuable than gold. Copper, on the other hand, is even more common than silver, but so much so that it lacks the distinction possessed by silver. (In the Torah, copper is not used as currency at all, and in societies where it *is* used for currency, it is typically used for coins of smaller denominations.)

Spiritually, the rarity of gold alludes to the otherworldly, transcendent element of man, the desire to rise above the natural and remain outside the common. Conversely, the currentness of silver alludes to the effort to draw otherworldly holiness into the common and mundane. Although gold is the more precious of the two metals, there are certain halachic contexts in which the currentness of silver makes it more valuable than gold. This advantage of silver over gold reflects the fact that it is the "silver" aspect of life that achieves the Divine plan.

Similarly, silver, gold, and copper represent the three types of Jews: Silver represents the perfectly righteous, who stand essentially above the mundane world and channel Divine enlightenment into it. Gold, in contrast, represents those of us who are initially thoroughly entrenched in the mundane world but have struggled with its spiritual darkness and won. Our initial situation impels us to seek transcendence and escape from the stranglehold of materialism. Copper, on the other hand, represents those of us who live within the mundane but bring no light into it. The Hebrew word for "copper" (nechoshet) comes from the

^{7.} Likutei Sichot, vol. 26, pp. 268, note 66. **8.** Below, 26:19, 21, 25; 38:26-27. **9.** Below, 26:32, 27:10, 11, 17. **10.** Below, on 30:11-16. **11.** Above, 12:35 and 15:22. **12.** See *Bava Metzia*, 44ab, commentary of Rabbeinu Asher (the *Rosh*) *ad loc*.

The Tabernacle

25:1 God's plan for making the world into His true home included, from the beginning, the establishment of a central location where this ideal could be expressed and which would serve as a locus for the processes through which the people would sanctify both themselves and the world. The permanent location of this locus was to be the Temple in Jerusalem; while the people were still in the desert, it would consist of a portable complex—the Tabernacle, its surrounding Courtyard, and the specific furnishings to be positioned in it and in the Courtyard.

It will be recounted later¹ that the people miscalculated the forty days that Moses had said he would remain on the mountain, which led them to assume he had perished there. This, in turn, led them to commit the sin of the Golden Calf, after which Moses broke the tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written. After the sin of the Golden Calf, Moses had to ascend Mount Sinai again, intercede with God on the people's behalf, and reinstate the relationship that had been forged at the Revelation and that had been abrogated by the sin. As was mentioned before,² there were two aspects to this relationship: the rational, contractual aspect and the essential, covenantal aspect. God indicated His restoration of the contractual side of the relationship by replacing the broken tablets and the commandments inscribed on them. He indicated His restoration of the covenantal side of the relationship by allowing the people to build the Tabernacle, so His presence could indeed dwell among them. The Torah therefore gives the details of the Tabernacle and its operation here, deferring the account of the sin of the Golden Calf and the subsequent reconciliation until later on, in order to first complete its description of both aspects of the bond between God and the people that was established at Mount Sinai.³

Thus, as part of His reconciliation with the people, **God** spoke to **Moses**, saying:

2 "I have forgiven the people for the sin of the Golden Calf, and will allow them to resume their task of sanctifying reality. To this end, I will allow them to build the Tabernacle so that My presence can dwell among them. Since the Tabernacle will thus serve the people, they must donate the materials from which the artisans will fashion both the Tabernacle and the garments of the priests who will officiate in it. Therefore, **speak to the Israelites and have** the treasurers⁴ **take** the materials that the people donate for this purpose from their personal belongings as a **contribution for Me.** I am only asking the people to donate materials that they already possess and are readily at hand.⁵ But when they designate and donate these materials, they must dedicate them specifically to Me—in order to rectify the way they contributed their possession freely to make the Golden Calf.⁶ Tell the treasurers: 'You shall take the contribution for Me from every man whose heart prompts him to give. Women are exempt from these donations—since they

^{1. 31:18} ff. 2. On 19:6, above. 3. Likutei Sichot, vol. 26, pp. 153-159; vol. 6, p. 154, note 23. 4. Likutei Sichot, vol. 16, pp. 284-289, vol. 26, p. 265. 5. Likutei Sichot, vol. 31, pp. 142 ff. 6. Likutei Sichot, vol. 31, pp. 207-209.

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וְתַּכְלָא וְאַרְגּוָנָא וּצְכַע זְהוֹרֵי וּבּוֹץ וּמְשָׁרֵי כּ וּמַשְׁרֵי בְּאַפּוֹדָא וּבְּכַע זְהוֹרֵי מְמָקְרָּשְׁא וְאַשְׁרִי כּ וּמַשְׁרֵי בְּאַפּוֹדָא וּבְּכַע זְהוֹרֵי לִּשְׁקָא וְאַבִּי שִׁשְּׁרָי בְּאָפּוֹדָא וּבְּקַשְּׁא וְאַשְׁרָאוּ בַּסְמַיָּא וְאַבְּנִי בַּרְלָא וְאַבְּנֵי אַשְׁלְמוּתָא בְּסְמֵיָּא וְאַבְּנֵי בַּרְלָא וְאַבְּנִי אַשְׁלְמוּתָא בְּאַפּוֹדָא וּבְּחַשְׁנָא:
 זְיִלְאָר וְאַבְּנֵי מַקְּדְשָׁא וְאַשְׁרָא:
 מְקְדְיִלָּא וְאַבְּנִי מַקְּדְשָׁא וְאַשְׁרֵי שִׁחְּלִּא וְאַשְׁרִי שִׁחְּלִּא וְאַבְּנִי שִׁקְּבְּשְׁא וְאַשְׁרֵי שִׁחְלֹּי שִׁרִּי בְּינִיהוֹן:

4 וּתְבֶלֶת וְאַרְנָּמֶן וְתוֹלֵעַת שָׁנֶי וְשֵׁשׁ וְעִזִּים: 5 וְעֹרֹת אֵילֶם מְאָדָּמֶים וְעֹרָת הְּחָשָׁים וַעֲצֵי שִׁמִּים: 6 שֶׁכֶּן לַפְּאָר בְּשָׁמִים לְשֵׁכֶּו הַפִּשְּיֹם וְלַקְטָרֶת הַפַּמִּים: 7 אַבְנִי־שֹׁהַם וְאַבְנֵי מִלָּאֶים לֵאֵפָּר וְלַחְשֶׁן: 8 וְעֲשׁוּ לֶי
 7 אַבְנִי־שֹׁהַם וְאַבְנֵי מִלָּאֶים לֵאֵפָּר וְלַחְשֶׁן: 8 וְעֲשׁוּ לֶי
 מִקְדֵשׁ וִשַּׁבָנָהֵי בְּתוֹבֵם:

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לְשֶׁמֶן הַמִּשְׁחָה. שֶׁנַּצְשָׂה לִמְשֹׁחַ כְּלֵי הַמִּשְׁכָּן, וְהַמִּשְׁכָּן לְקְדְּשׁׁוֹ, וְהֻצְּרְכוּ לוֹ בְּשָׁמִים, כְּמוֹ שֶׁמְפֹּרְשׁ בְּ״כִּי תִשְּׁא״: לְקְדְשׁׁרָ תַּ הַּשִּׁמִים. שָׁהִיוּ מַקְטִירִין בְּכָל־עָרֶב וְבֹקֶר, כְּמוֹ שֻׁמְפִּרְשׁ בִּ״וְאַתָּה תְּצַנָּה״. וּלְשׁוֹן ״קְטֶרֶת״ — הַעְלְאַת קְשׁוֹר וְתִמְרוֹת עֲשָׁן: 7 אַבְּנֵי־שׁהַם. שְׁמִּים הַצְּרְכוּ שְׁם, לְעַרְךְ הָאָפּוֹד הָאָמוּר בְּ״וְאַתָּה תְצַנָּה״. מִלֹּאִים. על לְעַרְךְ הָאָפּוֹד הָאָמוּר בְּ״וְאַתָּה תְצַנָּה״. מִלּאִים. על שֵׁם שֶׁעוֹשִׁין לְהֶם בַּזְּהָב מוֹשָׁב בְּמִין גַּמָּא, וְנוֹתְנִין הָאֶבֶּן שָׁם לְמֵלֹאוֹת הַגְּמָּא, קְרוּיִים ״אַבְנֵי מִלּוּאִים״. וּמְקוֹם הַמוֹשְׁב לְנִתְּשׁן. אַבְנֵי הַלּוּאִים״. וּמְקוֹם הַמוֹיְב בְּמִי הַלּוּאִים לְתַשְׁן. אַבְנֵי הַלּאִהָּם לְּאַבִּי הַשְּׁהַם בְּיִבְּיִם מִינִי תַּרְשִׁיט: צּ וְעָשׁוּ לִי מִקְּרָשׁ. לְּיִבְי הַמְּוֹרְישִׁים בְּיִבְּיִם מִינִי תַּרְשִׁיט: צּ וְעָשׁוּ לִי מִקְּרָשׁ. נְעשׁוּ לִשְׁמִי בֵּית קּרָשָׁה: יִנְשְׁבּי בִּית קּרָשָׁים. נְּעִשׁוּ לְשָׁמִי בִּית קּרָשָׁה: יִּתְּבְּשִׁים בְּיִבּים מִּבְּיִים בּּיִתְּבִּים בְּנִבְּים בְּיִבְּים הִינִי תִּבְשִׁים בְּשִׁבּים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּעִבּים בְּמִים בְּיִבְּיִם מִּנִי תִּכְּשִׁים בְּיִבְּיִם בְּמִוּרְשִׁים בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִם בְּבִּים בְּעִּים בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְּיִם בְּבִּיִם בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְיִים בְּבִּיִם בְּבִּיִּים בְּיִבְיִים בְּהִיבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְיִים בְּבְּיִים בְּיִבְיִּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְיִּבְיִים בְּיִבְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִבְּבִיים בְּמִבּים בְּיִבְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְיִם בְּיִבְּבִּים בְּיִבְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּיִבּיִים בְּלִּים בְּיִּבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְּיִבְים בְּיִבְיּים בְּיִבְּים בְּבְּבִּים בְּיִבּים בְּבְּיִבְים בְּבְּיִבְים בְּבְּבְיבְים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבְּיִבְּיִּים בְּיבְיבְּיִים בְּיִּבְּיִים בְּיִּבְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּבְּיִּים בְּיִּבְּיִים בְּיִּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִּבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּי

וּתְבֶּלֶת. צֶמֶר צְבוּעַ בְּדָם חִלְּוֹוֹן, וְצְבְעוֹ יָרֹק: וְאַרְגָּמָן.
 צֶמֶר צְבוּעַ מִמִּין צֶבַע שֶׁשְׁמוֹ ״אַרְגָּמְן״: וְשֵׁשׁ. הוּא פְּשְׁתְוֹ: וְעָזִּים. וֹצְה שֶׁל עִזִּים. לְכָךְ תִּרְגֵּם אוּנְקְלוֹס: ״וֹמְצְיִי" – דָּבְר הַבָּא מִן הָעִזִּים, וְלֹא עִזִּים עַצְמְן. שְׁתַּרְגוּם שֶׁל ״עִזִּים״ – ״עַזִּיָּא״: 5 מְאָדְמִים. צְבוּעוֹת שָׁלְחָרוֹ שְׁלְחַר עַבּּוּדְן: הְּחָשִׁים. מִין חַיָּה. וְלֹא הָיְתָה אֶלְא לְשָׁעָה, וְהַרְבֵּה גְּוָנִים הָיוּ לְה, לְכָךְ מְתְרְגָּם ״סְיּגוֹנְא״ – שֻׁשְׁשׁ וּמְרְפָּאֵר בַּגְוְנִין שֶׁלוֹ: וַעֲצֵי שְׁשִׁים. מֵאַיִן הָיוּ לְהֶם בַּמְּדְבָּר? פֵּרְשׁ רָבִי תַנְחוּמְאֵי? שַׁרְאַל שְׁשִים. מֵאַיִן הָיוּ לְהֶם בַּמְּדְבָּר? פֵּרְשׁ רָבִי תַנְחוּמְא?: עַשְׁרָא לִבְּנִוֹ מִשְׁרָב אְבִינוּ צְפָה בְּרוֹח הַקְּדֶשׁ שֻׁעֻתִידִין יִשְׂרְאֵל לְבָנוֹת מִשְׁכָּן בָּמְדְבָּר, וְהַבִּיא אָרְזִים לְמִצְרִים וּנְטְעָם, וְצְלָב אָבְינוֹ לִשְלָם עִמְהָב בְּעָבִים וּנְשָׁבְח. יִשְׁרְב אָבְינוּ לִפְּלָם עִמְּהֶם בְּשָׁבִיוֹ לְמִצְרִים וּנְשָׁבְם וּנְשָּבְּר. וְבִּרְבִּר אָבְרִים וְנִשְׁרָם לְמִצְרִים וּנְשָׁבְם לְמִבְּרִם וֹנְתְיִנְין לִשְּבְּים הְיִנֹי לְמִצְרִים וְנִשְׁבְּיִ בְּיִבְּיִי וְיִשְׁבְּיִם לְּבָּבִי לְּבִיּים לְּמִבְּרִים וְנִיתְוּיִלְשְׁבְּיִי וְיִּבְּרָם וּבְּבִּים לְּבִיתְ בְּנְיִים וְּנִיתְ שִּבְּרִי וְיִבְּיִבְעִם בְּנִית בְּבְּיִבְים בְּנִבְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְים לְבְנִית וְיִבְּיִבְים וְנִבְּיִם לְבְנִית בְּשְׁבְּעֹם בְּנִתְיבִים וְנִית וְנִים לְנְנִיוֹ לְשְלְּלֹם בְּנִתְיבְרִי לְשְׁלְבְיוֹ לִשְלְחִים בְּנִבְּעְרִי לְשְׁלְבְיִוֹ לְשְלְבְיוֹ לְשְבְּעֹלוֹת בֵּר הְתִּבְּיִב בְּעִבּים בְּיִבּים בְּעִבְּיִבּים בְּבְּיִבּים בְּנִבּים בְּיִבּים בְּבְּיִבּים בּּעבְּים בְּיבְּים בְּנִבּים בְּבְּיִבְים בְּיבּבּים בּיּיִים וּנְבְים בְּבִּים בְּיבּים בְּיבּים בְּבְּים בְּיִבְּיְּבְים בְּעִיבְיוּים בְּיִבְיבִים בְּיִים בְּיִבּים בְּיבְיבּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְיִים וּנְעִים בְּיִבְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבּבְּים בְּבּיוּבְים בְּיִבּים בּיבְּיִבְים בְּיוֹבְים בְּיִבּים בְּבְּיִבְיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּבְּים בְּבִיוֹבְים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּבְים בְּיִבְים בְ

> A CLOSER LOOK ❖

[8] They shall make Me a Sanctuary: When the people donated the raw materials for the Tabernacle, they were required to do so with the intention that these materials be used for holy purposes. This intention served to transfer the materials from

the donor's ownership to God's ownership, so to speak. When the artisans then fashioned the Tabernacle from the raw materials, *they* were required to do so with the additional intention of transforming these materials from mundane into holy objects.²⁷

№ INNER DIMENSIONS ◆

[8] They shall make Me a Sanctuary: God creates the world by gradually reducing the extent to which He manifests Himself. This process produces a descending series of spiritual realms ("worlds," in the terminology of Kabbalah), which are intermediate realities, or levels of Divine consciousness, between God's essence and our physical world. In general, there are four worlds: Emanation (*Atzilut*), Creation (*Beriah*), Formation (*Yetzirah*), and Action (*Asiyah*).

The intellect (the *chochmah*, *binah*, and *da'at*) of each world is the Torah of that world. Inasmuch as each world is designed according to how God's intellect is manifest in it, the Torah of each world is thus the "blueprint" of that world. In contrast, the actual creatures that populate each world (i.e., the

various orders of angels, etc.) are created when the intellect (or Torah) of that world descends into the *malchut* of that world. *Malchut* is the *sefirah* through which God manifests Himself as a "king," and since a king cannot be a king without a kingdom, *malchut* produces God's subjects in each world, the creatures that populate it.

When the Torah of any particular world descends into that world's *malchut*, it becomes hidden within it. In *malchut*, the Torah no longer appears as God's intellect; rather, it functions as the unseen "nature" of that world. God thus becomes hidden within His creation.

If we take each world as a macrocosm of the Tabernacle, the "inner chamber" or "Holy of Holies" of each world is the intellect of that world, its *chochmah*,

4 wool dyed **turquoise** with the blood of a sea creature called the *chilazon*, wool dyed **purple**, **and** wool dyed **scarlet**, from the wool of their flocks¹³; **linen**, of which there is an abundance in Egypt¹⁴ and which they took when they left;¹⁵ **goat hair**

5 and **red-dyed ram skins** from their flocks; **skins of** the *tachash*, an animal with a multi-colored hide that they will find here in the desert¹⁶; **acacia wood**, which Jacob foresaw they would need and told them to take with them when they left Egypt¹⁷;

6 olive oil, which you took with you from Egypt¹⁸ and which is to be used **for illumination** in the Candelabrum; and **spices for the anointing oil**—used to anoint the Tabernacle, its furnishings, and the priests¹⁹—and for the incense offering;²⁰

7 **and onyx stones and inset stones**; the onyx stones **for the Ephod**²¹ **and** the inset stones for **the Breastplate**,²² which are two of the high priest's garments that will be described later on.'

8 They shall make Me a sanctuary from these materials; when they do so they must specifically intend thereby to infuse holiness into these materials.²³ The purpose of the sanctuary is so that I may dwell in their midst.

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word for "snake" (*nachash*). Copper is "snake-metal," a substance that recalls the stubborn impudence of the primordial snake's denial of God.²⁴

Nonetheless, the Torah requires that all three metals be used for the construction of the Tabernacle. This is a lesson both to those who perceive themselves as gold and silver as well as to those who think of themselves as copper. The righteous among us must not shy away from involvement in the physical world, preferring instead to occupy themselves with only spiritual matters. Neglecting to infuse materiality with spirituality could backfire: their necessary involvement in basic physical pursuits-such as food, clothing, and shelter-could drag them into the sensual experience of materiality and undermine their spiritual focus. Even the penitent among us, who are anyway engaged in a constant flight from materialism and therefore might feel immune to the danger posed by neglecting to infuse materiality with spirituality, are still not exempt from elevating the physical world. Finally, those of us whose penitence is far from complete might think that they have to first rectify and refine themselves before they can elevate the world, but the Torah tells them otherwise: they, too, must do their part in building God's home in this world.

Furthermore, the "gold" and "silver" Jews must realize that to merit the Divine presence they must unite

with those on the level of copper.25

8 They shall make Me a Sanctuary: The idea of making a physical "dwelling" for the Creator seems absurd. First of all, how can the Creator of heaven and earth—spirituality and physicality—"dwell" in a physical structure? King Solomon himself voiced this perplexity. After building the first Temple, he raised his hands towards heaven and said: "Will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You; how much less this house that I have built?"²⁶

Secondly, why is such a "dwelling" needed in the first place? Isn't God everywhere? What does it mean that God "resides" in a specific place?

Of course, God indeed is everywhere, but unfortunately He is "hidden"; His presence is not revealed and we don't feel Him. This is so because the world at present is by and large simply not able to express the fact that it and everything in it is Divinity. If we would liken it to radio a receiver, we would say that the Divine "wavelength" is for the most part out of its range of reception. It cannot presently be "tuned in" to God.

There are exceptions, of course. People feel the presence of God—to some extent—in many "places": in the unspoiled panoramas of nature; in the intricacies

^{13.} Above, 12:38. 14. See on Genesis 2:11. 15. Above, 12:36. 16. It later became extinct (see *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 31, p. 136) 17. See on Genesis 46:6; above, 12:38. 18. *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 11, p. 129. 19. Below, 30:22-33. 20. Below, 30:34-38. 21. Below, 28:9. 22. Below, 28:17-20. 23. *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 26, pp. 167 ff. 24. *Nachash* is also related to the word for "stubborn" (nachush). 25. *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 6, pp. 157-160. 26. 1 Kings 8:27. 27. *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 26, pp. 172-173.

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9 כְּכֹל דִּי אֲנָא מַחְזֵי יָתֶךּ יַת דְּמוּת מַשְׁבְנָא וְיַת דְמוּת כָּל־מְנוֹהִי וְכֵן תעבדוז:

פְבֹל אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מַרְאֶה אְוֹתְדְּ אֲת תַּבְנִית הַפִּשְׁבָּן וְאֵת תַּבְנִית כָּל־בַּלֵיו וְבֵן תַּעֲשִׂוּ: ם

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וּמְכוֹנוֹת שֶׁעָשָׂה שְׁלֹמֹה, בְּתַבְנִית אֵלּוּ תַּעֲשׁוּ אוֹתָם. וְאָם לֹא הָיָה הַמִּקְרֵא מְחַבָּר לַמִּקְרֵא שֶׁלְּמִעְלָה הֵימֶנוּ, וֹאָם לֹא הָיָה לוֹ לִכְתֹב ״וְבַן תַּעֲשׂוּ״ אֶלָא ׳בֵּן תַּעֲשׂוּ״, וְהָיָה מִדְבּר על עֲשׂיִּת אֹהֶל מוֹעָד וְכַלִיוּ:

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The message here, too, was clear: the word of God revealed in the Torah is the source of all creation and transcends all creation; creation cannot therefore ultimately obscure or oppose Divinity. The inner essence of the Jew is his Divine spark, and this Divine spark achieves its control over reality through the Jew's devotion to the will of God as embodied in the Torah.

They shall make: It would seem that only the spiritual elite, the righteous and the holy, could only have achieved such a revolutionary feat as the creation of a physical sanctuary for the Divine presence. After all, this was not to be a Temple built to satisfy the self-oriented or even lofty but human yearnings of man. "Make *Me* a sanctuary," says God. Yet the Torah

≫ INNER DIMENSIONS ❖

[continued...] binah, and da'at. In the Holy of Holies, the Torah shines as itself—not as it is processed into creative energy through malchut—and God's presence is felt. While God is hidden in each world within the nature of that world, He is revealed in each world within the Torah of that world.

But although the Torah remains essentially unchanged as it descends from one world to the next, it is projected differently onto the screens of these worlds. Thus, although the Torah of Yetzirah, for example, is a greater revelation of God's presence than the "nature" (the malchut) of Yetzirah, it is still tailored to the mentality of the world of Yetzirah. In the basic scheme of creation, no world experiences a revelation of the Torah—and therefore any consciousness of God—that is not endemic to that world. If it would, this would be unnatural, supernatural, miraculous, in the context of that world. Therefore, each world is "locked," so to speak, in the Divinely-ordained parameters of its "natural" or "native" God-consciousness.

The exception to this was the Tabernacle (and later the Temple) of our physical world. The Divine consciousness that existed inside the Holy of Holies of the Tabernacle was *not* "processed" through the cascading descent of creation. Inasmuch as the tablets embodied the entire Torah, they directly expressed the *chochmah* of the world of *Atzilut*, i.e., God's intellect as it is manifest in the world of *Atzilut*. The level of Divine consciousness present in the Holy of Holies was thus that of the intellect of the world of *Atzilut*.

However, in order for the Ten Commandments (and implicit within them, the entire Torah) to be *engraved* upon physical tablets, the Divine energy of the world of *Atzilut* had to be somewhat reduced. The Torah of the world of *Atzilut* is totally one with God and is therefore too abstract to be manifest physically. Therefore, the intellect of *Atzilut* passed through *malchut* of *Atzilut* and was revealed within the intellect of *Beriah*. *Beriah* is the beginning of self-awareness and seemingly independent existence, so once the revelation had reached this point, it could shine directly into the physical Tabernacle, resulting in the Ten Commandments being engraved on the physical tablets.

Thus, the revelation of Divinity in the Holy of Holies bypassed the worlds of *Yetzirah* and *Asiyah*. Although these worlds are spiritual worlds—and are therefore beyond our world's limitations of time and space—they define the spiritual antecedents of what we know as time and space. The world of *Yetzirah* expresses the six emotions (*chesed* to *yesod*) of *Atzilut*, which define the six directions of spiritual "proto-space." The world of *Asiyah* expresses the *sefirah* of *malchut* of *Atzilut*, the source of time, and "action" implies a sequence of events, or "proto-time."

Because the revelation bypassed these two worlds, the Ark and the tablets miraculously transcended time and space: the Ark simultaneously occupied and did not occupy space, and the inside of the *samech* and final *mem* of the tablets were suspended in midair.³²

^{32.} Based on *Tanya*, chapters 51-53, and the Rebbe's note to the beginning of chapter 53 printed in R. Y. Weinberg, *Lessons in Tanya*, and in R. Y. Korf, *Likutei Biurim beSefer HaTanya*, vol. 1, p. 303.

9 They must make this dwelling, or Tabernacle, according to all that I am showing you here, on Mount Sinai—i.e., the form of the Tabernacle and the form of all its furnishings. You, yourself, however, will not actually make any part of the Tabernacle or its furnishings. And so shall you, i.e., the community, make replacements for these furnishings, if necessary, and similar furnishings for the permanent Temple that will eventually be constructed in the Land of Israel.

-∞ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 🗷

of science; in great music; in acts of kindness, of love, or of mercy; when studying His Torah; in the presence of holy individuals; in places of worship or study that have been hallowed by years of heartfelt prayer or diligent study of the holy books. But these experiences are the exception rather than the rule. Moreover, they are subjective. God's presence in them is so "dilute" that it can be clouded by our own subjective yearnings and predispositions. We are often unsure or even mistaken about the implications they hold for us.

We thus live our lives intermittently uplifted by moments of transcendence, but the goal of making this world God's home in fullest sense of the word eludes us. These experiences in and of themselves are neither intense, nor profound, nor objective enough to enable us to permanently transform the fabric of our lives.

The experience of God in the Tabernacle (and later, in the Temple), however, was altogether different. The Tabernacle was a place where the presence of God on earth was a fact, a reality that could not be denied, and the message this presence held for our lives was clear. To be sure, the Tabernacle did not take away a person's free will, and he could choose not to internalize the experience of Divinity available to him there. But whoever so desired could, through the Tabernacle, feel God's presence in his life on an ongoing basis.²⁹

What was it about the Tabernacle/Temple that had this effect on the psyche?

As human beings, we like to think of ourselves as rational creatures who function according to the dictates of logic and intellect. This is, of course, partially true, but there are many more factors besides intellect and logic that determine our behavior—some of them override our intellect altogether. For this reason, God has to address us on both levels, the rational and the supra-rational. The Torah, therefore, as we have mentioned previously, functions on both levels. Rationally, the Torah is God's guide to life in this world; supra-rationally, it is they way He imparts His essence to us, our essential connection to Him that transcends intellect.

Since the Torah is God's guide to life, it follows that God designed the world according to the Torah; in the words of the Midrash,³⁰ the Torah is God's blueprint for creation. Since the Torah is also our transcendent,

essential connection to God, it follows as well that this aspect of reality is also "hardwired" into creation.

Thus, God is hidden within the world in two ways: He is, on the one hand, the secret planner and mover of nature, and on the other hand, the Creator who transcends the nature He has created. As we said, we can sometimes get a glimpse of the aspect of God that is hidden in nature, sensing His presence in His creation, in our own artistic creations, and so forth. But how can we know God as He transcends nature—the *real* God, so to speak?

This is precisely the function of the Tabernacle. The focus of the Tabernacle, the essence that was enshrined in its innermost chamber, was the two Tablets of the Covenant, housed inside the Ark of the Covenant and encapsulating within them the entire Torah. When the tablets were in the Tabernacle, God's absolute, transcendent, "unprocessed" wisdom was available to all. This was nothing short of a miracle, a blatant suspension of the laws of nature that God Himself decreed should apply everywhere else.

This transcendent and miraculous property of the Tabernacle was physically evident, as well. The Tablets of the Covenant were "the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God." First of all, the letters of the Ten Commandments were engraved all the way through the stones, such that the letters whose insides were disconnected from their outlines (the <code>samech</code> [D] and the final <code>mem</code> [D]) were miraculously suspended in midair. But more significantly, the tablets simultaneously occupied and did not occupy space. For a physical entity not to occupy space is miraculous but theoretically conceivable; for it to occupy space and at the same time <code>not</code> occupy space is inconceivable within the context of our perception.

Yet this is exactly what the physical eye saw inside the inner chamber of the Tabernacle, and the profound effect seeing it had on those who saw it is, for us, unimaginable: if we cannot even imagine such a thing, we obviously cannot imagine the enormity of the effect of seeing it. This incontrovertible manifestation of God's absolutely transcendence over nature surely overtook the beholder's consciousness and forever changed the way he "trusted" the façade of nature that seems to obscure Divinity so deftly.³¹

^{28.} See below, 36:1; Rashi on 39:33; *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 11, p. 164. 29. *Tanya*, chapters 51-53. 30. *Bereishit Rabbah* 1:1. 31. Although only the high priest was allowed entry into the Holy of Holies, the doors leading into it were opened every pilgrim festival, and thus the entire nation could view this awesome phenomenon. See *Yoma* 54a.

—⊗ ONKELOS ଔ-

10 וְיִעְבְּדוּן אֲרוֹנָא דְאָעֵי שִׁטִּין תַּרְתֵּין אַמִּין וּפַלְנָּא אַרְכֵּה וְאַמְּתָא וּפַלְנָּא פַּתְיָה וְאַמִּתָא וּפַלְנָּא רוֹמֵה:

וֹנְעִשְׂוּ אֲרָוֹן עֲצֵי שִׁמֶּים אַמְּתַּים וָחֵצִי אָרְבֹּוּ וְאַמֶּח וַחֵצִי לִמְתִּוֹ:

-⊗ RASHI ഗ്ദ-

10 **וְעשׁוּ אַרוֹזַ.** בָּמִין אַרוֹנוֹת שֻעוֹשִׁים בָּלֹא רָגְלִים, עַשׁוּיָם בָּמין אַרגַּז שַׁקּוֹרִין אישקרי״ן⁰¹, יוֹשֶׁב עַל שׁוּלִיו:

.10 קפָסָא.

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God tells us to make a sanctuary so He may dwell within us.³⁹ This refers first to the physical Tabernacle that we built in the desert, secondly, to the personal, inner sanctuary that we must each construct out of our lives and our sphere of influence in the world, and finally, to the world at large, which we as a people must transform into God's home.

In all three cases, however, the task is possible only because we are simply revealing the hidden, true nature of reality. The world at large and everything in it exist only because of the Divine energy pulsing though them—and indeed *are* nothing more than Divine energy that has assumed a material garb—so making the world into a place where Divinity can be revealed is simply a matter of removing the obstructions that becloud this reality. Similarly, the essence of every one of us is our Divine soul, so making our lives into a Tabernacle for God is nothing more than allowing our inner essence to shine through the excess material baggage we have accumulated during our journey through life.

For this reason, the holiness of the Tabernacle and the site of the Temple are permanent, even when the Temple is in ruins. And similarly, our inner essence—both as individuals and as a people—remains pure and intact despite the vicissitudes of life we may pass through.⁴⁰

As we will see, the Tabernacle was a tent-like structure comprising two chambers, an inner chamber containing the Ark of the Covenant and an outer chamber containing the Candelabrum, the Table of the Showbread, and the Inner Altar. This two-chambered structure was situated within a larger fenced-in Courtyard, where the Outer Altar and the Laver were situated.

Spiritually, these precincts of the Tabernacle compound and the furnishings within them allude to the states of Divine consciousness we are intended to reach and internalize as we make ourselves and our lives into a home for God. The Torah begins with the description of the highest state of consciousness and retraces, in reverse, the steps the aspiring individual follows on his or her path toward it. The order of this *parashah*, then (after the introductory section), is as follows:

- 1. The Tabernacle
 - a. The furnishings of the Tabernacle
 - i. The furnishings of the inner chamber (the Ark)
 - ii. The furnishings of the outer chamber (the Table and the Candelabrum⁴¹)
 - b. The Tabernacle itself
 - i. The coverings
 - ii. The walls
 - iii. The dividing veil
- 2. The Courtyard
 - a. The furnishings of the Courtyard (the Copper Altar⁴²)
 - b. The Courtyard itself

With regard to both the Tabernacle and the Courtyard, the furnishings are treated first, and only then the surrounding structure. Thus, the order here is clearly a descending one, proceeding outward from the inner point of Divine consciousness.

T he principle tools we use to construct our inner Tabernacle are our study of the Torah and our observance of its commandments. The furnishings of the Tabernacle allude to the Torah, the soul's "nourishment," which sustains it and allows it to grow and develop, while the walls and coverings of the Tabernacle allude to the commandments, the soul's "garments," which allow it to express itself and creatively transform the world

Specifically, the Ark housed the Tablets of the Covenant, the microcosm of the Torah; the Table displayed the showbread, alluding to the nourishing quality of the Torah;⁴³ and the Candelabrum spread light, which is a metaphor for the Torah,⁴⁴ the source of enlightenment.⁴⁵

10 They shall make an Ark: The highest level of Divine consciousness—that of total unity with God—is embodied in the inner chamber and its Ark of the Covenant. The Ark housed the Tablets of the Covenant, on which were engraved the Ten Commandments, which encapsulated the entire Torah. Eventually, a Torah scroll was placed inside the Ark, as well. This teaches us that a person can achieve this degree of intense unity with God only through Torah study. Specifically, it

^{39.} This idea is quoted in *Shnei Luchot HaBrit (Sha'ar HaOtiot, s.v. lamed)* and *Reishit Chochmah* (2:6) in the name of the sages. See Overview. **40.** *HaYom Yom*, 21 Tamuz. **41.** The Inner Altar is described in the following *parashah*, *Tetzaveh*. **42.** The Laver is described in the *parashah* after the following one, *Tisa*. **43.** Proverbs 9:5. **44.** Proverbs 6:23. **45.** *Torah Or* 88bc.

The Ark

10 "They shall make an Ark of acacia wood, two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high. It shall have no legs, but rest directly on the ground.

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makes clear that the Tabernacle was to be built by and depended on every, man, woman and child, regardless of their spiritual status.³³

This could only have been possible after the giving of the Torah, when the Jewish people were transformed into a new type of human being. In the opening words of the Ten Commandments, "I am God, your God," God announced that He made His essence-which transcends the limitations of the natural order-the inner essence of every lew. Even when we appear to be anything but focused on holiness, our inner essence remains true to its Divine origin. At this core, our truest and purest desire is to be one with God and fulfill His will. Thus, even a Jew whose superficial motives appear self-oriented is capable of building a dwelling for God and God alone. Every post-Sinai Jew has the capacity to transform physical matter-gold, silver, copper, cedar wood, etc.-into a place about which God can say: "I will dwell among you."34

They shall make Me a sanctuary: According to Rashi, God commanded the Jewish people to build the Tabernacle at the end of Moses' third stay on Mt. Sinai, i.e., on the 10th of Tishrei, Yom Kippur. Moses communicated this instruction to the people the day after he descended the mountain.

In fact, however, there are three opinions about when the instruction to build the Tabernacle was given and when it was actually built:

- According to one opinion in the Zohar,³⁵ both the instruction and the construction took place immediately after the giving of the Torah, i.e., before the sin of the Golden Calf. (Hence, the Jews donated only their gold earrings for the Golden Calf, for that is all they had left after having given away the rest of their gold for the construction of the Tabernacle.)
- According to the Midrash³⁶—and this is the opinion Rashi adopts—the instruction was given after the sin of the Golden Calf, on Yom Kippur. By commanding the Jews to build Him a dwelling, God demonstrated that He had forgiven the sin of the Golden Calf.
- According to a second opinion in the Zohar,³⁷
 Moses heard God's instruction before the sin,
 but transmitted it to the Jewish people only after
 Yom Kippur.

On the physical plane, only one of these opinions can be correct. But on a deeper level, these three opinions can coexist, addressing the three types of people God wants to build His Tabernacle—to make the world a Godly place—and who each imagine themselves to be exempt.

The holy mystic: According to the first opinion, God addresses Jews who are righteous and pure, having just experienced their rebirth at Sinai. Such a Jew may be unwilling to dirty his hands with gold and silver. He is addressed by the first opinion: "Despite your holiness, you are still human and physical. You are not exempt from fulfilling God's purpose in putting your soul into its body: to sanctify physicality and transform the physical world into God's dwelling place. Moreover, holy as you are, you still maintain at least a minimal relationship with physicality: you must eat, sleep, and so on. If you refuse to tangle with the world for the purpose of converting it to holiness, that minor but unrefined connection that you do have to the world will ultimately ensnare you."

The returnee: According to the second opinion, God addresses Jews who have sinned and repented, who have worshipped the Calf and have now returned. Such a Jew agrees that a holy person needs to engage in sanctifying his physical involvement in the world, lest it ensnare him in its material orientation. He, the penitent, however, is immune to this danger. He has "been there, done that," and knows better; he is untouchable. The second opinion is addressed to him: "The instruction to build the Tabernacle was given on Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement, after the Jews had returned to the right path and been forgiven. Know that your return is not complete until you have built Me a Tabernacle. It is not enough to renounce the enticements of materialism; you, especially, must transform the material world into God's dwelling place."

The sinner: According to the third opinion, God's command applies even to sinners, to worshippers of a graven image. There is no mention of God rescinding the commandment to build the Tabernacle after the Jews had sinned, nor of re-instructing them to build it after they had been forgiven. Such a Jew, feeling tainted by his misdeeds, is convinced that the commandment to build the Tabernacle does not apply to him. He is addressed by the third opinion: although the instruction was given before the sin, it was not voided by it. God's Tabernacle is to be built by every Jew, even those that are idol-worshippers.³⁸

They shall make Me a sanctuary so that I may dwell in their midst: Not "in its midst" but "in their midst":

^{33.} Avot d'Rabbi Nathan 11:1. 34. Sefer HaSichot 5752, vol. 2, p. 384. 35. 2:224a. 36. Tanchuma, Terumah 8. 37. 2:195a; Nachmanides, beginning of commentary on parashat Vayakheil. 38. Likutei Sichot, vol. 6, pp. 153-156.

11 וְתַחְפֵּי יָתָה דְּהָב דְּכֵי מִגְּיוּ וּמָבֶרָא תַּחְפָּנָה וְתַעְבֵּיד עֲלוֹהִי דֵּיר דְּדָהַב סְחוֹר סְחוֹר: 12 וְתַתִּיךְ לֵה אַרְבַּע עִזְקָן דְּדְהַב וְתַתִּון עַל אַרְבַּע זוְיָתָה וְתַרְתֵּין עִזְקָן עַל סִטְרָה חֵד

ותרתין עזקן על סטרה תנינא:

-⊗ ONKELOS ଔ-

11 וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתוֹ זָהָב טָהוֹר מִבָּיִת וּמִחְוּץ הְצַפֶּנוּ וְעָשֵּׂיתָ עָלְיוֹ זֵרְ זָהָב סָבִיב: 12 וְיָצַקְתָּ לּוֹ אַרְבַּעׁ מַבְּעִתׁ זָלְב עָלֵי זָהָב סָבִיב: 12 וְיָצַקְתָּ לּוֹ אַרְבַּעׁ מַבְּעִתׁ זָלְב מָבְעֹת וִישְׁהֵי מַבְּעֹת עַל־צַלְעוֹ הַשָּׁנִית:
וּשִׁתִּי מַבְּעֹת עַל־צַלְעוֹ הַשָּׁנִית:

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פַּעֵמֹתִּיוֹ. בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ: ״וְיְיָתֵיה״. וּבַזְּיִיוֹת הָעֶלְיוֹנוֹת סְמוּךְ
לַבַּפּּרֶת הָיוֹ נְתוּנוֹם, שְׁתִּים מִכָּאן וּשְׁתִּים מִבָּאן לְרְחְבּוֹ
שָׁל אָרוֹן, וְהַבַּּדִּים נְתוּנִים בָּהָם. וְאַרְכּוֹ שֶׁל אָרוֹן מַפְּסִיק בִּין הַבִּדִּים אַמְתִים וָחֵצִי בֵּין בַּד לְבַד, שֶׁיִּהְיוּ שְׁנֵי בְּנֵי אָרְם הַנּוֹשְׂאִין אֶת הָאָרוֹן מְהַלְּכִין בֵּינֵיהֶם. וְבַן מְפּרָשׁ בְּמְנְחוֹת בְּפֶּרֶק ״שְׁתֵי הַלֶּחֶם״יי: וּשְׁבַּיִי טַבְּעֹת עַל־צַלְעוֹ הָאֶחָת. הֵוֹ הַוְ הָאַרְבַּע טַבְּעוֹת שֶׁבְּתְחַלֵּת הַמִּקְרֶא, וּפֵּרִשׁ לְּךְּ הֵיִּכְן הִיּוּ. וְהַנִּי״וֹ זוֹ יְתַרָה הִיא, וּפְתְרוֹנוֹ בְּמוֹ ״שְׁתֵּי טַבְּעוֹת״. וְיֵשׁ לְּךְ לְיַשְׁבָּה בֵּן: וּשְׁתִּים מִן הַטַּבְּעוֹת הָאַלוּ על צלעוֹ האחת: צלעוֹ. צדּוֹ: 11 מִבּיִת וּמְחוּץ תְּצֵבֶּנוּ. שְׁלֹשָׁה אֲרוֹנוֹת עֲשָׂה בְּצַלְאֵל:
שְׁנִים שֶׁל זְהָב וְאֶחֶד שֶׁל עֵץ. אַרְבָּעָה כְּתָלִים וְשׁוּלִיִם
לְכָל־אָחָד, וּפְתוּחִים מִלְמֵעְלָה. נָתֵן שֶׁל עֵץ בְּתוֹך שֻׁל
זָהָב, וְשָׁל זָהָב בְּתוֹךְ שֶׁל עֵץ, וְחִפָּה שְׂפָתוֹ הָעֶלְיוֹנְה בְּיָהָר. נִמְץ אַ מְצָבָּה מִבַּיָת וּמְחוּץ: זֵּר זְהָב. כְּמִין בֶּתֶר מְּקִיף לוֹ סָבִיב לְמֵעְלָה מִשְּׁפְתוֹ, שֶׁעְשָׁה הָאִרוֹן הַחִיצוֹן מִיקוּ לוֹ סָבִיב לְמַעְלָה מְשִּׁפְתוֹ, שֶׁעֲשָׂה הָאִרוֹן הַחִיצוֹן בִּימְנִי, עֵד שֶׁעָלָה לְמוּל עֲבִי הַכַּפֹּרֶת וּלְמֵעְלָה הֵימְנוֹ מֵשְׁהוֹ, וּרְשֶׁהוֹ, וּרְשֶׁבָּי הַבָּפּלֶרת בְּל־שָׁהוֹא, וְהוּא עוֹלֶה הַזִּר לְמַעְלָה מִבְּלֹ-עֲבִי הַבָּפּלֶרת בְּל־שָׁהוּא, וְהוּא עוֹלֶה הַזֵּר לְמַעְלָה מְבָּל־עֲבִי הַבָּפּלֶרת בְּל־שָׁהוּא, וְהוּא סִימְן לְכֶתֶר תּוֹרָה: 12 וְיִצְקְהָּ, לְשוֹן הַהָּכָה, בְּתַרְגּוּמוֹ:

11. מנחות צח, ב.

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is the study of the inner dimension of the Torah—Kabbalah and Chasidic teachings—that enables a person to reach this level of consciousness.

This aspect of the Torah is alluded to by the two engraved tablets. When words are written *on* a certain material—parchment, for example—the ink and parchment remain two separate entities; the ink can be scraped off. Engraving, on the other hand, is a

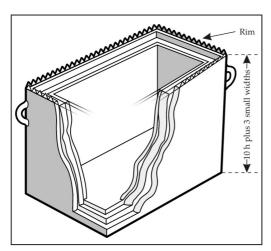


Figure 2: The Ark: three open boxes

much more intrinsic unity; the word and the medium become one.

For this reason, the inner dimension of the Torah is called "the tree of life"⁴⁶ ("life" meaning submersion in God-consciousness), whereas the exoteric facet of Torah (*nigleh*), if learned for egocentric purposes, can become "an elixir of death"⁴⁷ ("death" meaning submersion in self-consciousness). This is further alluded to by the fact that the tablets could be read from either side; they had no "back."⁴⁸ In the imagery of Kabbalah, the back of an entity signifies the aspect of it vulnerable to attack and subsequent collapse.

Once we are engaged in the study of the Torah's inner dimension, our study of the rest of Torah can becomes permeated with union with God.⁴⁹ This is alluded to by the presence of the Torah scroll (which indicates the exoteric aspect of the Torah) in the Ark as well.⁵⁰

According to the Talmud,⁵¹ the Ark contained both the second set of tablets as well as the broken remains of the first set. The first tablets (before they were broken) represent the Jew in his pristine state at Sinai, prior to the sin of the Golden Calf. The second tablets, which were given on Yom Kippur after the Jews had been forgiven for their sin, represent the Jew that has strayed and then returned to the Ark of Torah. There is also a third Jew, one who lacks the purity of the first tablets but who has not yet returned to the path of the Torah sufficiently to deserve receiving the second tab-

46. *Igeret HaKodesh* 26; Introduction to *Biurei HaZohar*. **47.** *Yoma* 72b. **48.** See *Kuntres Acharon* 161a; *Likutei Torah* 3:18c, etc. **49.** See at length, *Kuntres Eitz Chaim*, chapters 11 ff. **50.** *Reshimot* 108. **51.** *Bava Batra* 14a. Rashi (on Numbers 10:33) rejects this opinion in favor of that of the *Sifrei* (*Behaalotecha* 24), where it is stated that the broken tablets were placed in a different ark, which served as a "scout" for the Jews in their trek in the desert and that they took with them when they went out to battle.

- 11 You shall have them overlay it with pure gold: you shall have them overlay it inside and out by making two golden boxes, one slightly larger and one slightly smaller than the wooden ark, and placing the wooden ark in between them (see Figure 1). Have them make the outer, golden box a handbreadth higher than the other two boxes, in order to enclose the Cover that will be placed upon them (see Figure 2). In addition, upon the outer, golden box you shall have them make a decorative gold rim all around. This rim will signify the dignity that is due scholars of the Torah, for the Ark will house the tablets of the Torah.
- 12 You shall have them cast four gold rings for the Ark and place them on its four corners, two rings on one side and two rings on the other side.

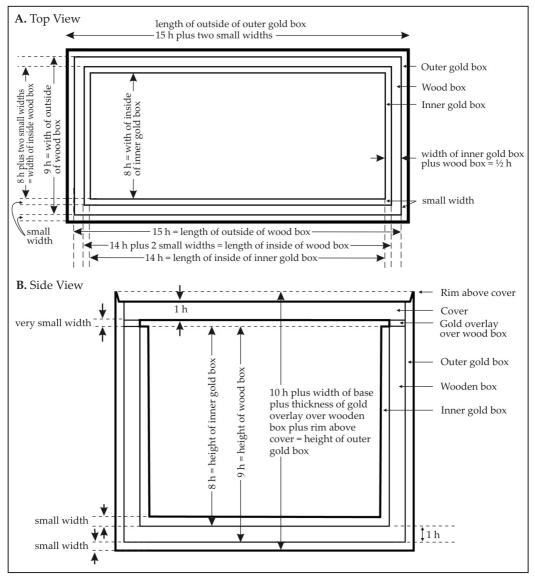


Figure 1: The Ark: three open boxes (note: 1 cubit = 6 handbreadths [h]).

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13 וְתַּעְבָּיד אֲרִיחַי דְאָעֵי שְׁשִּׁין וְתַּעְבָּיד אֲרִיחִי דְאָעֵי שְׁשִּׁין וְתַּעְבִּי יַתְהוֹן דַּהֲבָאוּ 14 וְתָעֵיל יַת אֲרוֹנְא לְמִשָּׁל יַת אֲרוֹנְא בְּחוֹן אַרוֹנָא לְמִשָּׁל יַת אֲרוֹנְא בְּחוֹן אַרוֹנָא לְמִישְׁל יַת אֲרוֹנְא יְתוֹן אַרִּיתְּא דִאְרוֹנְא יְתוֹן אַנִּין מִנָּהּ: 16 וְתִּמֵּן לְּרִּי בְּעִוֹקְתָא דִּי אָמָן לְרָּי בַּאַרוֹנָא יַת סְהַדוּתָא דִּי אָמָן לְרָּי בַּעְרִנִּין אַמִּין וּפַלְנָּא אַרְכַּהּ וְאַמְּתָא וּתַלְבֵּיד תְּרִין אַמִּין וּפַלְנָּא אַרְכַּה וְאַמְּתָא בְּרוֹנִין אַמִּין וּפַלְנָּא אַרְכַּה וְאַמְתָא בְּרוֹנִין דְּדְהָב נְגִיד תַּעְבֵּיד יַתְרוֹן מִנְּהֹן מִעְבֵּיד יַתְרוֹן מִעָּרִי כַּבּרתַּא:

13 וְעָשִּׂיתָ בַדֶּי עֲצֵי שִׁמֶּים וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתֶם זָהֲב: 14 וְהֵבֵאתָ אֶת־הַבַּדִּים בַּמַּבְּעֹת עֻל צַלְעֹת הָאָרֹן לְמֵּאת אָת־הַבָּדִים בַּמַבְּעֹת הָאָרֹן יְהִיוּ הַבַּדִּים לְשֵׁאת אֶת־הָאָרֹן בָּהֶם: 15 בְּמַבְּעֹת הֲאָרֹן יָהִיּוּ הַבַּדִּים לְא יָכֵרוּ מִמֶּנוּ: 16 וְגַתַהֶּ אֶל־הֲאָרֵן אֵת הַעֵּלַת אֲשֶׁר אָמֶּר מָמֵנוּ: 16 וְגַתַהָּ אֶל־הֵאָרֵן אֵמֵלִיד:

 שני 17 וְעָשִׂיתָ כַּפְּׂרֶת זְהָב מְקוֹר אַפְּתַיִם וְהֵצִי אָרְבָּה וְאַמֶּה וְהֵצִי רָחְבָּה: 18 וְעָשֵּׂיתָ שְׁנַיִם כְּרָבִים זְהָב מִקְשְׁה הַעָשֵׂה אֹהֶם מִשְׁנֵי קִצְּוֹת הַכַּבְּּרֵת:

⊗ RASHI ∽

רְבּוֹתֵינוּ²¹ שֶׁהָיָה עָבְיָה טָפָח: 18 בְּרָבִים. דְמוּת פַּרְצוּף תִּינוֹק לְהֶם: מִקְשָׁה תַּעֲשֶׂה. שֶׁלֹא תַעֲשֵׂם בִּפְנֵי עַצְמָם וּיְנוֹק לְהֶם: מִקְשָׁה תַּעֲשֶׂה. שֶׁלֹא תַעֲשֵׂם בִּפְנֵי עַצְמָם וּיְחַבְּרֵם בְּרָאשִׁי הַכַּפּרָת לְאחַר עֲשִׂיָתם, בְּמַעֲשֵׂי צוֹרְפִים שֶׁקּוֹרִין שולדי״ץ וּי, אֶלְא הַשֵּל זְהָב הַרְבֵּה בִּתְחַלַּת עֲשַׂיִת הַבּּפֹּרֶת, וְהַבֶּה בְּפַשִּישׁ וּבְקַרְנָס בְּאֶמְצֵע, וְרָאשִׁין בּוֹלְטִין לְמַעְלָה, וְצֵיֵּר הַבְּרוּבִים בְּבְלִיטַת קְּצוֹתְיו: מִקְשָׁה. בטירי״ץ בְּלַעַזיּי, בְּמוֹ: ״דָּא לְּדָא נְשְׁדֹי: קִשׁוֹי: קִצּוֹת הבּפּרת. ראשׁי הכפּרת:

13 בַּדִּי. מוֹטוֹת: 15 לֹא יָסָרוּ מִמְּנּוּ. לְעוֹלְם: 16 וְנְּתַהָּ אֶל־הָאָרוֹן. בְּמוֹ ״בָּאָרוֹ״: הָעֵדָת. הַתּוֹרָה, שָׁהִיא לְעֵדוּת בָּה: בִּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם, שֶׁצִּוִּיתִי אֶתְכֶם מִצְוֹת הַבְּתוּבוֹת בָּה: בִּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם, שֶׁצִּוִּיתִי אֶתְכֶם מִצְוֹת הַבְּתוּם מִלְמַעְלָה, וּמַנִּיחוֹ עָלְיו בְּמִין דְּף: אַמְּתִים וְחֵצִי אִרְבָּה. בְּאָרְכּוֹ שֶׁל וּמַנִּיחוֹ עָלְיו בְּמִין דְּף: אַמְּתִים וְחֵצִי אִרְבָּה. בְּאָרְכּוֹ שֶׁל אְרוֹן, וְרְחָבָּה בְּרְחְבּוֹ שֶׁל אִרוֹן, וֹמוּנַחַת עַל עֲבִי הַבְּתְלִים אַרוֹן, וְרַחְבָּה בְּרָחְבּוֹ שֶׁל אִרוֹן, וּמוּנַחַת עַל עֲבִי הַבְּתְלִים אַרְבִּיה, פֵּרְשׁוּ אִרְבִּיה, בְּרְשׁוּ

.12 סוכה ה, א. 13. מֻלְחָמִים. 14. עשוּי בְּהַכָּאָה. 15. דניאל ה, ו.

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must be ready to hurriedly travel to a place in need of its light. $^{58}\,$

17 You shall make a Cover: As mentioned above,⁵⁹ the tablets housed in the Ark signify the union with God we achieve by studying the Torah, particularly its inner dimension. The Cover of the Ark signifies that, even if we are studying the Torah's inner dimension, we must still never lose sight of the fact that we require God's grace from above at all times in order to maintain Divine consciousness. God grants us this assistance in virtue of our intrinsic connection to Him, which transcends whatever connection we may forge through the study and observance of the Torah.

Protruding upward from the Ark-cover were the two cherubim, facing each other. Their face-to-face posture signified that, through learning Torah, we can transcend the Torah and ascend to our soul-root, allowing our consciousness to merge totally with God.⁶⁰

The infant-like faces of the cherubim signified that our intrinsic bond with God is akin to the essential bond between parent and child, which can never be sundered, despite any temporal fluctuations in their relationship. This intrinsic bond is also alluded to by the fact that word for "Cover" (*kaporet*) is related to the word for "atonement" (*kaparah*). Atonement for sin is possible only when we invoke and evoke God's essential love for us, which overrides the deficiencies in our relationship to Him we cause when we disobey the Torah's instructions.⁶¹

18 You shall make two golden cherubim: The infant face of the cherubim also alludes to the fact that the Torah as we know it is a reduced, simplified version of the heavenly Torah, God's infinite wisdom. God contracted His infinite wisdom into a form we can understand and digest, much as an expert teacher has to contract his grasp of a subject in order to convey it to his pupils.⁶²

The fact that the cherubim's wings were spread protectively over the Ark alludes to the fact that the Torah-education of little children ensures the preservation and continuity of the transmission of the Torah. This recalls how, before the Giving of the Torah, ⁶³ God accepted only the children as guarantors that the people would uphold the Torah. ⁶⁴

^{58.} Likutei Sichot, vol., 16, p. 334. 59. On v. 10. 60. Reshimot 108. 61. Likutei Sichot, vol. 26, pp. 180-182. 62. Torah Or 79d. 63. Above, on 19:17. 64. Sichot Kodesh 5741, vol. 2, pp. 395-397.

- 13 You shall have them make rods of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.
- 14 You shall have them insert the rods through the rings on the sides of the Ark, so that the Ark can be carried with them (see Figure 3).
- 15 The rods shall remain in the rings of the Ark; they may not be removed from it,⁵² even when the Ark is not being carried.
- 16 And in the Ark you shall place the Tablets⁵³ of the **Testimony that I** will give you. The tablets are called 'Tablets

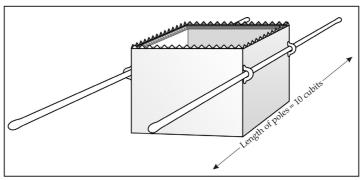


Figure 3: The rings and poles of the Ark

of the Testimony' since they bear witness that I have commanded you all that is written on them.

The Cover of the Ark

- ◆ Second Reading 17 "You shall have them make for the Ark a Cover of pure gold, two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide—these being the outer dimensions of the wooden Ark—and one handbreadth thick. Since it will be so heavy, it will require more than one person to lift it and place it on top of the Ark.⁵⁴
 - 18 You shall have them make two golden cherubim: statuettes of angels with wings and infant faces. You shall have the craftsmen make them by hammering them out of the two ends of the Cover. Do not let them make the cherubim out of a separate piece of gold and then attach them to the Cover.

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lets. He, too, is represented in the Ark—in the broken pieces of the first tablets. Even when we are shattered and broken, we are worthy of a place in the Ark.⁵⁵

Two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high: Unlike the other furnishings of the Tabernacle, the dimensions of the Ark were all incomplete units. Inasmuch as the Ark housed the Torah, this alludes to the idea that the Torah must "break" us; it must be learned in such a way that it breaks our ingrained habits and negative personality traits.⁵⁶

15 They may not be removed: One reason given for this prohibition is that if, at some point, it would be necessary to depart with the Ark hurriedly and there were no designated rods, there would not be time to search for rods strong enough to bear the Ark's weight. Permanently installed rods would preclude this concern.⁵⁷

The Ark housed the tablets, which represent the Torah. When a person immerses himself in the study of the Torah, he has "entered the Ark." One may think: "While I study Torah, I must focus entirely on it and distance myself from anything else. The needs of another person cannot concern me at this time." The message of the permanent rods is that an Ark must always be ready to travel. Even when the Ark is in the Holy of Holies, the holiest place in the world, it

^{52.} Rashi on 28:32, below. **53.** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 9, p. 196, note 6. **54.** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 11, p. 164-165. This is why the commandment to make the Ark (v. 10) is in the plural. **55.** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 6, p. 156. **56.** *Sefer HaMa'amarim Kuntresim*, vol. 1, p. 318. **57.** *Sefer HaChinuch* 96.

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19 וַעֲבֶד כַּרוּבָא חַד מִסְּטָרָא מַכָּא וּכָרוּבָא חָד מִסְטָרָא מִכָּא מָן כַּפַּרָתַא תַּעִבְּדוּן יַת כִּרוּבַיַּא עַל תַרֵין סָטַרוֹהִי: 20 וִיהוֹן כַּרוּבַיָּא פַריסן גַדפִיהוֹן לְעֵלָא מְטַלִּין בָגַדְפֵיהוֹן עַל כַּפַּרְתַּא וָאַפִּיהוֹן חַד לָקַבֵל חָד לָקַבַל כַּפַּרְתָּא יְהוֹן אַפֵּי על אַחַקּפַּרְתָּא עַל בּרוּבַיַּא: 21 וְתָתֵּן יָת כַּפַּרְתָּא עַל אַרוֹנָא מִלְעַלָּא וּבַאֵרוֹנָא תְּתֵּן יַת סָהַדוּתָא דִּי אֵתֵן לַךְּ: 22 וַאֲזַמֵּין מִימִרִי לָךְ תַּמָּן וַאֲמַלֵּיל עִמָּךְ מִעלָוֵי כַפַּרתָא מִבֵּין תִרִין כִּרוּבַיָּא די עַל אַרוֹנָא דְסַהֵדוּתָא יַת כַּל־ דִּי אַפַּקֵיד יָתָךּ לְוַת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: וְתַעְבֵּיד פָּתוֹרָא דִאָעֵי שִׁטִּין 23 תַּרְתֵּין אַמִּין אַרְכֵּה וְאַמִּתָא פַתְיֵה ואַמְתַא וּפַלְגַא רוּמֵה: 19 וְצְשֵׁה כְּרוּב שֶּחֶד מִקְצָה מָיֶּה וּכְרוּב־שֶּחָד מִקְצֶה מִזְה מִזְהַבְּפֶּנֶרת תַּעֲשִׂוּ שֶׁת־הַכְּרָבִים עַל־שְׁנֵי קְצוֹתְיוּ:
20 וְהִיּוּ הַכְּרָבִים כְּּרְשֵׁי כְנְפִׁים לְמַעְלְה סְבְּכִים בְּבְנִיה לְבִּיִּה מְנִיהָם אֵישׁ שֶּל־אָחֶיוּ שֶּׁל־בְּבָּים הַבְּפַּנֶרת וּפְנֵיהֶם אֵישׁ שֶּל־אָחֶיוּ שֶּׁל־הַבָּפֶּנֶרת יִהְיִּי פְּנֵי הַכְּרָבִים: 21 וְנְתַהְּ שֶּת־הַבַּפְּּנֶרת עַל־הַבָּפֹּנֶרת יְהִיּי פְּנִי הַבְּרָבִים: 21 וְנְתַהְ שֶּת־הַבַּפְּנֶרת עַל־הַבָּפֹּנֶרת יְהִיּי בְּהְי שְׁמִי לְהְבְּרָת שִׁל־הְבָּבְּים בְּשֶׁר שָל־הָבְּלְ הִבְּרָת שֵּל הַבַּפֹּנֶרת מִלְי הְבָּרְתִי לְךְּ שָׁם וְדִבּּרְתִּי אִהְּדְ מִשְׁל הַבְּפֹּנֶרת מִלְי הְבָּבְּיִם אֲשֶׁר עַל־אֲלָוֹ הְעַרֻת אֵת בְּל־יִאֲשֶׁר מִלּבְיִי יִשְׂרָאֵל: פּ

וֹצַמֵּית שַׁלְחֶן עַצֵּי שִׁמֵּים אַפָּתַיִם אָרְכּוֹ וְאַבְּּח רְחְבֹּוֹ וֹאַפֵּה וָחֵצִי לְּטָתוֹ:

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מִלְמִעְלָה״: 22 וְנוֹעַדְתִּי. כְּשֶׁאֶקְבֵּע מוֹעֵד לְּךְּ לְדְבֵּר אַנְהְ, אוֹתוֹ מְקוֹם אֶקְבַּע לַמוֹעֵד שָׁאָבֹא שָׁם לְדְבֵּר אַלְיךְּ: וְדְבַּרְתִּי אִתְּךְּ מֵעַל הַבָּפֹּרֶת. וּבְמְקוֹם אַחֵר הוּא אַלֵּיך: וְדְבַּרְתִּי אִתְּךְ מֵעַל הַבָּפֹּרֶת. וּבְמְקוֹם אַחֵר הוּא אוֹמֵר: ״וִיְדְבֵּר ה׳ אֵלְיו מֵאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד לֵאמֹר״² — זָה הַמִּשְׁכְּן מְחוּץ לַפְּרֹעָת. נִמְצְאוּ שְׁנֵי כְתוּבִים מַכְחִישִׁים זָה אֶת זָה. בָּא הַבְּתוֹנ הַשְּלִישִׁי וְהִבְּרִיעַ בֵּינִיהֶם: ״וּבְבֹא מֵשֶׁר הַבָּפֹּרֶת וְגוֹי״ִנְ — משֶׁה הָיָה נִכְנָס לַמִּשְׁכָּן, וְבִיוֹן שָׁבָּא בְּתוֹךְ הַבְּּלְ מוֹעֵד. וְהִיְּהִים לְבֵין הַבְּרוּנִים, שַּבָּא בְּתוֹךְ הַבְּלִי וְלִידִ מִן הַשְּׁמִים לְבֵין הַבְּרוּנִים, שְּבָּא בְּתוֹךְ הַפֶּתְח קוֹל יוֹרֵד מִן הַשְּׁמִים לְבֵין הַבְּרוּנִים, וּמְשָׁת לְמֹשֶׁת בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד: וְאֵת בָּלּי-אֲשֶׁר וּמְבָּר הִיּבְּה בִּמִּקְרָא, וְכֹה הִפְּמֵבי: וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר אֲבָּר, וְבִיוֹן הַבְּמוֹהוּ הַרְבֵּה בַּמִקְרָא, וְכֹה הִפְּמֵבי: וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר אֲבָּר, יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּר בִּיִים בְּמִבְּר, וְבִיוֹן הַבְּבִר יִשְׂרְאַל. הְבֵּר וְמִיּת אְשָׁר אְבָּב וּיִבְּיִר וְשְׁרְאָל עִם עֵבִי הְשָׁרְתן. נִייִּין שִּרְבֵּר הִיּבְּבֵּר יִשְׂרְבֵּנִי יִשְׂרָאל. הַבָּב לְבִיין עִם עֵבִי הְשָּבְר, וְבִין הַבְּבִיי יִשְׂרָאל. בִּבּר הָנִים בְּבִיי יִשְׂרָאל. בִּבְּר הָבְיִבְיי יִשְׂרָאל. בְּבִי הְשִּרְתוֹ. גֹבְה רְגִּלִיו עִם עֵבִי הְשַׁלְחַן:

19 וַּעֲשֵׂה בְּרוּב אֶחָד מִקְּצָה. שֶׁלֹא תֹּאמֵר: שְׁנִיִם בְּרוּבִים לְכְלֹ-קְצָה וְקְצָה, לְכָךְ הַצְרְהְ לְפָרֵשׁ: ״בְּרוּב אֶחָד מִקְצִה מְנֻשׁוֹּ אֶת הַבְּרוּב אֶחָד מִקְצִה מִנְשׁוֹּ אֶת הַבְּרוּב אֶחָד מִקְצִּשׁׁ פִּרוּשׁוֹ שֶׁל ״מִקְשָׁה תַּצְשָׂה אִתְם״יּ שׁלֹא תַּצְשָׂם בּּרְנִּים. זְהוּ פִּרְיּשׁׁוֹ שֶׁל ״מִקְשָׁה תַּצְשָׂה אֹתְם״יּ שׁלֹא תַּנְשִׂם וּנְבוֹהִים בְּפְנֵים. שֶׁלְּא בְּרוּשִׁים וּנְבוֹהִים לְּמַצְלָה אֵצֶלְה אֵנְיִים לְכַבִּים, אֶלֶא בְּרוּשִׁים וּנְבוֹהִים לְמַצְלָה אֵצֶל רְאשִׁיהֶם שִּיְּהֵא עֲשָׂרָה טְפָּחִים בְּחָלֶל לְמִצְלָה אֵצֶל רְאשִׁיהָם שִּיְהַא עֲשָׂרָה יְטְפָּחִים בְּחָלֶל שְׁבְּרֵן הַבְּּבְרֹ, בְּבְּיִבְּי, אֹיְהָא בְּסַבְּהִייֹ: 12 וְּאָלֹי הָאָרֹן אַת הְצֵבְרִת לְמָה נִבְּפַל, שֶׁהְבִי לִּבְּרְלֹא בַּפַּרָת, יְנְתִּלְ אֶל לְבָּדוֹ בְּלֹא בַּפַּרֶת, יְנִתְ תְּחִלְּה הָּצְלְיוֹ וְבִלְ בְּלֹא בַּפּלֶרת, יְנִתְן אֶת־הָבָּבּל הָאָרֹן אֶת הַבָּפֵּרֶת עֻלְיוֹ. וְכֵן הָצִינִוֹ אֶת הַבָּפּּרֶת עֻלְיוֹ. וְכֵן מְצִינִוֹ אֶת הַבָּפּלֶרת עֻלְיוֹ. וְכֵן מְצִינִוֹ אֶת הְבָּבּּלְת עָלְיוֹ. וְכֵן מְצִינִת אָלְיוֹ בְּוֹ בְּוֹ לְּאָתְרְן אֶת הָבָּבֶּרֶת עַלְיוֹ. וְבֵן אֶת־הְבָּבֶּרָת עָלִיוֹ וְתְּבִרְ הָּאָרן הְיִנִן אֶת הָבְּבֶּרֶת עַלְיוֹר וְתְבָּוֹ בְּבְּרְיוֹם בְּבְּבְּיִם הְבָּבְּיִם אָם בְּבְּרִים לְּבָבּוֹ בְּבְבְּרִא בָּבֶּרְת עָלְיוֹן לְבֵבוּוֹ בְּלֵא בַּפּּרֶת, יְנִים אָתְרִים אָת הַבְּבֶּיְת עָלְיוֹ. וְבֵּן אָת־הְרְיִי, וְאֲחַר בְּךְּ הְיִנְיִם אֶם בְּרִים אָת הַבְּבְּרָת עַלְּרִי, וְאָחַר בְּבְּרְיִם בְּרְרְיִיי, וְאָחַר בְּךְּרְיִם הְּרְיִי, וְאָחַר בְּבְּרְיִים בְּרְרִיְיִים בְּרִית עָלִירִי, וְאָחַר בְּבְּרְיִים אָּבְרוּת בָּבּרֶת עִלְייִי, וְאָחַר בְּבְּרְיִים בְּרְרְיִבְיִם בְּבִּילְים בְּרִייִם בְּרִיתְיוֹ בְּבִּבּית בְּבְּרִית עָבְלִיי, וְבְּרִים בְּרִית בְּבְּבִּית בְּבִּבְּית בְּבְּרִית בָּבְּרִית בְּבְּרִיתְּבְּי בְּבְיִים בְּבִּבְּבְיתְיוֹב בְּיוֹבְּבִית בְּבְּבְיתְים בְּבְּבְּית בְּבִילְים בְּבְּית בְּבְּית בְּבְּבִית בְּבְּבִית בְּבְּית בְּבְּית בְּבְּבִית בְּבְּבְית בְּבִּבְּית בְּיבְית בְּבְּבִיתְם בְּבְּיִים בְּבְּיִיםּיְים בְּבְּיִבְּיִים בְּבְּיִּיְם בְּיִי

16. לעיל פסוק יח. 17. סוכה ה, ב. 18. לעיל פסוק טז. 19. שמות מ, כ. 20. ויקרא א, א. 21. במדבר ז, פט.

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23 You shall make a Table: The three furnishings of the outer chamber of the Tabernacle (the Candelabrum, the Table, and the Inner Altar) signified the three components of the intellect. We are intended to use our intellect primarily to forge, enhance, and deepen our connection with God and His purposes in creating the world. Specifically, the Table signifies binah ("understanding"), the second component of the intellect, which processes new insight (chochmah), analyzes it, and integrates it into our already-existing

mental picture of reality. Metaphorically, then, binah transforms the brilliant but ephemeral insight into solid, substantial fare that we can "digest" and be nourished from. It is in this sense that it is signified by the Table and the bread placed on it.

The Table's placement in the north side of the outer chamber also alluded to its identification with the *sefirah* of *binah*: looking outward from the inner chamber, it was on the left, and *binah* is the primary *sefirah* of the left axis of the *sefirot*.⁶⁷

- 19 Have them make one cherub from one end and one cherub from the other end; you shall have them make the cherubim from the Cover itself, at its two ends. The cherubim shall be ten handbreadths tall.
- 20 The cherubim shall have their wings spread aloft to the level of their heads, so that their wings shield the Cover, ten handbreadths above it. They shall face one another, the faces of the cherubim being inclined downward towards the Cover (see Figure 4).

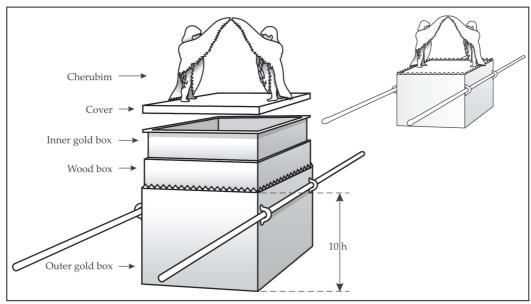


Figure 4: The Ark Cover

- 21 You shall have them place the Cover on top of the Ark after having placed in the Ark the Tablets of Testimony that I will give you.
- 22 This Cover is not just an accessory of the ark, but has its own, distinct purpose:⁶⁵ I will convene with you there: I will speak to you from above the Cover. Even though you will be standing on the opposite side of the partitioning Curtain between the inner and outer chambers of the Tabernacle,⁶⁶ My voice will issue from between the two cherubim that are on the Ark of Testimony and you will hear it where you will be standing. In this way I shall convey to you everything that I shall command you concerning the Israelites.

The Table

23 "You shall have them make a Table of acacia wood, two cubits long, one cubit wide, and one and a half cubits high, the latter measurement including the length of its legs and the thickness of the board.

24 וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתְוֹ זְהָב טְהָוֹר וְעָשִׂיתָ לָּוֹ זְרְ זָהֶב סָבִיב:
25 וְעָשִּׁיתָ לְּוֹ מִסְגָּרֶת מִפַּח סָבֶיב וְעָשִִׂיתְ זֵר־זְהָב לְמִסְגַּרְתוֹ סָבִיב:
26 וְעָשִּׁיתָ לֹּוֹ אַרְבֵּע טַבְּעַתׁ זְהָב וְנְתַהָּלְ
לְמִסְגַּרְתוֹ סָבִיב:
26 וְעָשִּיתָ לֹוֹ אַרְבַּע חַבּּאֹת אֲשֶׁר לְאַרְבַּע רַגְּלֵיו:
27 לְעָפַּת הַמִּסְנֶּרֶת תְּהְיֶין הַפַּבְּעֻת לְבָהִים לְבַהִּים אָתִרהַשֵּׁלְחֵן:
28 וְעָשִּׁיתָ אֶתִרהַבַּהִים עֲצֵי שִׁפִּים וְנִשָּׁא־בֶם אֵת־הַשַּׁלְחֵן:
18 וְעָשָּׁא־בֶם אֵת־הַשַּׁלְחֵן:

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24 וְתַחְפֵּי יָתֵה דְּתַב דְּכֵי וְתַעְבֵּיד לֵה דִּיִּר דְּרָהַב סְחוֹר סְחוֹר: פַשְּׁכָּא סְחוֹר סְחוֹר: בְּיִבְּבָּא רִּנְמֵה כְּחוֹר סְחוֹר: דְּדְתַב לְגְדְנְפָה סְחוֹר יְתִעְבֵּיד דִּיר זְּרְתָב לִגְדְנְפָה סְחוֹר יְחִעְבֵּיד דִּיר וְתְתֵן יַת עִוְקָתָא עַל אִרְבַּע עוְקָן דְּדְהַב גְּדְנְפָא תָּהֶוֹיְן עְוְקָתָא לְאַתְרָא לְאַרִיתִיּא לְאַתְרָא בָּיִרְיִנִייָּא לְאַתְרָא שִׁטִין וְתַחָפֵי יַתְהוֹן דְּהַבָּא וִיהוֹן שָטִין וְתַחָפֵי יַתְהוֹן דְּהַבָּא וִיהוֹן נַטְלִין בְּהוֹן יַת פָּתוֹרָא:

הָאָמוּר לְמַעְלָה, וּפֵרַשׁ לְךְּ כָּאן שֵׁעַל הַמִּסְגֵּרַת הָיָה:

יתקועוֹת, בְּרַגְלַיִם תִּקּיָין הַטַּבְּעוֹת. בְּרַגְלַיִם תִּקוּעוֹת, בְּרַגְלַיִם תִּקוּעוֹת,

פַנגד רַאשִׁי הַמִּסְגַרַת: לְבַתִּים לְבַדִּים. אוֹתַן הַטַּבַּעוֹת

יָהִיוּ בָּתִּים לְהַכְנִיס בָּהֶן הַבַּדִּים: לְבָ**תִּים.** לְצֹרֶךְ בָּתִּים:

לְבַדִּים. כְּתַרְגּוּמוֹ: ״אַתְרָא לַאֲרִיחַיָּא״: וְנִשָּׂא־בָם. לְשׁוֹן

:נָפָעַל — יִהָיֶה נָשָּׂא בָם אֶת הַשַּׁלְחָן:

-⊗ RASHI ଔ

24 זר זָהָב. סִימְן לְבֶתֶר מַלְכוּת, שֶׁהַשַּׁלְחָן שֵׁם עשֶׁר וּגְדַלְּה בְּמוֹ שֶׁאוֹמְרִים: ״שֻׁלְחַן מְלָכִים״²׳: 25 מִסְגֶרָת. וּגְדַלְּה בְּמוֹ שֶׁאוֹמְרִים: ״שֻׁלְחַן מְלָכִים״²׳: 25 מִסְגֶרָת. בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ: ״גְּדַנְפָא״. וְנָחְלְקוּ חַכְמִי יִשְׂרָאֵל⁻׳ בַּדְּבָר — יֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים: לְמַעְלָה הִיְתָה סָבִיב לַשֵּׁלְחָן, בְּמוֹ לְבִוְבְּוִין שֶׁבְּשַׁבְּתְשָׁרִם: לְמַשֶּׁה הָיְתָה מְּקוּעָה, מֵרֶגל לְּרָגֶל בְּאַרְבַּע רוּחוֹת הַשַּׁלְחָן, וְדַף הַשִּׁלְחָן שוֹבֵב מֵרֶגל לְרָגל בְּאַרְבַּע רוּחוֹת הַשַּׁלְחָן, וְדַף הַשִּׁלְחָן שוֹבֵב עַל אוֹתָה מִסְגֶרָתוּ: וּעְשִׂית זִר־זְהָב לְמִסְגַרְתוֹּ. הוּא זַר עַל אוֹתָה מִסְגֶרָתוֹ: וּעְשִׂית זִר־זְהָב לְמִסְגַרְתוֹ. הוּא זַר

______ 22. עיין עבודה זרה סח, ב. 23. מנחות צו, ב.

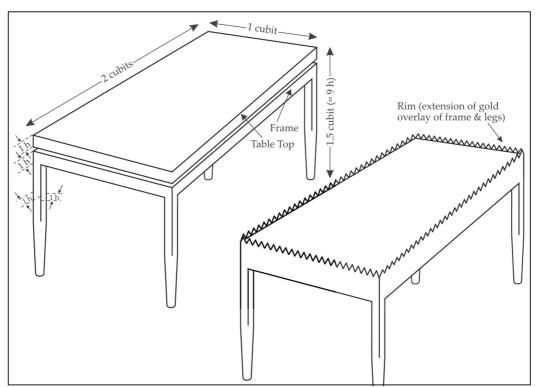


Figure 5b: The Table and its frame - second opinion

- 24 You shall have them overlay it with pure gold, and you shall have them make a decorative gold rim for it all around. This rim will signify the dignity that is due the office of the Jewish leader—which will eventually be vested in the king.⁶⁸
- 25 You shall have them make a frame for it all around, one handbreadth wide. This frame shall either rest on top of the table board (see Figure 5a) or, according to another opinion, connect the legs underneath the board (see Figure 5b). You shall have them make a gold rim—the same gold rim spoken of in the previous verse—to attach to the Table's frame all around.

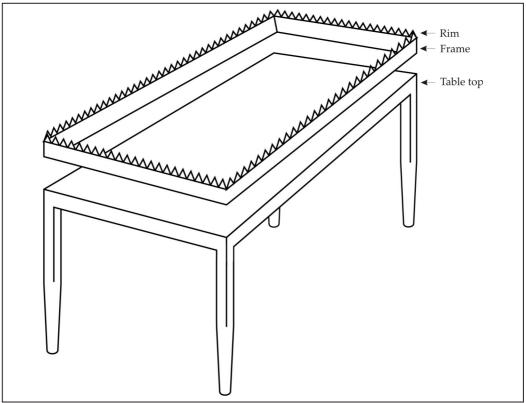


Figure 5a: The Table and its frame — first opinion

- 26 You shall have them make four gold rings for the Table, and you shall have them place the rings on the four corners of its four legs.
- 27 The rings shall be close to the frame, as holders for the rods with which the Table is carried.
- 28 You shall have them make the rods of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, and the Table will be carried with them.

^{68.} Deuteronomy 17:14-20.

—⊗ ONKELOS ଔ−

29 וְתַעְבֵּיד מָגִיסוֹהִי וּבָזְבּוֹהִי וְקַסְוָתֵה וּמְכִילָתֵה דִּי יִתְנַפּּךְ בְּהֵן דָהַב דְּבֵי תַּעִבֵּיד יַתִהוֹן:

29 וְעָשִּׁיתָ קְעֶרֹתְׁיו וְכַבּּתָׁיו וּקְשׁוֹתִיוֹ וּמְנַקּיֹתְיו אֲשֶׁר יֻפֵּךְ בָּהֵן זָהַב טָהָוֹר הַעָעֵשֵׂה אֹתֵם:

-⊗ RASHI ശ

הַן סִנִיפִים כִּמִין יִתֵדוֹת זָהָב, עוֹמִדִין בָּאָרֵץ וּגְבוֹהִים עַד לְמַעְלָה מִן הַשַּׁלְחַן הַרְבָּה, כְּנֵגֵד גֹבַה מַעַרְכֵת הַלֶּחֶם. וּמְפַּצָּלִים חֲמִשָּׁה פִּצוּלִים זֶה לְמַעַלְה מִזֶּה, וְרָאשֵׁי הַקָּנִים שֶׁבֵּין לֶחֶם לְלֶחֶם סְמוּכִין עַל אוֹתָן פִּצוּלִין, בָּדִי שֵׁלֹא יִכְבַּד מַשַּׂא הַלֶּחֶם הַעֵלִיוֹנִים עַל הַתַּחְתּוֹנִים וִישָּׁבְרוּ. וּלְשׁוֹן ״מְכִילְתֵיהּ״ — סוֹבְלוֹתָיו, כַּמוֹ: ״נִלְאֵיתִי הָבִיל״²٤. אַבָל לְשׁוֹן ״מִנַקִּיּוֹת״ אֵינִי יוֹדֵע אֵיךְ נוֹפֵל עַל — יְּשִׁרַמִּי יִשְׂרַאֵל אוֹמְרִים בּ: "קְשׁוֹתַיו" . אַלּוּ סְנִיפִין שֶׁמַקִשִּׁין אוֹתוֹ וּמְחַזִּקִין אוֹתוֹ שֶׁלֹא יִשֶּׁבֵר. ״וּמְנַקִּיֹתִיו״ — אֱלוּ הַקָּנִים שֲׁמְנַקִּין אוֹתוֹ שֶׁלֹא יִתְעַפֵּשׁ. אָבָל אוּנִקלוֹס שֶׁתִּרְגַּם ״מִכִילְתֵיה״, הָיָה שׁוֹנֶה כִּדְבָרֵי הָאוֹמֵר: מְנַקִּיּוֹת הֵן סְנִיפִין: אֲשֶׁ**ר יַפַּךְ בְּהֵן.** אֲשֶׁר יִכַפֶּה בָּהֶן. וְעַל קשוֹתָיו הוּא אוֹמֵר: ״אֲשֶׁר יַסַךְ״, שֶׁהָיוּ עָלָיו בָּמִין סְכַךְּ וִכְסוּי. וְכֵן בְּמַקוֹם אֲחֵר הוּא אוֹמֵר: "וְאֵת קשוֹת הַנַּסֶרְ״״יַ. וְזֵה וְזֵה — ״יָסֶרְ״ וִ״הַנַּסֶרְ״ – לְשׁוֹן סְכַרְ וִכְסוּי הֵם: 29 וְעָשִׂיתָ קָעֶרֹתָיוֹ וְבַפּּתָיוֹ. "קְעֶרֹתָיוֹ" — זֶה הַדְּפוּס שֶׁהַיָה עֲשׁוּי כָּדְפוּס הַלֶּחֶם, וְהַלֶּחֵם הַיָה עֲשׁוּי כִּמִין תַּבָה פָּרוּצָה מִשְּׁתֵּי רוּחוֹתֵיהַ, שׁוּלַיִם לוֹ לְמַטַה וְקוֹפֵל מָכָאן וּמִכָּאן כִּלַפֵּי מַעֵלָה כִּמִין כִּתְלִים, וּלְכַךְ קָרוּי ״לֶחֶם הַפַּנִים״, שֵׁיֵשׁ לוֹ פַּנִים רוֹאִין לְכַאן וּלְכַאן לְצְדֵּי הַבַּיִת, מָזֶה וּמָזֶה, וְנוֹתֵן אָרְכּוֹ לְרָחִבּוֹ שֶׁל שַׁלְחָן, וּכְתָלָיו זְקוּפִים כִּנָגֶד שִּׁפַת הַשַּׁלְחָן. וְהָיָה עָשׁוּי לוֹ דְּפוּס זָהָב וּדְפוּס בַּרְזֵל, בְּשֶׁל בַּרְזֵל הוּא נָאֵפָה, וּכְשֵׁמוֹצִיאוֹ מְן הַתַּנּוּר נוֹתָנוֹ בִּשֶׁל זֶהָב, עֵד לְמֶחֶר בִּשַׁבָּת שֶׁמְּסַדְּרוֹ עֵל הַלְּטָלְחָן, וְאוֹתוֹ הַדְּפוּס קָרוּי ״קְעֶרָה״: **וְבַפּּתִּיוּ.** בְּזִיכִין שָׁנּוֹתִנִין בָּהֶם לְבוֹנָה. שְׁתַּיִם הָיוּ, לִשְׁנֵי קַמְצֵי לְבוֹנָה ָשֶׁנּוֹתִנִין עַל שָׁתֵּי הַמַּעֲרְכוֹת, שֶׁנָּאֱמֵר: ״וְנְתַתָּ עַל־ הַמַעַרֶכֶת לְבֹנָה זַכָּה"²²: וּקְשׁוֹתָיוּ. הֵן כִּמִין חַצָּאֵי קָנִים חֲלוּלִים הַנָּסְדָקִין לְאָרְכָּן, דָּגִמְתָן עֲשָׂה שֶׁל זֶהָב. וּמְסַדֵּר שָׁלֹשָׁה עַל רֹאשׁ כָּל־לֶחֶם, שֶׁיֵשֵׁב לֶחֶם הָאֶחָד עַל גַּבֵּי אוֹתָן הַקָּנִים, וּמַבְדִּילִין בֵּין לֵחֶם לְלֶחֶם, כָּדֵי שֻׁתִּכָּנֵס הַרוּחַ בֵּינֵיהֶם וִלֹא יִתְעַפִּשׁוּ. וּבְלַשׁוֹן עַרַבִּי, כַּל־דַּבַר חַלוּל קַרוּי קַסְוַ״ה: וּמִ**נַקּיֹתֵיוּ.** תַּרְגוּמוֹ: ״וּמְכִילַתֵיה״,

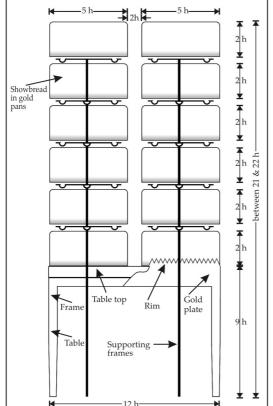
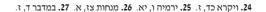


Figure 8b: The showbread resting on the frames and tubes (length)



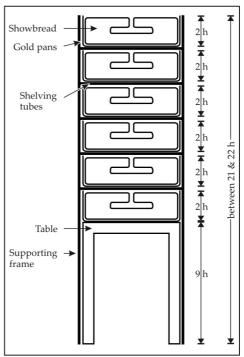


Figure 8c: The showbread resting on the frames and tubes (width)

29 The purpose of the Table will be to hold twelve loaves of special, unleavened bread. This bread is to be baked by forming a rectangle of dough five handbreadths by ten handbreadths (see Figure 6a) and attaching four cubes of dough at this rectangle's four corners (see Figure 6b). The lengthwise ends of the rectangle are then to be folded over so that the two sets of two cubes of dough "see"

each other (see Figure 6c); it is therefore called 'showbread' (see Figure 6d). The twelve loaves will be baked in iron forms (see Figure 7a) and placed on gold forms on the Table (see Figure 7b). There will be two stacks of loaves in gold forms; the bottom gold form of each stack will rest directly on the table; the other five gold forms will rest on shelving half-tubes, which in turn will rest on supporting frames (see Figure 8a). Thus, the weight of the upper loaves and forms will not bear down on the lower ones (see Figure 8bc). In between the two stacks of bread loaves will be placed two spoons full frankincense (see Figure 9, next page). Thus, vou shall have the artisans make its breadforms, its spoons for the frankincense, its shelving tubes with which the bread will be covered, and its supporting frames for the tubes; all these you shall have them make of pure gold.

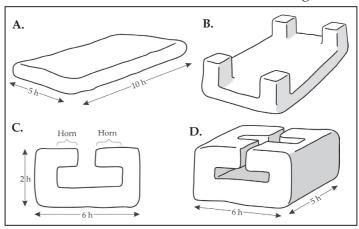


Figure 6: The showbread: A. The dough; B. Four "horns" added; C. Folded over; D. Folded over — perspective

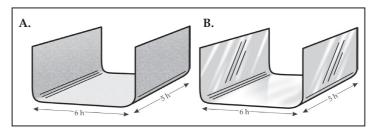


Figure 7: The forms of the showbread A. Iron Form; B. Gold Form

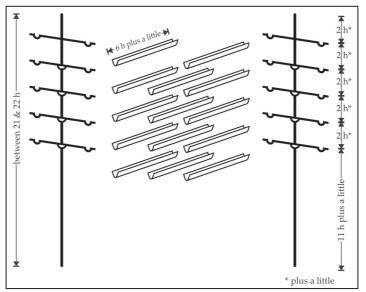


Figure 8a: Supporting frames and shelving tubes of the Table

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30 וְתִנַּתֵן עַל פְּתוֹרָא לְחַם אַפַּיָּא וְתַעְבֵּיד מְנַרְתָּא וְתַיְבֵּיד מְנַרְתָּא וְדִּהַב דְּכֵי נְגִיד תִּתְעֲבֵיד מְנַרְתָּא שְׁדָּה וְקְנַה כַּלִּידָהָא חַזוּרְהָא וְשִׁרָא וְשִׁרָא מְנֵי מְנַרְתָּא קְנֵי קְנִין נַפְּקִין מִפְּטְרָהָא תְּלָתָא קְנֵי מְפַעְרָהָא תְּלֶתָא קְנֵי מְפַעְרָה חָד וּתְלֶתָא קְנֵי מִכּערתּא מסטרה תנינא:

30 וְגֶתַתָּ עַל־הַשַּׁלְחָן לֶחֶם פָּגִים לְפָּגִי הָמִיר: פ

שלישי 31 וְעָשִּׂיתָ מְנֹרֵת זָהָב מָהְוֹר מִקְשָּׁה הֵיעָשָׂה הַמְעָהָה הַמְּנִרָה יְבְבָה וְלָבָה וְבְּבִיתְ יִבְבָה וְלָבָה וְלָבָה וְבְּבִיתְ יִבְּבָה וְלָבָה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה וְלְבָּה הִשְּׁלִיה מִצְּהָה הַשֵּׁנִי:

-⊗ RASHI ഗ്ദ

וּלְמַטָּה: וָקָנָה. הַקָּנָה הָאֵמְצַעִי שֶׁלָּה, הָעוֹלֵה בְּאֵמְצַע הַיֵּרַךְ זָקוּף כְּלַפֵּי מַעְלַה, וְעַלִיו נֵר הַאֵמְצַעִי עַשׂוּי כִּמִין בַּזַרָּ, לְצֹק הַשֵּׁמֵן לְתוֹכוֹ וָלַתֶת הַפָּתִילַה: גָּבִיעֵיהַ. הֵן כִּמִין בּוֹסוֹת שֶׁעוֹשִׂין מִזְּכוּכִית, אֲרֻבִּים וּקְצָרִים, וְקוֹרִין לְהֶם מדרינ"שצֿי. וָאֵלוּ עֲשׂוּיִין מְזַהַב, וּבוֹלְטִין וִיוֹצְאִין מְכַּל־ קָנֶה וְקָנֶה כַּמִּנְיָן שֶׁנָתַן בְּהֶם הַכְּתוּב, וְלֹא הִיוּ בָּהּ אֶלְא לְנוֹי: בַּ**בְּתֹּרֵיהַ.** כִּמִין תַפּוּחִים הַיוּ עֵגוּלִין סָבִיב, בּוֹלְטִין ָסְבִיבוֹת הַקָּנֶה הָאֶמְצָעִי, כִּדֶרֶךְ שֶׁעוֹשִׂין לַמְנוֹרוֹת שֶׁלְפְנֵי הַשָּׂרִים, וְקוֹּרִין לְהֶם פומיל״ש״ּ׃. וּמִנְיָן שֶׁלְּהֶם כָּתוּב בַּפַּרַשָּׁה, כַּמָה כַּפִּתּוֹרִים בּוֹלְטִין מְמֵנָה וְכַמָּה חָלֶק שֶׁבֵּין בַּפִתּוֹר לְכַפִתּוֹר: וּפָּרָחֵיהָ. צִיּוּרִין עֵשׂוּיִן בָּה כִּמִין פָּרָחִים: מְמֵנָה יָהִיוּ. הַכֹּל מִקְשָׁה יוֹצֵא מְתוֹךְ חֲתִיכַת הַעֲשֶׁת, וַלֹא יַעשֵׂם לְבַדָּם וְיַדְבִּיקָם: 32 יֹצְאִים מִצְּדִּיהַ. לְכַאן וּלְכַאן בָּאַלַכָּסוֹן, נִמִשַּׁכִין וִעוֹלִין עַד כִּנֵגֵד גַּבְהַה שֵׁל מְנוֹרָה, שָׁהוּא קָנָה הָאֵמְצָעִי, וִיוֹצִאִין מִתּוֹךְ קָנָה הָאֵמְצָעִי זֵה לְמַעְלָה מָזָה — הַתַּחַתּוֹן אַרֹרְ, וְשֵׁל מַעְלָה קַצַר הֵימֵנוּ, וָהַעַלִּיוֹן קַצַר הֵימֵנוּ, לְפִי שֲהַיָה גֹבַה רַאשַׁיהֵן שַׁוָה לְגוֹבָהוֹ של קנה האמצעי השביעי שממנו יוצאים הששה קנים:

28. לעיל פסוק כט. 29. ויקרא כד, היו. 30. לְהַלְּחִים. 31. עֲשׁוּי בְּהַבְּאָה. 32. דניאל ה, ו. 33. גְּבִיעִים. 34. בְּפַתּוֹרִים - כַּדּוֹרִים לָנוֹי מִסְבִיב לַקְנַה.

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each having its particular path in revealing Divinity based on one of the seven basic emotions: 77

emotion	inner dimension
chesed (lovingkindness)	love of God
gevurah (restraint)	awe of God
tiferet (beauty)	learning Torah
netzach (victory)	overcoming obstacles
hod (acknowledgment)	appreciating God's beneficence
yesod (loyalty)	pride in being God's emissary
malchut (royalty)	humility

31-32 Its stem, its goblets, its spheres, and its flowers.... Six branches shall extend from the sides: The stem of the Candelabrum alludes to the Written Torah, and the six branches that extend from it allude to the six orders of the Mishnah, the basic compendium of the Oral Torah. In this context, the spheres and flowers allude to the extra-mishnaic teachings of the sages. The goblets allude to the Torah's "wine," its inner dimension.⁷⁸

30 כָּשֶׁהְ פָּנִים. שָׁיֶּשׁ־לוֹ פָּנִים, כְּמוֹ שֻׁפֵּרִשְׁתִּיּ². וּמִנְּיַן הַכְּיִם, כְמוֹ שֻׁפֵּרִשְׁתִּי². וּמִנְּיַן הַכְּיִם, מְשְׁרָשִׁים בְּ״אֱמֹר אֶל־הַכּּהָנִים, יִּיִּיְבָּים הַמְּנִּיְרָה. שֶׁלֹּא יַצְשֶׁנְּה הַיְּעִשֶּׁה הַמְּנִּיְרָה. שֶׁלֹא יַצְשֶׁנְּה הַלְּיִתְ שְׁרִייִם אַבְּרִים אַבְּרִים אָבְרִים אַיְלְּוְ וְאֵילְּהְ בִּקְשָׁה. תַּרְגּוּמוֹ: בְּבְּלֵי וְאֵילְהְ בִּקְשָׁה. תַּבְּבְרִים אִילְ וְאֵילְהְ בִּקְשָׁה. תַּבְּבְרִים מִן הְעָשֶׁה יְבְּבְּבִי אָבְּרִים מִן הְעָשֶׁה בְּבְּבִי יִּאְבְּיִם אִילְהְ וְאֵילְהְי בִּקְשָׁה. תַּבְּבְּיִם אֵילְהְ וְאֵילְהְי בִּבְּרִים מִן הְעָשֶׁה לְכְאוֹ וּלְכָאוֹ וּלְכָאוֹ בְּהָלְשָׁה הַקְּשָׁה בְּהִנְּעְשְׁה בְּבִּיְלְשְׁרִי, בְּעִשְׁה בְּבִּעְשְׁה בְּבְּעִים בִּבְּרִים מִוְ הְעָשֶׁה הַבְּבְּרִים בִּבְּרִים מִוְ הָעָשֶׁה הַבְּבְּרִים מִוְ הְעָשֶׁה הַבְּבְּרִים בִּבְּרִים בְּעִשְׁה בְּבִּעְיִּים בִּבְּעִיים בְּבִּעְיִיה, בְּשְׁרִי, בְּבִילִים בְּבְּבִיים אַבְּיִים בְּבְּיִבְּים הְּקְשָׁוּה בְּבִּבְּיִים בִּבְּיִים בְּבִּיִּים הִיּבְּבָּים בְּבִּיִּשְׁהִייּיב. תַּבְּעְשִׁה בְּבִּבְּעִשְׁה בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּיים בְּבִּיִּשְׁה בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּייִם בְּבִּיִשְׁה בְּבִּבְּעִשְׁה בְּבִּבְיים בִייִּבְּיִם בְּבִּיְם בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְייִם בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְייִבְּיִבּים בְּבִּייִּים בּבּבּיי שְׁבִּבִּים בְּבִּיִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּבִּים בְּבִּבִים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּייִים בְּבִּבְיים בּבּבּיי שְׁבְּבִּייִבְּים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּיִבְּיִים בִּבְּיִים בְּבִּיִים בּבּבּיי שְׁבְבִּיבּים יִבְּיִבְּים בְּבִּיִּים בְּבִּבְייִים בְּבִּבְיים בּבּבִּיים בְּבִּיבְים בְּבִּיבְים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּבְים בְּבִּבְים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבִּיבְּים בְּבִּיבְּים בְּבִּבְיים בְּבִּבְיים בְּיִבְּים בְּבִיבְּים בְּבִיבְּבִּים בְּבִּבְים בְּבִיבְּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבִּיבְּים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּבִיבְּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבִּיבְּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבְיבְּבִים בְּבְּבְים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבְּבְּבְים בְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּב

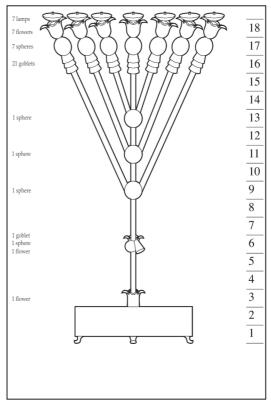


Figure 10: The Candelabrum

30 New loaves of showbread are to be baked every Friday and placed on the Table on the Sabbath, where they will remain until the following Sabbath, when they will be replaced by a newly-baked set of loaves. In this fashion, **you shall** have them **place showbread on the Table** such that it will remain **before Me at all times.** After the loaves have been replaced, the two spoonfuls of frankincense are to be burned on the copper altar and the old loaves—miraculously still fresh—are to be eaten by the priests.⁶⁹

The Candelabrum

◆ Third Reading 31 "You shall make a Candelabrum of pure gold. The Candelabrum shall be formed as if by hammering: its box-shaped, three-legged base, its stem, its decorative goblets, its appleshaped spheres, and its flowers shall all be an integral part of the same ingot of gold. They will not be made from a separate piece of gold and then attached.

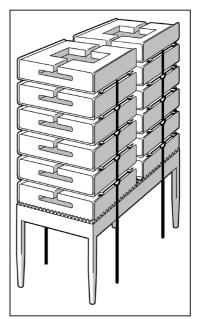


Figure 9: The Table, showbread, and frank-incense

32 The Candelabrum will be eighteen handbreadths tall (see Figure 10). Six branches shall extend diagonally from out of the two sides, three branches of the Candelabrum on one side of it and three branches of the Candelabrum on its other side. The branches shall extend out of the main stem at the ninth, eleventh, and thirteenth handbreadth from the floor. They shall extend upwards to the height of the middle stem.

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31 A Candelabrum: The sages point⁷⁰ out that the purpose of the Candelabrum was not, as we might expect, to provide light in the windowless interior of the Tabernacle, for the Tabernacle was a source of spiritual illumination, and therefore of physical illumination, as well. As we have seen,⁷¹ it was for this reason that the Temple's windows were built wide on the outside,⁷² to spread its light outward.

Rather, as we shall see,⁷³ the miraculous way the Candelabrum's light shone was testimony to the world that the Divine Presence dwelt in the Tabernacle.

This is also why, according to Maimonides, the goblets were oriented upside down, as if pouring out their contents, even though the Torah generally specifies that the objects we use when performing commandments be held right-side up. When we perform any specific commandment, we are drawing Divine consciousness into ourselves, replenishing our inner storehouses of spiritual power. The Torah therefore specifies that the tools we use to perform the commandments be right-

side up. The purpose of the Tabernacle, however, was to express the general purpose of our Divine mission: not to store or conceal Divine consciousness, but rather to disseminate it to the outside world. The windows of the Temple were therefore designed to emit light, and the Candelabrum's goblets were oriented downward.⁷⁴

You shall make a Candelabrum: The Candelabrum, the source of light, signified *chochmah* ("wisdom"), the faculty of insight and enlightenment. The sudden and elusive manifestation of *chochmah* in the mind is similar to a bolt of lighting flashing across a dark sky.

The candelabrum was situated in the south side of the outer chamber; looking outward from the inner chamber, it was on the right. *Chochmah* is the primary *sefirah* of the right axis of the *sefirot*. ⁷⁵

Every Divine soul is a source of Divine illumination; it is in this sense that the soul is metaphorically termed "the lamp of God."⁷⁶ The seven lamps of the Candelabrum signify the seven basic types of souls, שְׁלשָׁה וְּבִעִּים מְשַׁקּדִּים בַּקּנֶה הָאֶחָד בַּפְּתִּר מִשֶּׁקְרֵים וָבֶּרַח וּשְׁלשָה נְבִעִּים בַּקָּנֶה בַּפְּתִּר וָפֶּרַח בֵּן לְשֵׁשֶׁת הַקָּנִים הַיְּצְאָים מִן־הַבְּּנֹרָה: גְבִעֶים מְשַּׁקְּדִים וּבַמְּנֹרֶה אַרְבָּעָה הַּתַת שָּׁנֵי הַקּנִים מִפֶּנְּה 35 וַבַפָּתֹר וּפַרָחֱיהָ: וְכַפְּתֹר תַּחַת שָׁגֵי הַקָּנִים מִפֶּנְה וְכַפְּתֹר תַחַת־שְׁגִי הַקּנִים כִּנֶּנָה לְשֵּׁשֶׁת הַקּנִים הַיְּצְאָים כִּוְ־הַבְּנֹרֶה: שמר בַּבְּרְוֹרִיהָם וּקְנֹתָם מִפֶּוֹנָה יַדְיִיּי בַּלְּהַ מִקְשָׁה אַחָת. זָהָב פָהְוֹר: 37 וְעָשִּׂיתָ אֶת־גַרֹהֶיהָ שִּׁבְעֶה וְהֶעֶּלָהֹ אֶת־ גַרֹעֵיהָ וִהַאָּיר עַל־עֵבֶר פָּגָיהָ: 38 וּמַלְקָחֶיהָ וּמַחִתֹּתֵיהָ זָהָב טָּהְוֹר:

33 הְּלָתָא כַלִּיִדִין מְצַיְּרִין בְּקַנְיָא חָד חֵזוּר וְשׁוֹשָׁן וּתְלָתָא כַלִּידִין מְצַיְּרִין בְּקַנְיָא חָד חֵזוּר וְשׁוֹשָׁן כֵּן לְשִׁתָּא קְנִין דְּנַפְּקִין מִן מְנַרְתָּא: זּבְמְנַרְתָּא אַרְבְּעָה כַלִּיִדִין 34 מַזוּרָהָא וְשׁוֹשַׁנְּהָא: מְצֵיְרִין מַנִין דְּמִנַּה הָרוֹן קְנִין דְּמִנַּה 35 וְחֵזוּר תְּחוֹת תְּרֵין קְנִין דְּמִנַּה וְחֵזוּר תְּחוֹת תְּרֵין קְנִין דְּמִנַּה לְשִׁתָּא קְנִין דְּנַפְּקִין מָן מְנַרְתָּא: 36 חֵזוּרֵיהוֹן וּקְנֵיהוֹן מִנַּה יְהוֹן כַּלַה נְגִידָא חָרָא דְּרְהַב דְּכֵי: 37 וְתַעְבֵּיד יַת בּוֹצִינָהָא שַׁבְעָא וְתַדְלֵיק יַת בּוֹצִינָהָא וִיהוֹן מְנַהֲרִין לָקָבֵל אַפָּהָא: 38 וְצִבְיָתָהָא וּמַחְתְּיָתָהָא

—‰ ONKELOS ∽——

-⊗ RASHI ശ-

ענושִין שֶּעָּלְדִים. בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ — מְצַיָּרִים הָיוּ, בְּדֶרֶךְ שֶׁעוֹשִׂין 33 לִבְלֵי כֶּסֶף וְזָהָב, שֶׁקּוֹרִין ניילי״ר־5: וּשְׁ**לֹשָׁה גְבִעִים.** בּוֹלְטִין מִכָּל־קָנֶה וְקָנֶה: בַּבְּתֹּר וָפָרַח. הָיָה לְכָל־קָנֶה וְקָנֶה: 34 וּבַמְּנֹרָה אַרְבָּעָה גְבִעִים. בְּגוּפָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה ָהָיוּ אַרְבָּעָה גְבִיעִים, אֶחָד בּוֹלֵט בָּהּ לְמַטָּה מִן הַקָּנִים, ּוְהַשְּׁלֹשָׁה לְמַעְלָה מִן יְצִיאַת הַקָּנִים הַיּוֹצְאִין מִצְּדֶּיהָ: מְשָׁ**קּרִיהָ וּפְּרָחֶיהָ.** זֶה אֶחָד מֵחֲמִשָּׁה מִקְּרָאוֹת ָשָׁאֵין לָהֶם הֶכָרַעַ, שָׁאַין יָדוּעַ אָם גִּבִיעִים מְשַׁקָּדִים, אוֹ מְשֻׁקָּדִים כַּפְתֹּרֶיהָ וּפְרָחֶיהָ: 35 **וְבַפְתֹּר תַּחַת שְׁנֵי הַקָּנִים.** מִתּוֹךְ הַכַּפְתּוֹר הָיוּ הַקָּנִים נִמְשָׁכִים מִשְׁנֵי צִדֶּיהָ אֵילְךְ וְאֵילְךְ. כָּךְ שָׁנִינוּ בִּמְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן״: גָּבְהָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה שְׁמוֹנָה עָשָׂר טְפָחִים, הָרַגְלַיִם וְהַפֶּרֵח שְׁלֹשָׁה טְפָחִים, הוּא ַהַּבֶּרָח הָאָמוּר בַּיָּרֵךְ, שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר: ״עַד־יְרֵכָה עַד־פִּרְחָה״״״ ּוּטְפָּחַיִם חָלָק. וְטֶפַח שֶׁבּוֹ גָבִיעַ מֵהָאַרְבָּעָה גְבִיעִם, וְכַפְתֹּר וָפֶרַח מִשְׁנֵי כַּפְתּוֹרִים וּשְׁנֵי פְּרָחִים הָאֲמוּרִים בַּמְנוֹרָה עַצְמָה, שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר: ״מְשֻׁקָּדִים בַּפְתֹּרֶיהָ וּפְרָחֶיהָ״ּּּב. לָמַדְנוּ, שֶׁהָיוּ בַּקָּנֶה שְׁנֵי כַּפְתּוֹרִים וּשְׁנֵי פְּרָחִים לְבַד מִן ַהַשָּׁלשָׁה כַּפִּתּוֹרִים שֶׁהַקָּנִים נִמְשָׁבִין מִתּוֹכָן, שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: ״וְכַפְתֹר תַּחַת שְׁנֵי הַקָּנִים וְגוֹ״״. וּטְפָחַיִם חָלֶק. וְטֶפַח כַּפְתֹר, וּשְׁנֵי קָנִים יוֹצְאִים מִמֶּנוּ אֵילָךְ וְאֵילָךְ, נִמְשָׁכִים וְעוֹלִים ּבְנֶגֶד גָּבְהָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה. וְטֶפַח חָלָק. וְטֶפַח כַּפְתּר, וּשְׁנֵי ָקְנִים יוֹצְאִים מִמֶּנוּ. וְטֶפַח חָלָק. וְטֶפַח כַּפְתֹּר, וּשְׁנֵי קָנִים יוֹצְאִים מִמֶּנוּ, וְנִמְשָׁכִים וְעוֹלִין כְּנֶגֶד גָּבְהָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה. וּטְפָּחַיִם חָלָק. נִשְׁתַּיְרוּ שָׁם שְׁלֹשָׁה טְפָחִים, שֶׁבָּהֶם שְׁלֹשָׁה ּגְבִיעִים וְכַפְּתּוֹר וָפֶּרַח. נִמְצְאוּ גְבִיעִים עֶשְׂרִים וּשְׁנַיִם:

שְׁמוֹנָה עָשָׂר לְשִׁשָּׁה קָנִים, שְׁלֹשָׁה לְכָל־אֶחָד וְאֶחָד, וְאַרָב בְּגוּפָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה, הֲרֵי עֶשְׂרִים וּשְׁנַיִם. וְאַחַד עָשֶׂר כַּפְתּוֹרִים: שִׁשָּׁה בְּשֵׁשֶׁת הַקָּנִים, וּשְׁלֹשָׁה בְּגוּפָה שֶׁל מְנוֹרָה, שֶׁהַקָּנִים יוֹצְאִים מֵהֶם, וּשְׁנַיִם עוֹד בַּמְנוֹרָה, "ים" - יִּמְשַׁקָּדִים בַּפְּתּוֹרִים - יִּמְשַׁקָּדִים בַּפְתּוֹרִים - יִּמְשַׁקָּדִים שַּׁנְּאָמַר: "מְשַׁקָּדִים בַּפְתּוֹרִים - יִּמְשַׁקָּדִים בַּפְתּוֹרִים - יִּמְשַׁשְׁנַיִם, הָאֶחָד לְמַשָּׁה אֵצֶל הַיָּרֵךְ וְהָאֶחָד בִּשְׁלֹשָׁה טְפָחִים הָעֶלְיוֹנִים עם שְׁלֹשֶׁת הַגְּבִיעִים. וְתִשְׁעָה פְּרָחִים הָיוּ לָה: שִׁשָּׁה לְשֵׁשֶׁת הַקָּנִים, שֶׁנֶאֱמַר: ״בַּקָנֶה הָאֶחָד כַּפְתֹר וָפֶרַח״⁰׳, וּשְׁלֹשָׁה לַמְנוֹרָה, שֶׁנֶּאֶמַר: ״מְשַׁקָּדִים כַּפְתֹּרֶיהָ וּמְעוּט ״פְּרָחִים״ שְׁנַיִם, וְאֶחָד הָאָמוּר — וּמְעוּט ״פְּרָחִים״ שְׁנַיִם, וְאֶחָד הָאָמוּר בְּפָרָשַׁת ״בְּהַעֲלוֹתְךּ״: ״עֵד־יְרֵכָה עַד־פִּרְחָה״². וְאִם תְּדַקְדֵּק בְּמִשְׁנָה זוֹ הַכְּתוּבָה לְמַעְלָה, תִּמְצָאֵם כְּמִנְיָנָם אִישׁ אִישׁ בִּמְקוֹמוֹ: 37 אֶ**ת־נֵרֹתֵיהָ.** כְּמִין בָּזִיכִין שָׁנּוֹתְנִין בְּתוֹכָן הַשָּׁמֶן וְהַפְּתִילוֹת: **וְהֵאִיר עַל־עֵבֶר פָּנֶיהָ.** עֲשֵׂה שֵׁשֶׁת הַנֵּרוֹת שֶׁבְּרָאשֵׁי הַקָּנִים הַיּוֹצְאִים מִצְּדֶּיהָ, מוּסַבִּים בְּלַפֵּי הָאֶמְצָעִי, בְּדֵי שֶׁיִּהְיוּ הַנֵּרוֹת – בְּשֶׁתַּדְלִיקֵם – ַמאָירִים אֶל עֵבֶר פָּנֶיהָ, מוּסָב אוֹרָם אֶל צַד פְּנֵי הַקְּנֶה ָהָאֶמְצָעִי שֶׁהוּא גוּף הַמִּנוֹרָה: 38 **וּמַלְקָהֶיהָ.** הֵם הַצִּבָתִים, ָהָעֲשׂוּיִין לִקַּח בָּהֶם הַפְּתִילָה מִתּוֹךְ הַשָּׁמֶן, לְיַשְׁבָן וּלְמָשְׁכָן בְּפִי הַנֵּרוֹת. וְעַל שֵׁם שֶׁלּוֹקְחִים בָּהֶם, קְרוּיִים ״מֶלְקְחַיִם״. "וְצִבְיְתָהָא" שֶׁתִּרְגֵּם אוּנְקְלוֹס — לְשׁוֹן צְבַת, טיניילי"ש בְּלַעֵז³: וּמַ**ּחְתֹּעִיהָ.** הֵם בְּמִין בָּזִיכִין קְטַנִּים, שֶׁחוֹתֶה בָהֶן אֶת הָאֵפֶר שֶׁבַּנֵּר בַּבֹּקֶר בַּבּקֶר, בְּשֶׁהוּא מֵטִיב אֶת הַנֵּרוֹת מֵאֵפֶר הַפְּתִילוֹת שֶׁדְּלְקוּ הַלַּיְלָה וְכָבוּ. וּלְשׁוֹן ״מֵחְתָּה״ בוישידויר״א בְּלַעַז⁴⁴, כְּמוֹ: ״לַחְתּוֹת אֵשׁ מִיֶּקוּד״⁵٠: —

דַהַב דְּכֵי:

^{35.} לְגַפֶּר - לְבַצֵּעַ תַּצְרִיב בְּאֶמְצְעוּת גָפְרִית. 36. פרק י. 37. במדבר ח, ד. 38. לעיל פסוק לד. 39. לעיל פסוק לד. 40. לעיל פסוק לד. 41. לעיל פסוק לד. 24. במדבר ח, ד. 43. גְבֶת. 44. דְּלִי, כְּלִי שָׁאִיבָה. 45. ישעיה ל, יד.

- 33 There shall be three engraved goblets, as well as a sphere and a flower, on the upper three handbreadths of one branch, and three engraved goblets, as well as a sphere and a flower, on the upper three handbreadths of the next branch; the same shall apply to all six branches extending from the stem of the Candelabrum.
- 34 On the stem of the Candelabrum there shall be four goblets: three in the upper three handbreadths, similar to the other six branches, and one in the sixth handbreadth from the floor, below the point where the branches begin to extend from the stem. The two **spheres and flowers** of the stem **shall** both **be engraved**. One sphere and one flower will be situated in the upper three handbreadths of the stem, similar to the other six branches, and the second sphere and flower will be situated next to the goblet at the sixth handbreadth. In addition, there will be one flower just above the base.⁷⁹ The base, its legs, and this flower together shall be three handbreadths tall.
- 35 Besides the spheres just mentioned, there shall be one sphere situated on the stem below the first two branches—that is, at the point on the stem where the branches extend from it; another sphere shall be situated below the next two branches—that is, at the point on the stem where they extend from it; and a third sphere shall be situated below the last two branches—that is, at the point on the stem where they extend from it. These three spheres will thus serve as basepoints for all the six branches extending from the stem of the Candelabrum.
- 36 There will thus be 9 flowers, 11 spheres, and 22 goblets on the Candelabrum. Its spheres and branches shall be an integral part of the Candelabrum; it shall all be hammered out of a single ingot of pure gold.
- 37 You shall make seven lamps for it separately; these lamps will *not* be hammered out of the same single ingot of gold.⁸⁰ Fashion these lamps such that when the officiating priest kindles its lamps, they will shine towards its center.
- 38 Make **its tongs**, used for positioning the wicks and removing them after they have been used, **and its scoops**, used for raking out the ashes left after the wicks burn out, also **out of pure gold**.

> INNER DIMENSIONS ◆

[36] 9 flowers: The Candelabrum signifies *malchut*, the collective soul of the Jewish people. *Malchut* is eminated first as a single point, and is developed into a full *partzuf* by the 9 *sefirot* above it.

22 goblets: Goblets (which are larger than cups) signify an outpouring of Divine light from a higher level of consciousness. The 7 branches of the Candelabrum allude to the 7 emotions; these emotions must be infused with the guidance of the intellect. The three gob-

lets on each branch allude to the three components of the intellect (*chochmah*, *binah*, and *da'at*) descending into each emotion. The total of 22 goblets alludes to the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet, through which God expresses His intellect, the Torah.

11 spheres: These signifigy the ten *sefirot* together with the transcendent light of *keter* they elicit. The Candelabrum's components thus detail the process by which the Divine soul is fully developed.⁸¹

^{79.} This flower is not mentioned explicitly here, but it is alluded to in Numbers 8:4. 80. Likutei Sichot, vol. 16, pp. 322 ff. 81. Or HaTorah, Shemot, pp. 1486-1488, 1493-6; Sefer HaMa'amarim 5639, vol. 2, pp. 433-434; Hitva'aduyot 5713, vol. 1, pp. 260-261.

-80 ONKELOS 03-

יתה פָּל־מָניָּא הָאַלֵּין: 40 נְחָדֵּי וּעָבֵּיר יָתְהּ נַּעָרָי, יַעְבֵּיר יָתְהּ וּעָבִיר בָּרָמוּתְהוּן דִּי אַתְּ מִתְחַזַּי נַעֲבָּיר בָּרָמוּתְהוּן דִּי אַתְּ מִתְחַזַּי עַשִּׁר יְרִיאָן דְּבוּץ שְׁזִיר וְתִבְּלָא עַשַּׁר יְרִיאָן דְּבוּץ שְׁזִיר וְתִבְּלָא עַשַּׁר יְרִיאָן דְּבוּץ שְׁזִיר וְתִבְּלָא עַבַּר אָבְּן תְּהוֹרִי צוּרָת בְּרוּבִין עוֹבַר אָבָּן תַּעְבֵּיר יִתְהוֹן: 2 אַרְבָּא עִבְּר יִתְהוֹן: 2 אַרְבָּא דִירִיעֵתָא הַוְדְא עַשְׁרִין וְתַמְנֵי אַמִּין הַיִּרִיעֵתָא הַוְדָא מִין דִּירִיעֵתָא הַוָּרְא לַבְּלֹ־יִרִיעֵתָא הַוָּרָא לָבְלֹ־יִרִיעֵתָא:

39 בּבֵּר זָהָב טָהְוֹר יַעֲשֶׂה אֹתֶהּ אֵת בְּלֹּהַבֵּלִים הָאֵלֶה: 40 וּרְאָה וַעֲשֵׂה בְּתַּבְנִיתָּם אֲשֶׁר־אַתָּה מָרְאֶה בָּהֵר: ם

26:1 וְאֶת־הַמִּשְׁבֵּן הַּעֲשֶׂה עֲשֶׂר יְרִיעֻׂת שֵׁשׁ כִּשְׁיַּרִ זּרְכֵלֶת וְאַרְנָּמָן וְתֹלַעַת שָׁנִּי בְּרֵבֶים מִוְעֲשֵׂה חשָׁב תַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתֵם: 2 אַרֶּך וֹ הַיְרִיעֲה הֲאַהַת שְׁמֹנֶה וְעֶשְׂרִים בַּאַפְּׂה וְרֹחֵב אַרְבַּע בַּאַפָּׂה הַיְרִיעֶה הֲאֶחֶת מִדְּה אַחֶת לְכָל־ הַיִּרִיעָת:

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ

שֶׁאֲחֵרִים מַרְאִים לְּךְּיִשׁ לְּדְּיִתְּתְּיִבְּמִּשְׁבְּן תַּאֲשֶׁה עֲשֶׂר יְרִיעֹת.
לְהְיוֹת לוֹ לְגָג וְלִמְחִיצוֹת מְחוּץ לַקְּרְשִׁים, שֶׁהַיְרִיעוֹת
תְּלְיִת שְׁנִי הְבָרִי אַרְבָּעָה מִינִין יַחַד בְּכֶל־חוּט וְחוּט —
אָחָד שֶׁל פִּשְׁתִּים וּשְׁלֹשָׁה שֶׁל צֶמֶר, וְכָל־חוּט וְחוּט בָּפוּל
שָׁשָׁה, הֲרֵי אַרְבָּעָה מִינִין בְּשֶׁהַן שְׁזוֹרִין יַחַד עָשְׂרִים שְׁשָׁה, הֲרֵי אַרְבָּעָה מִינִין בְּשֶׁהֵן שְׁזוֹרִין יַחַד עָשְׂרִים לְּאַרִים מָעֲשֵׂה חֹשֵב, כְּרוּבִים הִיוּ שְׁאַרְבָּעָה בְּשְׁבִי מְעֲשֵׂה חֹשֵב, כְּרוּבִים הִיוּ אַמְיִיִן בְּהָם בַּאֲרִיגְּתוּ, וְלֹא בִּרְקִימָה שֶׁהוּא מִעֲשֵׂה מִחַט אֶלְא בַּאֲרִיגָה בִּשְׁנֵי בְּתָלִים, פִּרְצוּף אֶחָד מִכְּאן וּפַּרְצוּף אֶחָד מִכְּאן וּפַּרְצוּף אֶחָד מִכְּאן וּפַרְצוּף אֶחָד מִבְּאן, אֲרִי מִצֵּד זָה וְנָשֶׁר מִצֵּד זָה, בְּמוֹ שָׁאוֹרְגִין בָּלִע פִישִיי שִׁה בְּמִל שֵׁאוֹרְגִין בִּלְעוֹ פִיישִיי.

35 בַּבַּר זְהָב שָׁהוֹר. שֶׁלֹא יִהְיֶה מִשְׁקְלָה עם כְּל־בֵּלֶיהְ אֶלֶא בִּבָּר, לֹא פְּחוֹת וְלֹא יִנְתַר. וְהַבִּבֶּר שֶׁל חֹל — שִׁשִׁים מְנֶה, וְהַפְּנֶה יְשׁל קֹֹדֶשׁ הְיָה בְּפוּל — מֵאָה עֶשְׂרִים מְנֶה, וְהַמְּנֶה הוֹא לִיטְרָא שָׁשׁוֹקְלִין בְּה כֶּסֶף לְמִשְׁקָל קוֹלוֹנְיִ״א, וְהֵם מֵאָה זְיִיבְים עֶשְׂרִים עֲשְׁרִים וַחֲמִשְׁה סְלְעִים, וְהַפֶּלַע אַרְבְּעָה מַאָה זְהוּבִים עָשְׂרִים עֲשְׂרִים וַחֲמִשְׁה סְלְעִים, וְהַפֶּלֵע אַרְבְּעָה זְהוּנִים: 40 וְהַבָּעה זַיְּשָׁה מַשֶּׁה בְּמִעְשֵׁה הַבְּנִית שֶׁאֲנִי מִרְאָה אוֹתְךּ. מִגִּיִד שֶׁנִּתְּלְשָׁה מֹשֶׁה בְּמֵעְשֵׁה הַמְּנִיר, עַּיְבָּית עַיְרָאָה לוֹ הַקְּרוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ־הוּא מְנוֹרָה שֶׁל אֲשִׁר זְּשְׁרָאָה בְּתְרְאָה לְּבָּתְר, אָה לִּ הָּיָה בְּתְרוֹנוֹ: אַתְּה מִרְאָה לַאֲחֵרִים, נְקוֹר ״בְּאָר מְנְיִרָה חְטָף קְמֵץ — פִּתְרוֹנוֹ: אַתָּה מִרְאֶה לַאֲחֵרִים, עַּלְשִׁר חֲטָף קְמֵץ — פִּתְרוֹנוֹ: ״דְאָהְ מִרְאָה לִאֲחֵרִים, עַבְּשְׁר הַטָּף קְמֵץ — פִּתְרוֹנוֹ: ״דְאַהְ מִרְאָה לִיְהָה.

.46 פַּסִים, רְצוּעוֹת

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Scarlet wool is red, and therefore alludes to fire. The fire within our soul is the ardent love of God that results from contemplating His transcendent infinity. When we realize the extent to which God transcends creation and that He is the only true reality, we are overcome with a fiery, passionate desire to escape the limitations of the world in order to know Him and merge with Him.

Turquoise wool is the color of the sky, and alludes to our experience of God's majesty. In this experience, we also contemplate God's transcendent infinity, but focus on our own insignificance in comparison. This fills us with feelings of awe.

Purple wool is a blend of blue and red, of love and awe. It therefore alludes to pity, an emotion compounded of feelings of love and anger: love for the ideal, anger over how the ideal goes unfulfilled. Spe-

cifically, we pity our Divine soul when we consider its plight, having to live so spiritually distant from its sublime, natural home.

Linen is white, and therefore alludes to the soul's basic, essential love of God, which transcends reason, just as white is the background against which all other colors may be seen. The soul's basic, essential love for God is what makes us capable of self-sacrifice for God's honor, inasmuch as it expresses our unassailable bond with God.⁸⁴

type of thread	soul-power	emotion
scarlet wool	chesed	love
turquoise wool	gevurah	awe
purple wool	tiferet	pity
linen	supra-conscious chesed	self-sacrifice

39 **It shall be made, together with all these utensils**—excluding its lamps—**out of one talent** (about 48 kilograms or 106 pounds) **of pure gold** (see Figure 11)."

40 Moses did not understand all the details of the instructions how to make the Candelabrum, so God showed him the image of a fiery Candelabrum and its utensils. He then told him, "Observe their forms that you are being shown on the mountain, and make them in that manner." But it was still too complicated for Moses to envision, so God told him he would be able to simply throw the gold into the fire and it would assume the proper form.82

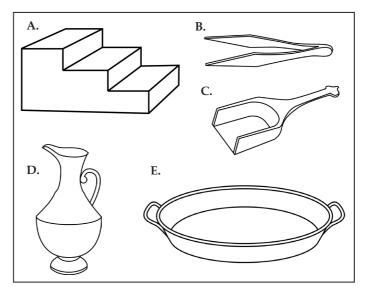


Figure 11: The equipment of the Candelabrum: A. stone steps; B. wick tongs; C. ash scoops; D. pitcher for oil; E. tray for utensils

The Coverings

26:1 God then gave Moses instructions concerning the coverings that formed the roof and external wall-coverings of the Tabernacle: "You shall have them make the first cover of the Tabernacle out of ten tapestries. These tapestries will be woven out of threads composed of 24 strands: six strands of linen twined together, six strands of turquoise wool twined together, six strands of purple wool twined together, and six strands of scarlet wool twined together. You shall have them make them with a woven design of cherubim. These cherubim will have the appearance of eagles on one side of the tapestries and of lions on the other.

2 The length of each tapestry shall be twenty-eight cubits and the width of each tapestry shall be four cubits, all the tapestries being of the same size.

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40 It was still too complicated: What Moses really found difficult to comprehend about the Candelabrum was how such a physical object could to spread the light of Divine consciousness to the outside world. God confirmed Moses' hesitations and declared that indeed, using physical objects to disseminate Divine awareness is impossible for us to do on our own. He therefore told Moses to cast the gold into the fire and that the Candelabrum would take form by itself.

Similarly, God requires us to transform all our material pursuits and possessions into sources of Divine illumination, but He also knows that we cannot do this on our own. All He asks is that we cast it all into the fire of our hearts—i.e., to let our love for Him permeate all we do—and He will do the rest.⁸³

1 Linen, turquoise wool, purple wool, and scarlet wool: These four types of thread allude to the four bases of our emotional relationship with God.

-⊗ ONKELOS ଔ−

ב חֲמִשׁ יְרִיעֶן יֶהֶוֹיֶן מְלַפְּפָן חֲדָא חַבִּשׁ יְרִיעֶן מְלַפְּפָן חַדָּא חַבְּשׁ יְרִיעֶן מְלַפְּפָן חַדָּא חַבְּשׁ יְרִיעֶן מְלַפְּפָן חַדָּא חַבְּשׁ יְרִיעֶן מְלַפְּפָן חַדָּא חַבְּשׁ יְרִיעֶרָא חַבְּיא חַבְיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְיא חַבְּיא חַבִּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבְיא חַבְּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבּיץ חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבּיץ חַבְּיא חַבִּיץ חַבְּיא חַבְּיא חַבְּיץ חַבְּיא חַבְּיץ חַבּיץ חַבְיץ חַבְיץ חַבְּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבְיץ חַבְיץ חַבְּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיץ חַבּיף חַבְיץ חַבּיף חַבּיף חַבּיף חַבְיץ חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְּיִבְיּיף חַבְּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְּיף חַבּיף חַבּיף חַבְיּיף חַבּיף חַבְיף חַבּיף חַבְיּיף חַבּיף חַבּיף חַבּיּיף חַבְיּבְיף חַבְיף חַבְיף חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבּיף חַבְיּיף חַבְיּיף חַבּיף חַבּיף

זְרִיעֹת חְבְּרָת אִשֶּׁה שֶּל־אֲחֹתֵה: 4 וְעָשִׁית לֵלְאַת הַבְּלָת אַשֶּׁה שֶּל־אֲחֹתֵה: 4 וְעָשִׁית לֵלְאַת הַבְּלָת עֵל שְׂפַת הַיִּרִיעָה הַשֶּׁר בַּפַּחְבֶּרֶת הַשֵּׁנִית לַלְאַת הַשְּׁלָת הַיְּיִרִיעָה הַשְּׁרָת הַשְּׁלִית הַשְּׁלָת הַיְּיִלְה הַשְּׁלִית הַשְּׁלִית הַשְּׁלָת הַשְּׁלָת הַיְּעָשֶׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִּׁית חַבְּעָה הַשְּׁלִית בְּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִּׁית חְבִּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה בַּפְּרְהָי שָׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה הַשְּׁלָּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִּׁית חְבִּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִׁית חְבִּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִּׁית חְבִּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה: 6 וְעָשִׁית חְבִּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה הַשְּׁבְּרָת בְּבְּבְּתְּה הַבְּיִלְית אַשְּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה הַשְּׁבְּרָת בְּבְּבְּתְה הַבְּיִבְית בְּבְּבְּתְה הַבְּיִבְית בְּבְּבְּתְה הַבְּיִבְית הַבְּבְּתְּה הַבְּיִבְית אַשְּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹת הַלְּבְית הַבְּבְּלְאֹת אִשֶּׁה שָּל־אֲחֹתְה בִּבְּבְילִית הַבְּבְּבְיתְם הַבְּבְּלְשִׁה הַיִּבְיתְה הַבְּעָשְׁה שָּבְירִיל שָּתְר.

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[תַּעֲשֶׂה] לִמְקַצְעֹת״٥٠, הֲרֵי עֶשֶׂר. וּבִמְקוֹמֶם אֲפָרְשֵׁם לַמִּקְרָאוֹת הַלֶּלוּ. נוֹתֵן הַיִּרִיעוֹת אֶרְכָּן לְרָחִבּוֹ שֶׁל מִשְׁכָּן עשר אַמּוֹת, אַמְצַעִיּוֹת לְגַג חֲלֶל רֹחַב הַמִּשְׁכַּן, וְאַמַה מָכָאן וִאַמַּה מִכָּאן לָעֵבִי רַאשֵׁי הַקָּרַשִּׁים שֶׁעַבִים אַמַה, נִשְׁתַּיִּרוּ שֵׁשׁ עֶשָּׁרֵה אַמָּה — שָׁמוֹנֶה לַצְּפוֹן וּשָׁמוֹנֶה לַדָּרוֹם — מְכַסּוֹת קוֹמַת הַקְּרָשִׁים שֶׁגְּבָהָן עֶשֶׂר, נִמְצְאוּ שָׁתֵּי אַמּוֹת הַתַּחָתוֹנוֹת מְגֻלּוֹת. רְחִבֶּן שֶׁל יִרִיעוֹת אָרַבַּעִים אַמַה כִּשָּׁהֶן מְחַבַּרוֹת, עֲשָׂרִים אַמַה לְחוֹבֵרֶת, שָׁלשִׁים מֶהֶן לְגֵג חֲלֵל הַמִּשְׁכֵּן לְאַרְכּוֹ, וְאַמַה כְּנָגֶד עֲבִי ראשׁי הַקָּרשִׁים שֶׁבַּמַעַרב, וְאַמַה לְכַסּוֹת עַבִי הַעַמּוּדִים שָׁבַּמִוְרַח, שֶׁלֹא הָיוּ קָרָשִׁים בַּמִּוְרָח אֶלֶּא אַרְבָּעָה עַמוּדִים שֶׁהַמֶּסֶךְ פָּרוּשׁ וְתָלוּי בְּוַוִין שֶׁבָּהֶן כִּמִין וִילוֹן, נִשְׁתַיִּרוּ שָׁמוֹנָה אַמוֹת הַתִּלוּיִין עַל אַחוֹרֵי הַקּרַשִּׁים שַבַּמַעַרַב, וּשָׁתֵּי אַמּוֹת הַתַּחְתּוֹנוֹת מְגַלּוֹת. זוֹ מַצַאתִי בָּבַרִיִתָא דְאַרְבָּעִים וְתֵשַׁע מִדּוֹת. אֲבָל בִּמַּסֶּכֶת שַׁבָּתוּ: אַין הַיִריעוֹת מְכַסּוֹת אֶת עַמוּדֵי הַמִּזְרָח, וְתֵשַׁע אַמּוֹת ּתְלוּיוֹת אֲחוֹרֵי הַמִּשְׁכֶּן. וְהַכָּתוּב מְסַיִּעֵנוּ: ״וְנְתַתָּ אֶת־ הַפַּרֹכֵת תַּחַת הַקָּרַסִים"5, וְאָם כִּדְבָרֵי הַבְּרַיִתָא הַוֹּאת, נִמְצֵאת פַּרֹכֵת מִשׁוּכַה מִן הַקָּרְסִים וּלְמֵעֵרַב — אַמַה: 6 קַרְסֵי זָהַב. פירמייל"ץ בְּלַעֲזֹּכּ. וּמַבְנִיסִין רֹאשַׁן אָחַד בַּלּוּלָאוֹת שֶׁבְּחוֹבֶרֶת זוֹ, וְרֹאשַׁן אָחַד בַּלּוּלַאוֹת שֶׁבְּחוֹבֶרֶת זוֹ, וּמְחַבְּרָן בְּהֶן:

זוֹ, חָמֵשׁ לְבָד הַּהְיֶּין חֹבְּרֹת. תּוֹפְּרָן בְּמַחַט, זוֹ בִּצַד זוֹ, חָמֵשׁ לְבָד וְחָמֵשׁ לְבָד: אִשָּׁה אֶל־אֲחֹתָה. כָּךְ דֶּרֶךְ הַמִּקְרָא לְדַבֵּר בַּדַבַר שָׁהוּא לְשׁוֹן נִקָבַה. וּבִדַבַר שָׁהוּא לְשׁוֹן זַכַר אוֹמֶר: ״אִישׁ אֱל־אַחִיו״, כָּמוֹ שֶׁנֵאֲמֵר בַּכִּרוּבִים: ״וּפְנֵיהֶם אִישׁ אֶל־אָחִיוּ": 4 לַּלְאֹת. לצול"ש בְּלַעַז 48 , וְכֵן תִּרְגֵּם אֶל־אָחִיו אוּנִקלוֹס: ״עֲנוּבִין״, לְשׁוֹן עֲנִיבָה: מִקְּצָה בַּחֹבָרֶת. בְּאוֹתָה יִרִיעָה שֶׁבְּסוֹף הַחִבּוּר. קבוּצַת חֲמֵשֶׁת הַיִּרִיעוֹת קרויַה ״חוֹבַרֶת״: וְבֶן הַּעֲשֶׂה בְּשִׂפַת הַיִּרִיעָה הַקּיצוֹנָה בַּמַחבַּרֵת הַשָּׁנִית. כָּאוֹתַה יָרִיעַה שֶׁהִיא קִיצוֹנַה, לְשׁוֹן קַצָה, כִּלוֹמַר לְסוֹף הַחוֹבֶרת: 5 מַקבּילת הַלָּלָאֹת אָשָׁה אַל־אַחֹתָה. שָׁמֹר שֶׁתַּעֲשֶׂה הַלּוּלָאוֹת בְּמְדָה אַחַת מְכַנָּנוֹת הַבְדֶּלֶתֶן זוֹ מִזּוֹ, וּכִמְדְתֶן בִּירִיעָה זוֹ כֵּן יִהֵא בַּחַבַרתַה, כִּשַׁתִּפָּרשׁ חוֹבַרת אֲצֵל חוֹבַרת יִהִיוּ הַלּוּלַאוֹת שֶׁל יָרִיעָה זוֹ מְכַוָּנוֹת כְּנֵגֶד לוּלָאוֹת שֶׁל זוֹ. וְזֵהוּ לְשׁוֹן "לָקַבַל". — זוֹ כְּנֶגֶד זוֹ, תַּרְגוּמוֹ שֶׁל "נֶגֶד" – "לְקַבַל". מְקְבִּילוֹת" – זוֹ כְּנֶגֶד זוֹ, תַּרְגוּמוֹ הַיִרִיעוֹת אָרְכָּן עֶשִׂרִים וּשְׁמוֹנֶה וְרָחִבָּן אַרְבַּע, וּכְשֶׁחִבֵּר חָמֵשׁ יִרִיעוֹת יַחַד נִמְצָא רְחִבָּן עֶשִׂרִים, וְכֵן הַחוֹבֶרֶת ָהַשֶּׁנִית. וְהַמִּשְׁכַּן אַרְכּוֹ שִׁלֹשִים מִן הַמְּזָרַח לַמַעַרָב, שָׁנֵאֱמַר: ״עֵשִׂרִים קָרַשִּׁים לְפָאַת נֵגְבַּה תֵימַנַה״⁴׳ וְכֵן לַצַפּוֹן. וְכַל־קֵרָשׁ אַמַה וָחַצִי הָאַמַה, הֵרֵי שְׁלֹשִים מְן הַמִּזְרָח לַמַּעֲרָב. רוֹחַב הַמִּשְׁכָּן מִן הַצְּפוֹן לַדְּרוֹם עֶשֶׂר אַמּוֹת, שֶׁנֶּאֶמַר: ״וּלְיַרִכְּתֵי הַמִּשְׁכָּן יָמֶה וְגוֹ׳ וּשְׁנֵי קָרְשִׁים

47. שמות כה, כ. 48. שְׂרוֹכִים. 49. ע"פ להלן פסוק יח. 50. להלן פסוקים כב־כג. 51. צח, ב. 52. להלן פסוק לג. 53. סְגָרִים.

will cover the 32 cubits of the Tabernacle's length and the top eight cubits of the outside of the back wall (see Figure 15, next page). The loops and clasps will be on the underside of the tapestries, visible from inside the Tabernacle.⁸⁵

^{85.} Shabbat 99a; Ma'aseh Choshev 4:2, s.v. Kakochav.

- 3 Five tapestries shall be attached to one another by sewing, and the other five shall likewise be attached to one another by sewing. Thus, there will be two sets of tapestries, each set measuring twenty-eight cubits by twenty cubits (see Figure 12).
- 4 You shall have them make loops of turquoise wool along the edge of the tapestry at the end of the first set, and you shall have them do the same along the edge of the endmost tapestry of the second set.
- 5 **You shall** have them **make** fifty loops on the one tapestry, and you shall have them make fifty loops along the edge of the tapestry of the second set, each loop being exactly opposite its counterpart.
- 6 **You shall** have them **make** fifty golden clasps, and you shall join the two sets of tapestries to each other with the clasps (see Figure 13), so that the cover of the Tabernacle will become one (see Figure 14). The two sets of joined tapestries will thus be 28 cubits wide and 40 cubits long. As will be explained further, the Tabernacle itself is 12 cubits wide, 32 cubits Figure 14: The tapestries joined into one cover

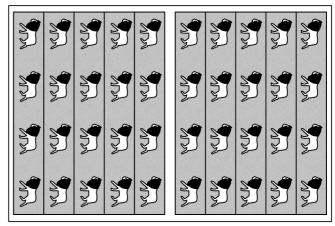


Figure 12: The two sets of tapestries

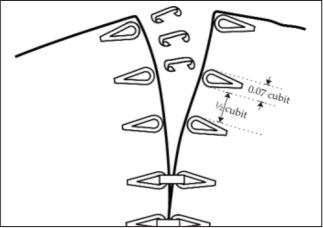
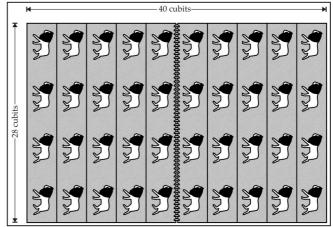


Figure 13: The loops and clasps for the tapestries



long, and 10 cubits high. Thus, when you spread this cover over the Tabernacle, leaving the front entrance uncovered, its width will cover the 12 cubits of the Tabernacle's width and the top eight cubits of the outside of each side wall. Its length

ַן וְעָשִּׁיתָ יְרִיעָת עִוִּים לְאָהֶל עַל־הַבִּּשְׁבָּן עַשְׁתֵּי־עֶשְׂרָה 7 -80 ONKELOS 03-זְתַעְבֵּיד יִרִיעַן דִּמַעַזִי לְפַרַסָא 7 על מַשָּׁבָּנָא חֲדָא עַשַּׂרֵי יִרִיעָן תַעָבֵּיד יַתְהוֹן: 8 אֻרְכָּא דִירִיעֵתָא חַדַא תַּלָתִין בַּאַמִין וּפַתֵיַא אַרבַע בָּאַמִּין דִּירִיעֵרָא חֲדָא מִשַּׁחְתָּא עשרי יריען: לחדא וּתִלָפֵיף יַת חֲמֵשׁ יִרִיעָן לְחוֹד 🤊 וַיַת שִׁית יִרִיעָן לְחוֹד וִתָּעֵיף יַת יִרִיעַתָּא שָׁתִיתֵיתָא לָקַבֶּל אַפֵּי וֹתַעְבֵּיד חֲמִשִּׁין 10 משבנא: ענובין על שפּתָא דיריעתא חַדָא בְּסִטְרָא דְבֵית לוֹפֵי וְחַמִּשִׁין עֵנוּבִין על שפתא דיריעתא דבית לופי :תנינא

יָרִיעָת תַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתֶם: 8 אָרֶךּ | הַיְרִיעָה הֲאַהַת שְׁלֹשִׁים בָּאַבָּה וְרֹחַב אַרְבַּע בָּאַבָּה הַיְריעֶה הָאֶחֶת מִדְּה אַחַׁת לְעַשָּׁתֵּי עָשָּׁרֶה יָרִיעָת: 9 וְחָבַּרָתַּ אֵת־חַבֵּשׁ הַיִּרִיעת לְבָּר וָאֵת־שֵׁשׁ הַיָּרִיעָת לְבֶּר וְבֶפַּלְתָּ אֵת־הַיִּרִיעֵה הַשִּׁשִּׁית אֶל־מָוּל פְּגֵי הָאְהֶל: 10 וְעָשִׁיתְ חֲמִשֵּים לֻלָּאֹת עַל שָּׂפַת הַיְרִיעָה הָאֶהָת הַקּיצֹנָה בַּחֹבֵּרֶת וַחֲמִשֵּׁים לֵלָאֹת עַל שִּׁבַּת הַיִּרִיעָה הַחֹבֵרֵת הַשֵּׁנִית:

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ-

יִרִיעת עזִים. מְנוֹצָה שֵׁל עִזִים: לְאֹהֶל עַל־הַמְשְׁבָּן. 7 לְפָרשׁ אוֹתַן עַל הַיָּרִיעוֹת הַתַּחָתוֹנוֹת: 8 **שִׁלֹשִׁים** בַּאַמָּה. שַׁכִּשֵׁנוֹתֶן אַרְכַּן לְרוֹחַב הַמִּשְׁכַּן, כִּמוֹ שַׁנַתַן אָת הַרָאשׁוֹנוֹת, נִמִצְאוּ אֱלוּ עוֹדְפוֹת אַמָּה מִכָּאן וָאַמַה מִכַּאן, לְכַסוֹת אַחַת מֶהַשְׁתֵּי אַמוֹת שֶׁנְשָׁאֵרוּ מגלות מן הַקָּרִשִׁים. וָהַאַמַה הַתַּחִתוֹנַה שֵׁל קָרָשׁ, שֵׁאֵין

ַהָיָרִיעַה מְכַסָּה אוֹתוֹ, הִיא הַאַמַּה הַתִּחוּבָה בְּנֵקֵב הַאֶדֵן, שָׁהַאֶדְנִים גַּבָהָן אַמַה: 9 **וְבַפַּלְתַּ אֵת־הַיִּרִיעַה הַשְּׁשִּׁית**. הַעוֹדֵפֶת בָּאֵלוּ הַעַלִּיוֹנוֹת יוֹתֶר מִן הַתַּחִתּוֹנוֹת: אֱלֹ־מוּל פְּנֵי הַאֹהֶל. חֵצִי רַחְבָּה הַיָה תַּלוּי וְכַפוּל עַל הַמְּסֶךְ שַׁבַּמִוָרַח, כָּנָגֵד הַפָּתָח. דּוֹמָה לְכַלָּה צִנוּעַה הַמְכַּסָה בִצַעִיף עַל פַּנֵיהַ:

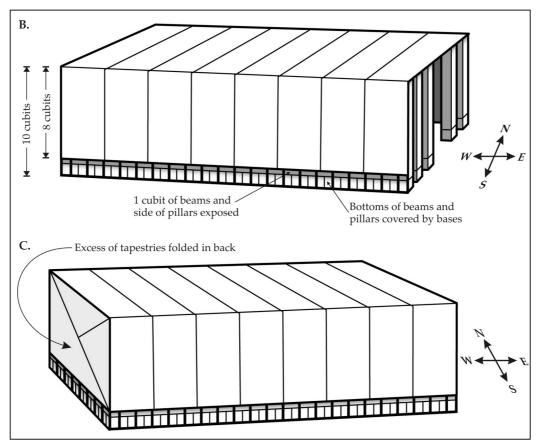


Figure 15: How the tapestries covered the Tabernacle: B. front perspective; C. rear perspective

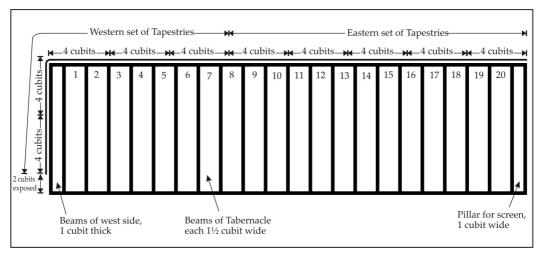


Figure 15a: How the tapestries covered the Tabernacle - side view

- 7 For the second cover, you shall have them make sheets of goat hair as a Tent to spread over the tapestries that form the first cover of the Tabernacle; you shall have them make not ten, as was the case with the tapestries, but eleven such sheets.
- 8 The length of each sheet shall be thirty cubits and the width of each sheet shall be four cubits, all eleven sheets being of the same size.
- 9 You shall have the artisans attach five of the sheets by themselves by sewing, making a set 30 cubits long and 20 cubits wide, and attach the other six sheets by themselves by sewing, making a set 30 cubits long and 24 cubits wide (see Figure 16). When you spread the goat hair cover over the Tabernacle, you shall fold half of the sixth sheet of this

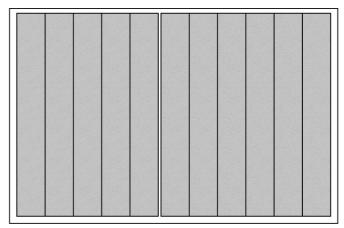


Figure 16: The two sets of sheets of goat hair

second set—that is, two cubits of this cover—**over the front of the Tent**—that is, the Tabernacle—as will be explained presently.

10 You shall have the artisans make fifty loops of goat hair along the edge of the endmost sheet of the first set, and fifty loops of goat hair along the edge of the endmost sheet of the second set.

^{86.} Ma'aseh Choshev et al.

.54 לעיל פסוק ז.

אין פּאי פּאים פּאים פּאין פּאים פּאים פּאין פּאין פּאים פּ

מַשְׁכְּנָא מִכָּא וּמִכָּא לְכַסְיוּתֵה:

11 וְעָשֶׂיתָ כַּרְמִי נְחָשֶׁת חֲמִשֶׁים וְהַבֵּאתָ אֶת־הַ הַקְּרָסִים בַּלֵּלָאת וְחִבּּרְתָּ אֶת־הָאִהֶל וְהָיָה אֶחֵר: 12 וְסֶׁרַח הֱעֹדֵׁף בִּירִיעָת הָאָהֶל חֲצִי הַיְּרִיעָה הֱעֹדֶּפֶּת הִסְלֵּח עֻל אֲחֹרֵי הַפִּשְׁבֵּן: 13 וְהָאַפָּה מִזֶּה וְהָאַפֶּה מִזֶּה בַּעֹדֵּף בְּאָרֶך יְרִיעָת הָאָהֶל יִהְיֶּה סָרוּח עַל־צִדֵּי הַפִּשְׁבָּן מִזָּה וּמִזֵּה לְכַפּתְוֹ:

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עוֹדָף עַל רוֹחַב הַתַּחְתּוֹנוֹת: תִּסְרָח עַל אֲחֹרֵי הַמִּשְׁבְּן.
לְכַסוֹת שְׁתֵּי אַמוֹת שֶׁהְיוּ מְגַלּוֹת בַּקְרְשִׁים: אֲחֹרֵי הַמִּשְׁבְּן.
הוּא צַד מַעֲרָבִי, לְפִי שֶׁהְפֶּתַח בַּמְוֹרֶח שֶׁהֵן פָּנְיו, וְצְפּוֹן
וְרָרוֹם קְרוּיִין "צְדְדִין" לְיָמִין וְלִשְׁמֹאל: 13 וְהָאַמָּה מִּזֶּה וְרָהַאַמָּה מִיֶּה בָּמְיָרְם בְּאֹרֶך יְרִיעת הָאֹהֶל.
וְרָבּמִה מִיָּה. לַצְפּוֹן וְלַדְּרוֹם: בְּעֹרֶף בְּאֹרֶך יְרִיעת הָאֹהֶל.
שָׁהֵן עוֹדְפוֹת עַל אֹרֶךְ יְרִיעוֹת הַמִּשְׁבָּן, שְׁתֵּי אַמוֹת: יִהְיֶּה שָׁבְּרוֹם, בְּמוֹ שֶׁפֵּרְשִׁהִי לַבְּיְפָה: לְצְפוֹן וְלַדְּרוֹם, בְּמוֹ שַׁפַרִשְׁתִי לְבִיּפָה: לְמִיְרָה תּוֹרָה דֶּרֶף אֶרֶץ, שֶׁיְהֵא אָדְם חָס עַל דַיָּפָה: לְמִיְלְה. לִמְרָה תּוֹרָה דֶּרֶף אֶרֶץ, שֶׁיְהֵא אָדָם חָס עַל דַיָּפָה:

12 וְסֶרַח הָעֹדֵף בִּירִעֹת הָאֹהֶל. עַל יְרִיעוֹת הַמִּישְׁבְּן.
יְרִיעוֹת הָאֹהֶל הַן הָעֶלְיוֹנוֹת שֶׁל עִזִּים, שֶׁקְרוּיִם ״אֹהֶל״,
בְּמוֹ שֻׁבְּתוּב בְּהָן: ״לְאֹהֶל עַל־הַמִּשְׁבְּן״⁴. וְכָל־אֹהֶל
הָאָמוּר בְּהֶן, אֵינוֹ אֶלָא לְשׁוֹן נָּג, שֻׁמַאֲהִילוֹת וּמְסַבְּכוֹת עַל
הַתַּחְתוֹנוֹת, חֲצִי הִיִּרִיעָה
הַמִּחְתוֹנוֹת, חֲצִי הַיִּרִיעָה
לַמַעֲרָב, שָׁהַחֵצִי שֶׁל יְרִיעָה אַחַת־עָשְׂרֵה הַיְּתַרָה הָיָה
נְכְפָּל אֶל מוּל פְּנֵי הָאֹהֶל, נִשְׁאֲרוּ שְׁהֵּי אַמּוֹת רוֹחַב־חֵצְיִה

Figure 19a: How the sheets of goat hair covered the Tabernacle - perspective

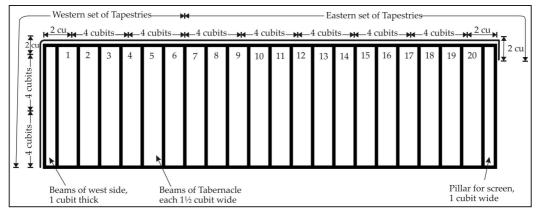


Figure 19b: How the sheets of goat hair covered the Tabernacle - side view

11 You shall have them make fifty copper clasps, and you shall have them insert the clasps into the loops (see Figure 17), thus coupling the goat hair Tent together and making it one cover, 30 cubits wide and 44 cubits long (see Figure 18). Of these 44 cubits, 32 will cover the Tabernacle's length, two will hang over the front entrance, as just stated, and 10 will cover the back wall completely. The loops and clasps will be on the topside of the sheets.⁸⁷

12 Thus, with regard to the overlapping remainder of the sheets of the goat hair Tent in excess of

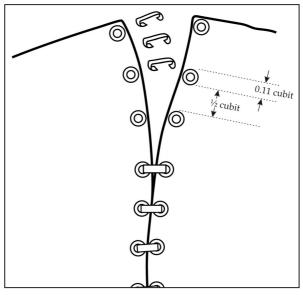


Figure 17: the loops and clasps for the sheets of goat hair

the tapestries, one extra half sheet shall overhang the entrance of the Tabernacle and the other extra half sheet shall overhang beyond the tapestries covering over the back of the Tabernacle.

13 As for the extra two cubits in the *width* of this cover, beyond the width of the tapestries, the extra cubit at either end of the length of the sheets of the goat hair Tent shall hang down over the two sides of the lower cover of the Tabernacle,

to cover it. Thus. the back of the Tabernacle will be completely covered, while a cubit at the bottom of the sidewalls will remain exposed (see Figures 19a and b). Since the tapestries more expensive and intricate than the goat hair cover, it is appropriate that the former be hidden by the latter.88

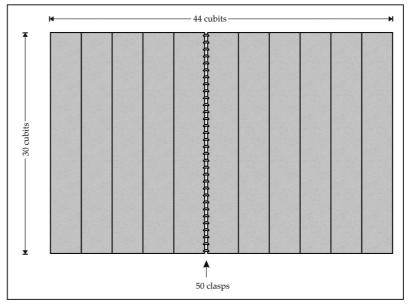


Figure 18: The sheets of goat hair joined into one cover

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14 וְתַעְבֵּיד חוֹפָאָה לְמַשְׁבְּנָא דְּמַשְׁבֵי דְּדְבְרִי מְסַמְּמֵי וְחוֹפָאָה דְמַשְׁבֵי סַסְגוֹנָא מִלְעֵלָא: 15 וְתַעְבֵּיד יַת דְפַּיָּא לְמַשְׁבְּנָא דְאָעֵי שָׁטִין קַיְמִין: 16 עֲשֵׂר אַמִּין אַרְבָּא דְדַפָּא וְאַמְּתָא וּפַּלְגוּת אָמִתָא פַּתִיא דְדַפָּא חָד: 14 וְעָשֵׂיתָ מִבְסֶהֹ לָאֹהֶל עֹרִת אֵילֶם מְאָדְּמֶים וּמִבְּחֵה עֹרִת תִּחָשִּׁים מִלְמֵעָלָה: פ

רביעי 15 וְעָשִּׂיתָ אֶת־הַקְּרָשָׁים לַפִּשְׁבֵּן עֲצֵי שִׁשִּים עִׂמְדִים: 16 עָשֶׂר אַפְּוֹת אָרֶך הַקֵּרֶשׁ וְאַפָּה וַחֲצֵי הָאַפָּה רַחַב הַקָּרִשׁ הַאָּחָד:

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ-

בְּרוּךְ־הוּא לְצוּוֹת אוֹתָן לְעֲשׁוֹת מִשְׁכָּן בַּמִּדְבָּר מֵעֲצֵי שָׁטִים, רְאוּ שֶׁיּהְיוּ מְזָמָנִים בְּיָדְכֶם. הוּא שֶׁיָּסִד הַבַּבְלִיכֹּכּ בַּפִּיּוּט שֶׁלוּ: ״טָס מַטָּע מְזוֹרְזִים, קוֹרוֹת בְּתֵּנוּ אֲבְדִים״יּכּ שָׁנִּדְרָם לְבֵן: שְׁצִי שִׁשִּׁים שָׁנְזְדִם מִקֹּדְם לְבַן: שְצֵי שִׁשִּׁים שָׁנְזְדִם לְבְןּדִים אִיהָב אֹרֶךְ בִקְּרְשִׁים עַמְדִּם לְמַצְלָה בְּקִירוֹת הַמִּשְׁבָּן, וְלֹא תַּעֲשָׂה הַבְּתָלִים בְּקְרְשִׁים שׁוֹּבְבִּים, לִהְיוֹת רֹחַב הַקְּרְשִׁים לְגוֹבַה הַבְּתָלִים לְּבְרִים, לִהְיוֹת רֹחַב הַקְּרְשִׁים לְגוֹבַה הַבְּתָלִים לְּבָרִים בְּיִרִים אַבָּה וֹ בָּבְרִם. לְמִדְנוּ נְבְּהוֹ שֶׁל מִשְׁכָן עָשֶּׂר אַמּוֹת אֹרֶךְ הַאְּנָה רֹחַב. לְמִדְנוּ נְבְּהוֹ שֶׁל מִשְׁכָן עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת וְחָצִי הָאִמָּה רֹחַב. לְמִדְנוּ עָבְּרוֹם אֶרְכוּ שֶׁלְ מִשְׁכִן עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת וְבְּרִשִׁים אָבָּהוֹ בַּבְּכוֹן וּבַדְּרוֹם מְן הַמִּוֹרָם לְמִילְנוּ בְּבְּרוֹם מִּלְישִׁים אָבְהוֹ בְּבִּהוֹ לְּעִשְׂרִים קְרְשִׁים אָבָהוֹ בְּבְּרוֹם לְּמִדְנוּ בְּבְּרוֹם בְּיִבְּים בְּוֹת בְּבִּהוֹ בְּבִּהוֹ בִּבְּבִּהוֹ בְּבְּרוֹם בְּיִבְיִם בְּיִבְים בְּיִבְים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִבְים אָבְּרָשׁים אָבְרִבּה בְּבִיה בְּבְּיִם בְּיִבְים בְּיִבְּה בָּתְרָשׁים לְּבִיבְּה הַבְּבְּתִים אָבְיוֹם בְּיִבְנוּ בְּבְּרִם בְּיִבְים בְּעִבְים בְּבְּבִּה בָּבְּרָשׁים לְּבִיבִּים בְּיִבְּים בְּעִבְים אָשָׁרְ אָשְׁרִם אָּבְּבוֹים בְּיִבְּרִם בְּיִבְּים בְּבִּיִּם בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּיְשִׁים אָבְּבּים בְּמִיבְרָם בְּיִבְיִבְּים בְּיִבְּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּיִבּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּיִּים בְּבְּבִּים בְּיִים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּיוֹ בְּיבְּיוֹם בְּיוֹם בְּבְּים בְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹים בְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּים בְּיוֹים בְּיִים בְּיבְים בְּיִים בְּיוֹם בְּבְיוֹים בְּיבְּים בְּבְּיוֹם בְּיִבְּים בְ

14 מְּבְּסֶה לָּאֹהֶל. לְּאוֹתוֹ גָּג שֶׁל יְרִיעוֹת עִזִּים עְשָׂה עוֹד מְבְּסֶה אֶחָד שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת אֵילִים מְאָדָּמִים, וְעוֹד לְמַעְלְה מִכְּסֶה אֶחָד שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת אֵילִים מְאָדָּמִים, וְעוֹד לְמַעְלְה מִכְּסֶה אֶחָד שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת הְּחָשִׁים. וְאוֹתְן מִבְּסָאוֹת לֹא הִיזּ מְכַסִּין אֶלְּא אֶת הַגָּג, אָרְבָּן שְׁלֹשִׁים וְרָחְבָּן עֻשֶׂר. אֵלּוּ דְּבְרֵי רַבִּי יְהוּדְה: מִכְּסֶה אֶחָד הָיָה, חֶצְיוֹ שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת אֵילִים מְאָדְּמִים, וְחָצְיוֹ שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת אֵילִים מְאָדְּמִים, וְחָצְיוֹ שֶׁל עוֹרוֹת הְּיִלִּים מְאָדְּמִים, הְיָה לוֹ לוֹמֵר "וְעָשִׂיתָ אֶת־הַּקְּרְשִׁים. הְיָה לוֹ לוֹמֵר "הַבְּרְשִׁים"? מֵאוֹתְן הְעוֹמְדִין וְמִיוּחְדִין לְכָּך. יַעְלֹב אָבִינוּ נְטִע אָרְזִים בְּמִצְרִים, וּבְשֶׁמֵת — צְוָּה לְבָנְיוֹ לְהַגַּלוֹתְם עָמָהִיד הַמְּקוֹשׁ עִמְיִד הַקְּרוֹשׁ עַעִּיִרִים, וְּמְשֵׁת לֹהֶם שֶׁעָתִיד הַקְּרוֹשׁ עַעְתִיד הַקְּרוֹשׁ עַעְהִיד הַקְּרוֹשׁ עַּמָהִיך הַקְּרוֹשׁ

55. שלמה הקטן ברבי יהודה הבבלי. 56. בפיוט לפסח יום א', לברכת יוצר אור, ד"ה אור ישע מאושרים. 57. עוֹמְדוֹת, עֲרוּכוֹת בַּעֲמִידָה.

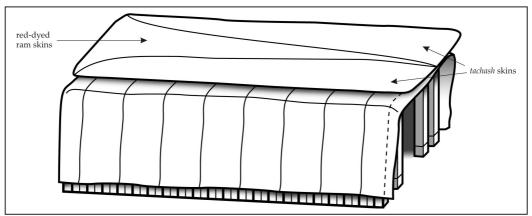


Figure 20b: The roof of red rams skins and tachash skins - second opinion

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ish" for holy purposes. We can thereby turn this often negative character trait into a positive force in our lives, enabling us to reach levels of dedication to God and union with Him that we would not be able to reach otherwise.

Similarly, the word for "plank" (קרש) is a permutation of the words for "connection" (קשר) and "lie" (אפר). As material creatures, we all initially relate to the world through a predominantly material perspective. As we

mature and the Torah's Divine perspective takes more and more control of our consciousness, we realize that our initial, material perspective was a deception and our conviction of its truth was a hindrance to spiritual growth.

By devoting ourselves to our Divine calling, we can sever our "connection" to the "lie" of materialism and transform our material lives into the spiritual "planks" of our Divine sanctuary.91

14 You shall also have them make a third cover, to act as a roof over the goat hair Tent, out of red-dyed ram skins. It shall measure 30 by 10 cubits, and thus just cover the top of the Tabernacle, not the sides. In addition, have them also make a fourth cover, a roof of tachash skins above the roof of ram skins. It shall also measure 30 by 10 cubits. The tachash skins are to be placed highest because they are the most beautiful of all the skins, and because their beauty is intrinsic to the hide rather than added to it by dying (see Figure 20a)."⁸⁹ According to another opinion, however, the ram skins and tachash skins were combined into one roof-cover (see Figure 20b).

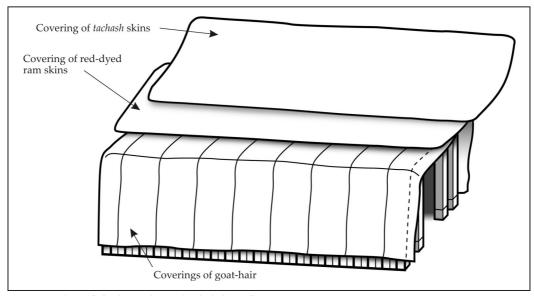


Figure 20a: The roof of red rams skins and tachash skins – first opinion

The Building

- ◆ Fourth Reading 15 God then gave Moses the instructions for constructing the Tabernacle building itself. "You shall have the artisans make the planks for the Tabernacle out of acacia wood. These planks shall be placed vertically, side-by-side, to form the three walls of the Tabernacle.
 - 16 **The length of each plank shall be ten cubits**, and thus the height of the Tabernacle will be ten cubits. **The width of each plank shall be one and a half cubits** and the breadth of each will be one cubit.

- EX CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 03-

15 Acacia wood...placed vertically: The Hebrew word for "acacia" (*shitah*) means "bending." The acacia tree is called the "bending" tree because it tends to spread or bend to the side as it grows, rather than growing straight up. The word for "foolishness" (*shetut*) is another form of this word; foolishness can be considered an act of "bending" from the path dictated by logic.

Foolishness can be either holy or holy. Unholy foolishness is the illogical thinking that leads us to go against God's will. Holy foolishness is our willingness to go beyond the strict requirements of the Torah in fulfilling our Divine mission or in refining ourselves.

Allegorically, then, placing the "bending" acacia planks vertically means using our power to be "fool-

-80 ONKELOS 03-

17 הְרֵין צִירּין לְדָפָּא חָד מְשַׁלְּבִין
מַשְׁבְּנָא: 18 וְתַעְבֵּיד יַת דַּפִּיָּא
מַשְׁבְּנָא: 18 וְתַעְבֵּיד יַת דַּפִּיָּא
מַשְׁבְּנָא: 18 וְתַעְבֵּיד יַת דַּפִּיָּא
הַעְבֵּיד הְחוֹת עֻשְׂרִין דַּפִּין לְרוּחַ עִיבַר
מַשְׁבְּנָא: 19 וְאַרְבְּעִין סִמְכִין דִּכְּסְף
מַשְׁבִין הְחוֹת דַּפָּא חָד לִתְרֵין
צִירוֹהִי וּתְרֵין בִּיּפֹף

17 שְׁתֵּי יָדּוֹת לַכֶּׁרֶשׁ הָאֶחָׁד מְשַּׁלְבֹּת אִשֶּׁה אֶלֹּד מְשְׁלְבֹּת אִשֶּׁה אֶלֹד מְשְׁלְבִּי בִּמְשְׁבֵּן: 18 וְעָשִׂיתְ אָבְּיִם בַּוֹתְשִׁים לַמִּשְׁבֵּן עָשְׂיתִ לָּבְּעִים לַמִּשְׁבֵּן עָשְׂרִים לֶּרֶשׁ לִפְּאַת גָּנְבְּה תַּחַתִּד בַּמֶּרֶשׁ הַאָּחָד לְשִׁתִּי יְדֹּתִיו וּשְׁנֵי אֲדָנִים תַּחַת־הַכֶּּרֶשׁ הַאָּחָד לְשִׁתִּי יְדֹתִיו וּשְׁנֵי אֲדָנִים תַּחַת־הַכֶּּרֶשׁ הַאָּחָד לִשְׁתִי יְדֹתִיו וּשְׁנֵי אֲדָנִים תַּחַת־הַכֶּרֶשׁ הַאָּחֶד לְשׁתִּי יִדֹתְיו:

-∞ RASHI 🗷

הַיִּדוֹת, כְּדֵי שֶׁיִּתְחַבְּרוּ הַקְּרָשִׁים זֶה אֵצֶל זֶה: מְשֻׁלְּבֹת.
עֲשׂוּיוֹת בְּמִין שְׁלִּיבוֹת סֻלְּם, מֻבְּדָּלוֹת זוֹ מִזוֹ, וּמְשֻׁפִּין
רָאשֵׁיהָם לִּבָּנֵס בְּתוֹף חֲלֵל הָאֶדָן, בִּשְׁלִיבִה הַנּבְנֶסֶת
בְּנֶקֶב עַמּוֹדֵי הַסֻּלְם: אִשָּׁה אֶל־אֲחֹתָה. מְכָּנָוֹת זוֹ
בְּנֶגֶד זוֹ, שֶׁיּהְיוּ חֲרִיצֵיהֶם שָׁוִים זוֹ בְּמִדַּת זוֹ, כְּדֵי שֶׁלֹא
יִהְיוּ שְׁתִּי יְדוֹת זוֹ מְשׁוּכָה לְצֵד בְּנִים וְזוֹ מְשׁוּכָה לְצֵד מִּנִי הְוֹלְנִה שֶׁל "יָדוֹת"

— "צִירִין", בְּעֲבִי הַבֶּּרֶשׁ שֶׁהוּא אַמֶּה. וְתַרְגוּם שֶׁל "יָדוֹת"

— "צִירִין", לְפִי שֶׁדּוֹמוֹת לְצִירֵי הַדֶּלֶת הַנּכְנְסִים בְּחוֹרֵי הַמְּפְּתָּוֹ, אֵין פֵּאָה זוֹ לְשׁוֹן מִמְּלְבִּוֹת מִיְמְנָה. אֵיִן פַּאָה זוֹ לְשׁוֹן מִמְלְצִר דְּרוֹת קְרוּיִה "פֵּאָה", בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ: "לְרוּחַ מִנִּרוֹיִה "בִּיב, דּרוֹמוֹ?".

17 שְׁתֵּייִדוֹת לַבֶּּרֶשׁ הָאֶחָד. הְיָהחוֹרֵץ אֶת הַבֶּּרֶשׁ מִּלְּמִשָּׁה בְּאָמְצְעוֹ בְּגוֹבַה אֵמָה, וּמִנִּיחַ רְבִיעַ רְחְבּוֹ מִכָּאן וּרְבִיע בְּחְבּוֹ מִכָּאן וּרְבִיע בְּחְבּוֹ מִכְּאוֹ וּרְבִיע בְּחְבּוֹ מִכְּאוֹ וּרְבִיע בְּחְבּוֹ מִכְּאוֹ וּרְבִיע בְּחְבּוֹ מִבְּנִים בְּבֶּרֶשׁ בְּאָמְצַע. וְאוֹתְן הַיְּדוֹת מַכְנִיס בְּאַדְנִים שֻׁהִיוּ חֲלוּלִים, וְהָאֲדְנִים גָּבְהָן אַמָּה, וְיוֹשְׁבִים רְצוּפִים אַרְבָּעִים זֶה אֵצֶל זֶה, וִידוֹת הַבֶּּרֶשׁ הַנִּבְנָסוֹת בַּחֲלֵל הָאֲדְנִים חֲרוּצוֹת מִשְּׁלשֶׁת צִּדִיהָן, רֹחַב הָחָרִיץ בָּעבִי שְׂפַת הָאֶדָן, שֻּיִּכְּסָה הָאֶדן, שֶׁיִכְּסָה בָּוֹ נִמְצָא רָוַח בִּין הָבֶּרֶשׁ לְּצֵרֶשׁ בְּעֲבִי שְׂפַת שְׁנֵי הָאֶדְנִים שְׁנִּפְסִיקוֹ בֵּינִיהָם, קָרָשׁ לְּצֵרֶי בְּעֲבִי שְׂפַת שְׁנֵי הָאֶדְנִים שִׁיִּפְסִיקוֹ בֵּינִיהָם, וְנִיִּצְא לְנִחְ בִּעְרִי שְׁפַת שְׁנִי הְאָדְנִים שְׁיַבְּחוֹץ אֶת צִּדֵי וְוֹיִנִי תֹאֲמִם מִלְּמֵשְה. בְּיִבִּים שְׁנִּחְרוֹץ אֶת צִּדִי וְיִבְּיִם הְּמִבְּי מִבְּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִרִּים בְּעִנִי שְׁבִּתְּנִים בְּעִבִּי שְׁכַּחִיקוֹ בִּינִיהָם, קְנִים בְּעִבִּי שְׁבָּת בְּיִבִי הָאָרָנִים שְׁנִבְּי מְבְּנִים אָּבִּי מְּבְּבִי מְּבִּי מִּבְּי מִיבְּיִם בְּבְּי בְּבִּי מִּבְּי מִינִיהָם, וְּבִּי בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבְים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִם בְּעִבִי שְׁפַּת שְׁנִבְים בְּעִבִי שְׁפַּת שְׁנִבְים אָבִיים, בְּיִבִּים בְּיִים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּיהְם בְּיִבִּים בְּיִּבְּיִם בְּיִּבְים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִּבִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִּבִּים בְּיִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִבִּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּבְּים בְּיִינִיםם בְּיִים בְּיִּבְּים בְּבִּיים בְּיִים בְּיִבִּיים בְּיִּים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיּבְּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִנְיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִּים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִּבְּים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִנְים בְּיִּים בְּיִבְּים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים ב

A.

B.

1½ cubit

¾ cubit

½ cubit

1/4 cubit

1 cubit

58. להלן פסוק כד.

Figure 22: The bases and the tenons: A. The bases; B. How the tenons fit into the bases

-∞ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 🗷

19 Silver bases: As we have seen, 92 the bases were made out of the silver collected in the half-shekel tax, which was the same for everyone, whereas the rest of the Tabernacle's components were made out of the

materials that everyone donated according to their individual ability and desire to give.

The reason for this distinction is that the bases were the foundation of the Tabernacle, which kept the 17 Have the artisans whittle the bottom of **each plank** so as to leave **two tenons**, each one cubit long, half a cubit wide, and a quarter of a cubit broad, **parallel to each other**; **you shall** have them **do the same for all the planks of the Tabernacle.** Have them leave half of a cubit between the two tenons of each plank (see Figure 21).

18 You shall have them make the following number of planks for the Tabernacle: twenty planks for the southern side. The length of the Tabernacle will thus be 30 cubits, since each plank is a cubit and a half wide.

19 You shall have them make forty silver bases, each one cubit tall, one cubit wide, and a cubit and a half thick. These 40 bases will be placed under the twenty planks, two bases under one plank. Each base will be hollowed out to accommodate the two tenons protruding from the plank above it. Similarly, there will be two bases under each following plank, each base hollowed out to accommodate the two tenons protruding from the plank above it (see Figure 22).

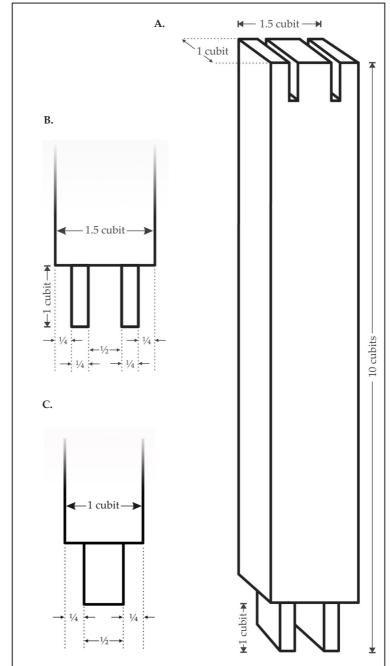


Figure 21: A plank and its tenons: A. perspective; B. width; C. breadth

-80 ONKELOS 03-

20 וְלְסְטֵר מַשְׁבְּנָא תִּנְיָנָא לְרוּחַ צָפּוּנָא עֶשְׁרִין דַפִּין: 11 וְאַרְבְּעִין סַמְכֵיחוֹן דִּכְּסָף הְּנֵיין טַמְכִין הְּחוֹת דָּפָּא חָד וּתְבִין סַמְכִין הְּחוֹת דַּפָּא חָד: 22 וְלְסְיָפֵי מַשְׁבְּנָא מַעַרְבָּא הַעְבֵּיד לְזְוִיִת מַשְׁבְּנָא בְּסוֹפֵיהוֹן: 24 וִיהוֹן מְכַוְנִין מַלְּרַע וְכַחָדְא יְהוֹן מְכַּוְנִין עַל רֵישֵׁה לְעִוְקְהָא חָדָא יְהוֹן יְהֵי לְתַרְוִיהוֹן לְתָרֵין זִוֹיָן יְהוֹן: 20 וּלְצֶלַע הַפִּוּשְׁבֶּן הַשֵּׁנִית לִפְּאַת צָפְוֹן עֶשְׂרִים קֶרֶשׁ:
21 וְאַרְבָּעִים אַרְנִיהֶם בֶּסֶף שְׁנֵי אֲדָנִים הַחַת הַכֶּןכְשׁ
הַבְּעִים אַרְנִים תַּחַת הַכֶּּרָשׁ הֲאָחֵר:
22 וּלְיִרְבְּתִי הַפִּשְׁבֵּן יַבְּיִר הַמְעַשֶּׁה שִׁשְּׁה קְרָשִׁים:
23 וּשְׁנֵי קְרָשִׁים הַּמִּשְׁבֵּן בַּיִּרְכָתְיִם:
24 וִיְהִיוּ תְּאֲמִם מַלֹירִאשׁוֹ אֶלֹיהַמָּבַעַת הַפִּוּשְׁבֵּן בַּיִרְכָתְיִם:
24 וִיְהִיוּ תִּמִּשׁׁבַן יַהְיִּי תִמִּים עַלֹירִאשׁוֹ אֶלִיהַמָּבַעַת יְהִיוּי לִשְׁנֵי הַמִּקְעַעֹּת יְהִיוּי לִשְׁנֵי הַמִּקְעַעֹּת יְהִיוּי לִשְׁנֵי הַמִּקְעַעֹּת יְהִיוּי.

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ

הַפֶּרֵשׁ, לְכַּסוֹת אֶת שְׁפַּת הָאֶדֶן, וְכֵּן הַפֶּרֵשׁ שֻׁאָצְלוֹ,
וְנִמְצְאוּ תוֹאֲמִים זֶה לְזֶה. וְכֶּרֵשׁ הַמִּקְצעׁ שֶׁבְּסֵּרָר
הַמְּעֲרָב, חְרוּץ לְרָחְבּוֹ בְּעָבִיוֹ בְּנָגֶד חְרִיץ שֶׁל צַד כֶּרֶשׁ
הַצְּפוֹנִי וְהַדְּרוֹמִי, כְּדֵי שֶׁלֹא יַפְּרִידוּ הָאֶדְנִים בֵּינֵיהָם:
הַצְּפוֹנִי וְהַדְּרוֹמִי, כְּדֵי שֶׁלֹא יַפְּרִידוּ הָאֶדְנִים בֵּינֵיהָם:
קָרְשׁ: אֶלֹ־רֹאשׁוֹ. שֶׁלֹ
קָרְשׁ: אֶלֹּ־רִאשׁוֹ. שֶׁלֹ
קָרְשׁ: אֶלֹּ־רִאשׁוֹ. שֶׁלֹ
קַרְשׁ הָבְּעַת הָאָחָת. בְּלֹּישׁ וְכָּרְשׁ הָבְּיִנִי צִדְיוֹ, כְּדִי עָבִי שַׁבְּעַת אַחַת, נִמְצְא מַתְאִים לַפֶּרְשׁ שָׁבַּמִּקְצוֹע, הְיִתְה טַבַּעַת בְּעָרִי שִׁבְּעַרִּ הַאְבִילוֹת, לֹא יָדְעְתִּי אִם קְבוּעוֹת הֵן
שָׁצִילְטְלוֹת. וּבַקֶּרְשׁ שַׁבַּמִּקְצוֹעֻ, הְיִתָּה טַבַּעַת בְּעָרִי
הַקֶּרְשׁ הַבְּּרְנִי וְרֹאשׁ קָרֶשׁ הַמִּקְצוֹע שֶׁבְּסִיְר מְחַבָּוֹ וְרִבְּיִי וְרֹאשׁ קָרֶשׁ הַמָּקְצוֹע שֶׁבְּסִיּר מְחַבָּרִים:
בָּלֵנְ יִּהְרָבׁ נִכְנָס לְתוֹכוֹ, נִמְצְאוּ שְׁנֵי הַמְּלְצוֹע שָׁבַּמִּקְצוֹע, לַפֶּרָשׁ הַמָּצְרִים: מְחָבָּרִים: מְחָבָּרִים: מְחָבָּרִים: מְחָבָּרִים: מְחָבָּרִים: שְׁבַּמִּקְצוֹע, לַבְּנָם לְתוֹכוֹ, נִמְצְאוּ הְמָצְרִבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִיהָם. לְחָבִּילִים מְחָבְּרִים: שְׁבַּמִּלְעִים הְמָעְרָבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִיהָם. לְמְבְּלִישׁ הַמָּעֵרבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִי הָמִּקְצוֹעוֹת, יִבְּבְי לְשְׁנִיהָם. לִּבְּלְשׁ הַמָּעֵרבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִיהָם. לְּחָבְּיוֹ הַמְּצְבִיי, וְבִּלְּבִישׁ הַמָּעֵרבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִי הַמְּבְישׁ הַמָּעֵרבִי, וְכִן לְשָׁנִי הָבְּיִבְּיוֹ הְמָבְּרִי וְבִּילְ לְשִנְי הָבְּיִבְּישׁ הַמָּעֵבְרִי, וְכִּן לְשָׁנִי הָבָּי וְנִילְּבָּרְשׁ הַמָּעֵבִיי, וְבְּיִבְּיוֹ בְּיִבְּיוֹ בְּעִבִּי

22 וּלְנִרְבְּתֵּי. לְשׁוֹן סוֹף, בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ "וְלְסְיָפֵי". וּלְפִי שֶׁהַפֶּתַח בַּמְּוְרָח, קָרוּי מְּוְרָח "פָּנִים" וְהַמַּעֲרֶב "אֲחוֹרַיִם", וְזֶהוּ סוֹף, שֶׁהַפָּנִים הוּא הָרֹאשׁ: תַּעֲשֶׁה שִׁשְּׁה קְרְשִׁים. הֲבִי מַשְׁע אַמוֹת רוֹחַב: 23 וּשְׁנֵי קְרָשִׁים תַּעֲשֶׁה לְּמְשְׁעָּת. מַשְׁעְרָבִית, וְאָחָד לְמַעֲרָבִית מַעֲרָבִית, וְאָחָד לְמַעֲרָבִית הַשְׁנִים אָינָן בַּחֲלֹל הַמִּשְׁכָּן, אֶלָא חֲצִי אַמָּה מִזּוֹ וַחֲצִי הַשְּׁנִים אֵינָן בַּחֲלַל הַמִּשְׁכָּן, אֶלָא חֲצִי אַמָּה מִזּוֹ וַחֲצִי אַמָּה מִזּוֹ וַחְצִי אַמָּה מִזּוֹ וַבְּצִי בְּרָשִׁים בְּעָשֶׁר. וְהָאַמְה מִזּוֹ וַהְצִי הַמְּלֵל, לְהַשְּׁלִים רְחְבּוֹ לְעֶשֶּר. וְהָאַמְה מִזּוֹ וַהְצִי הַמְּלְל, לְהַשְּׁלִים רְחְבּוֹ לְעֶשֶּר. וְהָאַמְה מִזָּה בָּאוֹת בְּנָגֶד אַמַת עֲבִי קְרְשֵׁי הַמִּשְׁכָּן שָׁנָה וְבִּיְרוֹם, בְּרִי שְׁכָּרְ שִׁנִי הָאָרְנִים בִּינֵיהֶם לְהַרְחִיקְם שֵׁנִי הְאָבְיִם בִּינִיהֶם לְהַרְחִיקְם שָׁנִי הְאָרְנִים בִּינֵיהֶם לְהַרְחִיקְם שָׁנִי הָאָרְנִים בִּינֵיהֶם לְהַרְחִיקְם מִּוֹב הָבָּרוֹם, בְּבִי שְׁפָּת שְׁנֵי הְאֵדְנִים בִּינִיהֶם לְהַרְחִיקְם מִּנִיה, שֵׁיּהָא רוֹחַב הָקָרשׁ בּוֹלָט לצִדִּיו חוּץ לְיָד חִוּץ לְיָד מִבְּרוֹם הָּבְּר שִׁבּּרוֹם, בְּבָּר שִׁבְּרִים בִּינִיה, שֵּׁבִיהן, שֵּיהָא רוֹחַב הָקָרשׁ בּוֹלְט לצִדִּיו חוּץ לְיָד מִבְּרוֹם הָּבְּי הָּבָּר הַתְּב הָּקְרשׁ בּוֹלָט לצִדִּיו חוּץ לְיָד

59. לעיל פסוק יז

- EN CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 03-

whole structure standing firmly. The other components of the Tabernacle allegorically signify the aspects of our personalities that differ from person to person: the planks were ten cubits high, corresponding to the three facets of the intellect and the seven emotions, and the coverings allude to the enveloping powers of will and delight. The bases, in contrast, allude to our humility and the accompanying ability to enforce the Torah's code of behavior upon ourselves. These are certainly the lowest rungs on the ladder of self-refinement, since self-enforced behavior is merely an act of discipline, devoid of any feeling or intellect. Nonetheless, this discipline is the foundation of the rest of the character-structure we build out of our lives, for without this basic commitment to carry out God's will, the higher levels of our personalities will lack their requisite stability and strength.

This precedence of humility before further character

development is reflected in our daily prayers: we begin our day with the humble acknowledgement that we owe our entire lives to God; only then do we climb the rungs of Divine knowledge embodied in the ensuing stages of meditative prayer.

Later, at the end of the *Amidah*, the apex of our spiritual ascent, we first ask God, "Let my soul be as dust to all," and only then, "Open my heart to Your Torah, and let my soul eagerly pursue Your commandments."

Inasmuch as the norms of religious behavior ensured by self-imposed discipline are the same for everyone, the bases were made out of the one contribution everyone gave equally. In contrast, we all relate to God differently via our delight, will, intellect, and emotions, so the components of the Tabernacle that allude to these aspects of our personalities were made out of the contributions the people gave according to their individual means and desires.⁹³

- 20 For the second side of the Tabernacle, to the north, there shall likewise be twenty planks
- 21 with their forty silver bases: two bases under one plank, and two bases under each following plank.
- 22 For the back of the Tabernacle, to the west, you shall have them make six planks, each of whose one-and-a-half-cubit width will be fully exposed inside the Tabernacle,
- 23 and you shall have them make another two planks for the back corners of the Tabernacle. One cubit of each of these corner planks will be covered by the breadth of the planks forming the northern and southern walls, and therefore only a half a cubit of each corner plank will be exposed inside the Tabernacle. Thus, the inside width of the Tabernacle will be 10 cubits (see Figure 23).

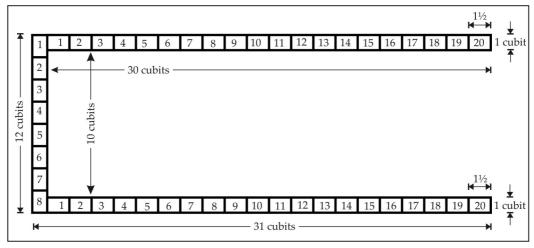


Figure 23: The walls

24 All the planks **shall be flush** against each other **at the bottom.** This shall be accomplished by shaving the perimeter of the lower cubit of each plank so that its tenons fit snugly into the bases underneath them, and thus the outsides of the bases will be flush with the planks and the planks flush against each other. The

planks shall also be flush against each other at the top. This shall be accomplished by notching the tops of the planks so that every pair of adjoining planks can be fitted together into a square ring (see Figure 24). This shall also be done with the two planks on the two corners (see Figure 25).

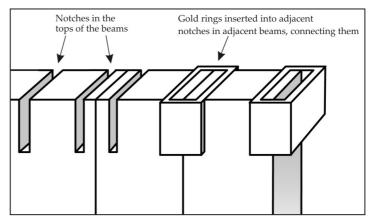


Figure 24: The rings

25 וְהִיוּ שְׁמִנְּה קְרָשִׁים וְאַדְנִיהֶם בֶּּסֶף שִׁשְּׁה עְשֶׂר עָשֶׂר מְשָׁר הַקָּרֶשׁ הָאָחָר וּשְׁנִי אָדְנִים מְבִיּ הַשָּׁרִים הַתָּחָר הַכֶּרֶשׁ הָאָחָר וּשְׁנִי אָדְנִים הַחָּתְ הַבֶּרִשׁ הָאָחָר וּשְׁנִי אָדְנִים הַחַּתְשָׁה רְיִחָם עְצִי שִׁשְּׁכֶּן הַשְּׁנֶית וְחֲמִשְׁה רְיִחִם בְּרִיחִם לְכַרְשִׁי צֶלַע־הַפִּשְׁבֶּן הַשְּׁנֶית וְחֲמִשְׁה בְּרִיחִם לְכַרְשִׁי צֶלַע־הַפִּשְׁבֶּן הַשְּׁנֶית וְחֲמִשְׁה בְּרִיחִם לְּלֵירִשׁי צֶלַע־הַפִּשְׁבֶּן הַשְּׁנֶית וְחֲמִשְׁה בְּרִיחִם לְּלֵירִשׁי צֶלַע הַפִּשְׁבָּן לַיִּרְכָתִים יְפָּה: 28 וְהַבְּּרִיחַ הַתִּיכִן לְיַבְּתְים מַבְּלְּהַ מִן בִּבְּרָיחַ מִבְּלְּהָ מִים מַבְּלְּהַ מִן־הַבְּקְצֶה אֶל־הַבְּעֶצה:

−® ONKELOS ଔ−

25 וְיהוֹן תְּמַנְיָא דַפִּין וְסַמְכֵיהוֹן הַבְּסֶף שָׁתָּא עֲשֵׂר סַמְכִין תְּרֵין הַבְּין מְמָכִין תְּרֵין מְמָכִין תְּרֵין מְמָכִין תְּרֵין מְמְכִין תְּרֵין מְמְכִין תְּרֵין מְמְכִין תְּרֵין מַמְכִין תְּתְרִין סַמְכִין תְּתְרֵין מַמְכִין הְתִיע עַבְרִי עָבְרִי שָׁשְּיִן חַמְשָׁא לְדְפֵּי סְטַר מַשְׁבְּנָא תְּנִיְנָא וְחִמְשָׁא עַבְרין לְדַפֵּי סְטַר מַשְׁבְּנָא תְּנִיְנָא וְחִמְשָׁא עַבְרין לְדַפֵּי סְטַר מִשְׁבְּנָא תְּנִיְנָא לְסוֹפֵיהוֹן מַעְרָבָא: 28 וְעַבְרָא מְצִיעָאָה בְּגוֹ דַפָּיָּא מַעְבַּר מִן סְיָפֵי לְסִיָּפֵי:

הַבֶּעָת הָעֶלְיוֹנָה וּלְמַעְלָה, וְחֵלֶק

אֶדָר מִן הַתַּחְתּוֹנָה וּלְמַטָּה, וְכָל־חֵלֶק הוּא רְבִיעַ אֶֹרֶךְ

ַהַקֶּרֶשׁ, וּשְׁנֵי חֲלָקִים בֵּין טַבַּעַת לְטַבַּעַת, בְּדֵי שֶׁיִּהְיוּ כָּל־

הַשַּבְּעוֹת מְכַוָּנוֹת זוֹ בְּנָגֶד זוֹ. אֲבָל לַבְּרִיחַ הַתִּיכוֹן אֵין

ַטַבָּעוֹת, אֶלָּא הַקְּרָשִׁים נְקוּבִין בְּעָבְיָן, וְהוּא נִכְנָס בָּהֶם

דֶּרֶךְ הַנְּקָבִים, שֶׁהֵם מְכַנְיִנִין זֶה מוּל זֶה, וְזֶהוּ שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר:

״בְּתוֹךְ הַקְּרֲשִׁים״٠٠٠. הַבִּּרִיחִים הָעֶלְיוֹנִים וְהַתַּחְתּוֹנִים

שָׁבַּצְפוֹן וְשֶׁבַּדָּרוֹם, אֶרֶךְ כָּל־אַחַת חֲמֵשׁ עֶשְׂרֵה אַמְה, וְהַתִּיכוֹן אָרְכּוֹ שְׁלִשִׁים אַמָּה. וְזֶהוּ ״מִן־הַקְּצֶה אֶל־

הַמְּצֶרָב. וַחֲמִשָּׁה בְּרִיחִים הַמָּצֶרָב. בַּחֲמִשָּׁה בְּרִיחִים

ֶּשֶׁבַּמַּעֲרָב, אֶֹרֶךְ הָעֶלְיוֹנִים וְהַתַּחְתּוֹנִים שֵׁשׁ אַמּוֹת,

-∞ RASHI છ

בַּ וְהָיּוּ שְׁמֹנָה קְרָשִׁים. הַן הָאֵמוּרוֹת לְמַעְלָה: ״תַעֲשֶׂה שְׁשָׁה קְרְשִׁים, וּשְׁנֵי קְרָשִׁים תַּעֲשֶׂה לְמְקַצְעוֹת״״. נְמְיִשְׁה לְמְקַצְעוֹת״״. נְמְיִשְׁה לְמְקָצְעוֹת״״. נְמְיִשְׁה סָרֶר הַקְּרָשִׁים בְּמֶלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁבְּוֹי״. הָיָה עוֹשֶׁה מָבְרִי מָבְרָשׁ מִלְמַשָּׁה, רְבִיע מַבְּאוֹ וְהָבְיִע מִבְּאוֹ וְהָהָרִיץ חֶצְיוֹ בָּאֶלְמַשָּׁה, רְבִיע מִבְּאוֹ וְהָהָרִיץ חֶצְיוֹ בָּאֶכְע, וְעְשָׁה לּוֹ שְׁנֵי יְדוֹת כִּמִין שְׁנֵי חֲמוּקִין, וְלִי נִרְאֶה שָׁהַגּּרְסָא: ״בְּמִין שְׁנֵי חְמוּלְיל הָאֶדֶן בִּשְׁלִיבָה הַנִּכְּבְּלוֹת זוֹ בְּנָקְים וְהְנִּא לְשׁוֹן ״מְשֶׁלְבוֹת״יִי — עֲשׁוּיוֹת בְּמֶרְ שְׁנִי אֲדְנִים, שָׁנָּאֵמֵר: ״שְׁנֵי בְּמִין שְׁלִיבָה, וֹמְלְנִיסן לְתוֹךְ שְׁנֵי אֲדְנִים, שֶׁנָּאֶלְה, בְּלֵּבְע מִבְּאוֹ וְאָצְבַע מִבְּאוֹ וְהָוֹא לְנִין לְתוֹךְ שָׁנִי אֲדְנִים". וְחוֹבִץ אֶת הַקְּרָשׁ מִלְּאַלְה, אֲדָנִים, שְׁנְבִי מִבְּאוֹ וְהָצְבָּע מִבְּאוֹ וְהָצִיץ מְבָּאוֹן וְהָצְיִם מְבָּאוֹ וְלְתוֹךְ שַׁנִי מְבָּאוֹן וְאָצְבַּע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְלִיבְי מִבְּאוֹן וְיִּבְּיִם מְבֹּאוֹן וְיִבְּיִם מְבְּע מִבְּמִיּן וְיִבְיִם מִבְּת מִבְּאוֹן וְהָּבְּבְע מִבְּאוֹן וְאָצְבַע מִבְּאוֹן וְאָצְבַע מִבְּאוֹן וְיִאְצְבַע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְבְּבְי מִבְּיִן וְּבְּנִים מִבְּאוֹן וְיִבְּבְּע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְאָצְבַע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְבְּבְע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְבְבְּע מִבְּאוֹן וְיְצְבְבַע מִבְּאוֹן וְיָבְבְּע מִבְּאוֹן וְיִבְּבְי מִבְּבִין מִבְּאוֹן וֹיִבְּוֹם בְּחִבּים בְּבִּים מִבְּים בְּבּבְּר מִבְּיִים בְּיבּים מִבְּים מִבְּעת מִבְּאוֹן וְיִבְּיִם בְּיִבּים מִבְּעת מִבְּאוֹן וְּבְּבְים בְּבֹּבְּים בְּבִּבְּים בְּבֹּב עִבּבְּים בְּבִּבְים בְּבְּבְּים בְּבֹבְים בְּבּבּים מִבְּבְּים בְּבּים בְּבְּבּים בְּבְּבּים בְּבּים בְּבּים בְּבּבּים בְּבְבּבּים בְּבְּבְּים בְיבּבְּים בְּבְּבְּבְּבְּבִּים בְּבִּבּים בְּבְּבִּים בְּבְּבּים בְּבְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּים בְּבְּבּים בְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּבְּבְּיִבְּים בְּבְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּים בְּבְּים בְּבְ

שׁל זָהָב, כְּדֵי שֶׁלֹא יִהְיוּ נִפְּרָדִין זֶה מִזֶּה, שָׁנֶּאֶמַר: ״וְיִהְיוּ תֹאֲמִם מִלְמַשָּׁה וְגוֹי״בּּ״. ּבָרְ הִיא הַמִּשְׁנָה, וְהַפֵּרוּשׁ שֶׁלָּהּ הִצַּעְתִּי לְמַעְלָה בְּסֵדֶר הַמִּקְרֵאוֹת: **26 בְּרִיחִם.** ּבְּתַרְגוּמוֹ: ״עַבְּרִין״, וּבְלַעַז אישבר״ש⁴: **חֲמִשָּׁה לְקַרְשֵׁי צֶלַע־הַמִּשְׁבָּן.** אֵלּוּ חֲמִשָּׁה שְׁלֹשָׁה הַן, אֶלָּא שֶׁהַבְּרִיחַ הָעֶלְיוֹן — וְהַתַּחְתוֹן עֲשׁוּי מִשְׁתֵּי חֲתִיכוֹת, זֶה מַבְרִיחַ עָד חֲצִי הַכּּתֶל וְוֶה מַבְרִיחַ עַד חֲצִי הַכּּתֶל, וֶה נִכְנָס בַּטַבַּעת מִצֵּד וֶה וְוֶה נִכְנָס בַּטַבַּעת ָמִצַד זֶה, עַד שֶׁמַּגִּיעִין זֶה לָּזֶה, נִמְצְאוּ שָׁעֶלְיוֹן וְתַחְתּוֹן שְׁנַיִם שֶׁהֵן אַרְבָּעָה. אֲבָל הָאֶמְצָעִי, אָרְכּוֹ כְּנָגֶד כָּל־הַכֹּתֶל, וּמַבְרִיחַ מִקְצֵה הַכֹּעֶל וְעַד קָצֵהוּ, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: ״וְהַבְּּרִיחַ הַתִּיכֹן וְגוֹ׳ מַבְרִחַ מָן־הַקָּצָה אֶל־הַקָּצָה״כּּ׳, שָׁהָעֶלְיוֹנִים וְהַתּחְתוֹנִים הָיוֹ לְהֶן טַבְּעוֹת בַּקְרָשִׁים לְהִכָּנֵס לְתוֹכָן שְׁתֵּי טַבָּעוֹת לְכָל־ קֶרֶשׁ, מְשַׁלְּשִׁים בְּתוֹךְ עֶשֶׂר אַמּוֹת שֶׁל גֹּבַה

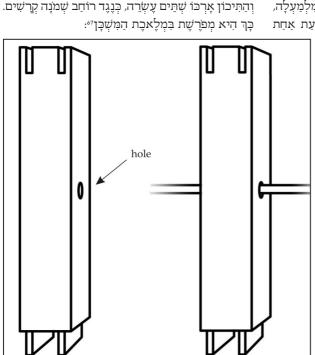


Figure 27: The full-length crossbar

60. פסוקים כביכג. 16. פרק א. 26. לעיל פסוק יו. 63. לעיל פסוק כד.64. מוטות. 65. להלן פסוק כח. 66. שם. 67. פרק א.

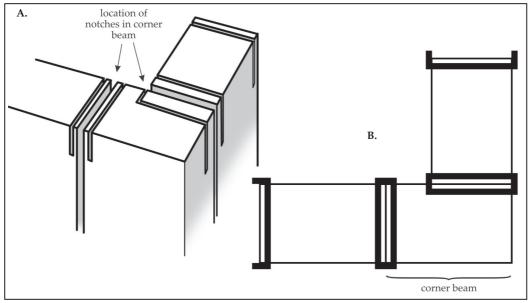


Figure 25: The corner rings and notches: A. perspective; B. top view

25 Thus, on the west side, there will be a total of eight planks with their silver bases—sixteen bases: two bases under one plank, and two bases under each following plank.

26 As for how these planks will be held together, you shall have them make cross-bars out of acacia wood: five for the planks of one long side of the Tabernacle,

27 five crossbars for the planks of the other long side of the Tabernacle, and five crossbars for the planks of the back wall of the Tabernacle, to the west. Have them make four of each wall's crossbars half as long as the wall, and one crossbar the wall's full length (see Figure 26). Two of the half-length crossbars

will traverse the wall at a height of seven and a half cubits, and the other two half-length crossbars will traverse the wall at a height of two and a half cubits. The full-length crossbar will traverse the wall at the wall's mid height, i.e., five cubits from the ground.

28 The full-length crossbar at the wall's mid height shall penetrate holes drilled through the planks, from one end of the Tabernacle to the other (see Figure 27).

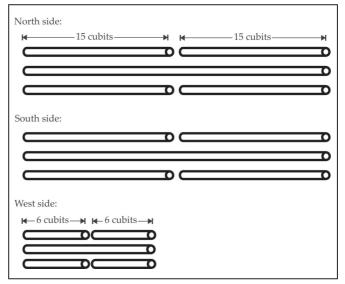


Figure 26: The crossbars

29 וְאֶת־הַפְּרְשִׁים הְצַפֶּה זָהָב וְאֶת־הַבְּרְיחֶם זָהָב: הַעֲשֶׂה זָהָב בָּתִּים לַבְּרִיחֶם וְצִפִּיתִ אֶת־הַבְּרִיחֶם זָהָב: 30 וַהַכֵּמֹתָ אֶת־הַמִּשְׁבָּן בְּמִשְׁבָּן בְּמִשְׁבָּמֹוֹ אֲשֶׁר הָרְאֵיתִ 5. בַּהַר: ם

חמישי 31 וְעָשִּׁיתָ פָּרֹכֶת הְבֵלֶת וְאַרְגָּמֶן וְתוֹלֵעַת שָׁנִי וְשֵׁשׁ מִשְׁזֶר מִעֲשֵׂה חֹשֵּׁב וַעֲשֶׂה אֹתָה כְּרָבִים: 32 וְנֵתַתָּה אֹתָה עַל־אַרְבָּעָה עַמּוֹדֵי שִׁמִּים מְצַפִּים זְלָב ווִיהֶם זְהָב עַל־אַרְבָּעָה אַרְנִי־בֶּסֶף:

יַתְבָּי דְהַבָּא הָתְפֵּי דַהְבָּא אַתְרָא לְעַבְּה דְּהַבָּא הַתְפֵּי דַהְבָּא אַתְרָא לְעַבְּה לְעַבְּה בְּהִלְּכְתָה לְעַבְּרָיָא וְתַחֲפֵי יַת עַבְּרָיָא דְּהַבְּא: 30 וּתְקֵים יַת מִשְׁבְּנָא בְּהִלְכְתָה דִּי אִתְחֲזִיתָא בְּטוּרָא: 31 וְתַעְבֵּד דִּי אִתְחֲזִיתָא בְּטוּרָא: 31 וְתַעְבֵּד בִּי אִתְחֲזִיתָא בְּטוּרָא: 31 וְתַעְבֵּד בְּעַבְּע וְבִרָּא וִבְּרָתָא הִכְּלָא וְאַרְגְּוָנָא וּצְבַע וְהוֹרִי וּבוּץ שְׁזִיר עוֹבַד אָמָן יִעְבָּיר וְהוֹרִי וּבוּץ שְׁזִיר עוֹבַד אָמָן יִעְבָּיר

-® ONKELOS 🗷-

יַתָה צוּרַת כְּרוּבִין: 32 וְתָהֵן יְחַהְּן עַל אַרְבְּעָה עַמּוּדֵי שִׁטִּין מְחַפָּן

ַדְהַבָּא וָוֵיהוֹן דַּהֲבָא עַל אַרְבְּעָה

-છ RASHI છ3∙

29 **בָּתִּים לַבָּרִיחִם.** הַטַּבָּעוֹת שֶׁתַּעֲשֵׂה בָּהֶן, יִהִיוּ בָּתִּים לְהַכִנִיס בָּהֶן הַבִּּרִיחִים: וְ**צִפִּיתִ אֵת״ הַבִּרִיחִם זָהָב.** לא שָׁהָיָה הַזָּהָב מִדֻבָּק עַל הַבְּרִיחִים, שָׁאֵין עֲלֵיהֶם שׁוּם צָפּוּי, אֶלְא בַּקֶּרֶשׁ הָיָה קוֹבֵעַ כִּמִין שָׁנֵי פִיפִּיּוֹת שֶׁל זְהָב, בָּמִין שָׁנֵי סִדְקֵי קָנֶה חָלוּל, וְקוֹבְעֶן אֵצֶל הַטַּבָּעוֹת לְכָאן ּוֹלְכָאן. אָרְכָּן מִמַלֵּא אֶת רוֹחַב הַקֶּרֶשׁ מִן הַטַּבַּעַת לְּכָאן, וּמִמֶּנָה לְּכָאן, וְהַבִּרִיחַ נִכְנָס לְתוֹכוֹ, וּמִמֶּנוּ לַטַבַּעַת, וּמִן ַהַטַּבַעַת לַפֶּה הַשַּׁנִי. נִמְצָאוּ הַבְּרִיחִים מְצֻפִּים זְהָב כְּשֶׁהַן תָּחוּבִין בַּקְרַשִׁים. וְהַבִּרִיחִים הַלֶּלוּ מִבַּחוּץ הָיוּ בּוֹלְטוֹת, וְהַטַּבָּעוֹת וְהַפִּיפִיּוֹת לֹא הָיוּ נִרְאוֹת בְּתוֹךְ הַמִּשְׁכָּן, אֶלֶא בָּל־הַבֹּתֶל חָלֶק מִבִּפְנִים: 30 **וַהֲקַמֹרָ אֶת־הַמִּשְׁבָּן.** לְאַחַר שָׁיִגְּמֵר הֲקִימֵהוּ: **הָרְאֵיתִ בְּהָר.** קֹדֶם לָכֵן, שֶׁאֲנִי עָתִיד לְלַמֶּדְרָ וּלְהַרְאוֹתְרָ סֵדֶר הֲקָמָתוֹ: 31 **פָּרֹבֶת.** לְשׁוֹן מְחִיצָה הוא. וּבִלְשׁוֹן חֲכָמִים ״פַּרְגוֹד״ — דְּבָר הַמַּבְדִּיל בֵּין הַמֶּלֶךְ וּבֵין הָעָם: תְּבֵלֶת וְאַרְגָּמָן. כָּל־מִין וּמִין הָיָה כָּפוּל בְּכָל־ חוּט וְחוּט שִׁשְׁה חוּטִין: **מַעֲשֹה חֹשֵב.** כְּבָר פֵּרִשְׁתִּי שׁוּוֹ הָיא אֲרִיגָה שֶׁל שְׁתֵּי קִירוֹת, וְהַצִּיּוּרִין שֶׁמִּשְׁנֵי עֲבָּרֶיהָ אַינָן דּוֹמִין זֶה לָזֶה: **בְּרָבִּים.** צִיּוּרִין שֶׁל בְּרִיּוֹת יַעֲשֶׂה בָּה: 32 **אַרְבָּעָה עַמּוּדִי.** תִּקוּעִים בִּתוֹךְ אַרְבָּעָה אֲדְנִים,

וְאַנְקְלִיּוֹת קְבּנּעִין בָּהָן עֲקוּמִין לְמַעְלָה, לְהוֹשִׁיב עֲלֵיהֶן בְּלוֹנְס שֶׁרֹאשׁ הַפְּרֹכֶת כָּרוּךְ בָּה. וְהָאַנְקְלִיּוֹת הֵן הַוָּוִין, שְׁהַבּי בְּּמִין וְוִין הֵן עֲשׁוּיִים. וְהַפְּרֹכֶת אָרְבָּה עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת לְּרָהְבּוֹ שֶׁל קְרְשִׁים, לְרְחְבּוֹ שֶׁל מְּשְׁרִישׁית שֶׁל מִשְׁבְּן, שֻׁיְהֵא הֵימֶנָּה וְלִפְנִים עָשֶׂר בְּמּוֹת, וְהַיֶּכֶנְּה וְלַפְנִים עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת, וְהַיֶּכֶנְּה וְלַפְנִים עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת, וְהַיֶּכֶנְּה וְלַחִּוּץ עֲשְׂרִים אַמְּה. נִמְצְא, בֵּית קְּרְשֵׁי הַאֲמוֹת, וְהֵיכֶנְנְּה וְלַחִּיץ עֲשְׂרִים אַמְּה. נִמְצְא, בִּית קְּרְשֵׁי הַמֵּלְבָּח עָשֶׂר עַל עָשֶׂר, שְׁבּרִים אֶת שְׁתֵּי חוֹבְרוֹת שֶׁל יִישוֹת הַמְּשְׁבְּן. רוֹחַב הַחוֹבֶרֶת עֲשְׂרִים אַמְה וּכְשֶׁבְּרְשְׁה וּכְשֶׁבְּרִשְׁה יִיִיעוֹת הַמִּשְׁבְּן. רוֹחַב הַחוֹבֶרֶת עֲשְׂרִים אַמְה וּכְשֶׁבְּרְשִׁה

סַמְבִין דַבְסָף:

עַל גַּג הַמִּשְׁבָּן מִן הַפֶּתַח לַמְּעָרָב, בְּלְתָה בִּשְׁנֵי שְׁלִישׁי הַמִּשְׁבָּן. רְהַחוֹבֶרֶת הַשִּׁינִית בִּשְׁבָן, וְהַמּוֹתָר תָּלוּי לַאֲחוֹרָיו לְבַסוֹת אֶת

הַקְּרָשִׁים:

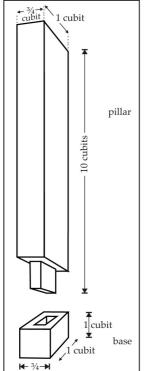


Figure 29: The pillars for the Curtain

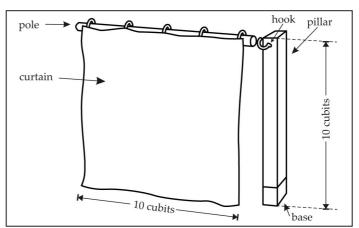


Figure 30: The Curtain hanging on the pole

29 **You shall** have the artisans **overlay the planks with gold.** The half-length crossbars, unlike the full-length crossbar, will be affixed to the planks externally, on the outside perimeter of the walls: **You shall** have the artisans **make gold rings for** the planks, affixed to their outer surface, **to hold the** half-length **crossbars** at the correct height, and gold half-tubes to cover the crossbars over the rest of the width

of the planks, and thereby the artisans will, in effect, overlay the crossbars with gold (see Figure 28). Since all the crossbars will be either inside the planks or on their outside surface, none of them will be visible from the inside of the Tabernacle.

30 When you erect the Tabernacle for the purpose of installing the priests in their service, you may be assisted by others. When, however, it is time to erect the Tabernacle for its ongoing use, ⁹⁴ you shall erect the Tabernacle in its proper

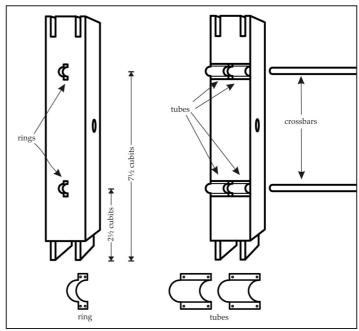


Figure 28: The rings and tubes for the half-length crossbars

order yourself,95 as you will have been shown by Me on the mountain."

The Curtain

- ◆ Fifth Reading 31 God then instructed Moses how to divide the inside of the Tabernacle into two chambers. "You shall have the artisan make a partitioning% Curtain woven out of the same material as the lower cover of the Tabernacle: threads composed of six strands each of turquoise, purple, and scarlet wool, and twined linen. Just like that cover, he shall make it with a woven design of cherubim having the appearance of eagles on one side and lions on the other. The Curtain will be ten cubits tall, ten cubits wide, and a handbreadth thick.97
 - 32 You shall have them hang it on four acacia pillars, each of which will be ten cubits tall, one cubit thick, and three quarters of a cubit wide. These pillars will be overlaid with gold and will be equipped with hooks of gold. Have the artisans whittle the bottom of each pillar so as to leave one tenon, one cubit long, half a cubit wide, and a quarter of a cubit broad, just like the tenons of the Tabernacle planks. By means of these tenons, the four pillars will be set in four bases of silver, each of which will have the same form and dimensions as the bases under the planks of the Tabernacle (see Figure 29). They shall suspend the Curtain from a horizontal pole that rests on the hooks that project out of the four pillars (see Figure 30).

^{94.} Likutei Sichot, vol. 12, p. 58 ff, vol. 31, pp. 220-221. 95. Likutei Sichot, vol. 11, p. 183. 96. Likutei Sichot, vol. 36, p. 140, footnote 39. 97. Midrash Tanchuma, Vayakheil 6 (regarding the Curtain's thickness). 98. Ma'aseh Chosheiv. 99. Ma'aseh Chosheiv.

33 וְתִּתֵּן יַת פָּרֻכְהָא הְּחוֹת פּוּרְפַּיָּא וְתָעֵיל תַּמָּן מִגָּו לְפָּרַכְתָּא

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פּוּרְפַיָּא וְתָעֵיל תַּפָּון מִגָּו לְפָּרַבְתָּא יַת אֲרוֹנָא דְסַהֲדִּיתָא וְתַפְּרְשׁ פָּרָבְתָא לְכוֹן בֵּין קְדְשָׁא וּבֵין קֹדְשׁ אֵרוֹנָא דְסַהֵדוּתָא בְּקֹדָשׁ קִדִּשָּׁיִא: אֵרוֹנָא דִסְהֵדוּתָא בִּקֹדָשׁ קִדִּשִּׁיָא: 33 וְגַתַתָּה אֶת־הַפְּרֹכֶת תַּחַת הַקְּרָסִים וְהַבֵּאתְ שָּׁפְּהֹ מִבֵּית לַפְּרֹכֶת אֵת אֲרָוֹן הֲעֻדִּוּת וְהִבְּדִּילֶה הַפְּרֹכֶת לָכֶּם בֵּין הַלֶּדֶשׁ וּבֵין לֵדֶשׁ הַקָּדְשִׁים: 34 וְנֻתַתְּ אֶת־הַכַּפּּׁרֶת עַל אַרוֹן הַעָּדֶת בִּלְּדָשׁ הַקָּדְשִׁים:

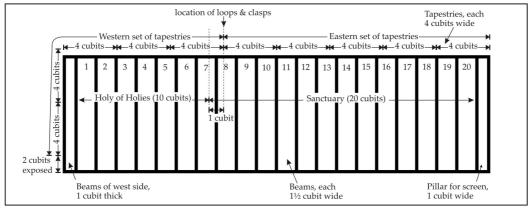


Figure 31: The position of the curtain under the tapestries — side view

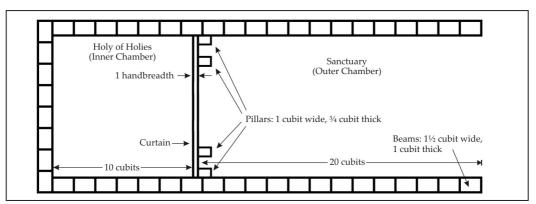


Figure 32a: The outer and inner chambers of the Tabernacle — top view

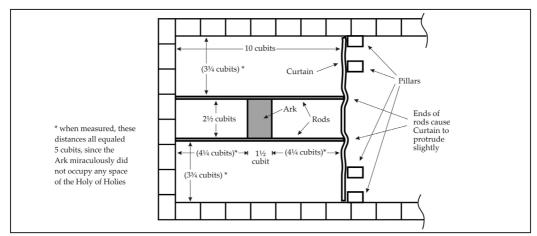


Figure 33: The Ark in the Holy of Holies

- 33 You shall have them position the Curtain one cubit west of the point directly under the clasps that couple the two sets of lower tapestries, that is, ten cubits from the west wall (see Figure 31). There, on the inner side of the Curtain, you shall bring the Ark of Testimony. The Curtain will thus separate for you between the outer chamber of the Tabernacle, known as the Sanctuary, and its inner chamber, the Holy of Holies (see Figure 32ab).
- 34 You shall then have them place the Cover on the Ark of Testimony, in the Holy of Holies. The Ark and its Cover are to be the only furnishings in the Holy of Holies (see Figure 33).

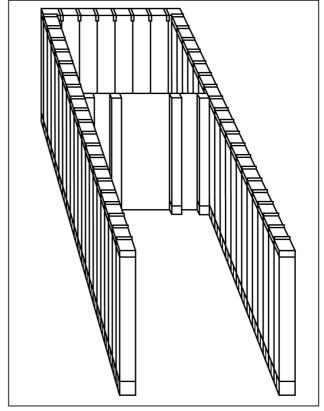


Figure 32b: The outer and inner chambers of the Tabernacle — perspective

−& CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ-

33 The Curtain will separate for you between the Sanctuary and the Holy of Holies: As will be explained further on, the Courtyard signifies the preliminary stage in our spiritual development, in which we work on renouncing and sublimating our animal nature. This is the basic prerequisite to spiritual growth. In contrast, the Tabernacle proper signifies the next stage of spiritual growth, in which we set about actively achieving Divine consciousness. We enter the Tabernacle's outer chamber in order to begin to orient our consciousness towards Divinity, and thereby align ourselves with our Divine soul.

Although both the animal soul and the Divine soul comprise both intellectual and emotional attributes, the Divine soul is primarily governed by its intellect while the animal soul is primarily governed by its emotions. Therefore, as was explained above, 100 the three furnishings found in the outer chamber signify the three facets of the intellect. By focusing our intellect on God—studying and meditating upon His essence, His self-manifestation in creation, and His will

as He has revealed it to us in the Torah—we can indeed transform our lives into Godly lives and identify fully with our Divine selves.

But this is still not the ultimate level available to us. Once we have realigned our consciousness with that of our Divine soul, we can proceed to the next rung of consciousness, the supra-rational. The intellect is indeed a powerful tool, but even the intellect of the Divine soul is limited to *intellectual* experience.

Transcendent Divine experience is the consciousness of the inner chamber of the Tabernacle and the Ark contained within it.¹⁰¹ The area of the inner chamber was ten cubits square and (like the rest of the Tabernacle) ten cubits high. Inasmuch as the number ten signifies the complete array of all ten *sefirot* and/or soul-powers, ten cubed signifies this complete array as manifest in all facets (i.e., dimensions) of our consciousness or reality.¹⁰² At this level, we and our ten soul-powers are totally engulfed in Divine consciousness. We have reached the level described in the liturgy¹⁰³ as being "one with Your Oneness."¹⁰⁴

^{100.} On 25:23 and 25:31. 101. See above, on 25:10. 102. See Sefer HaArachim - Chabad, Ma'arechet Otiot HaTorah, Alef, pp. 89 ff, p. 96, p. 108. 103. Hosha'anot for the third day of Sukot. 104. Reshimot 108.

זִּלֶב וְוִיהֶם זָהֶב וְיֵצַקְתָּ לָהֶם חֲמִשֶּׁה אַרְגִי וְהְשֶׁלְחָן תִּל צָלֵע הַמִּשְׁכֶּן תִּמְנָה וְהַשֵּׁלְחָן תִּתְּ זַלְבֹּע צִפְּוֹן: 36 וְעָשִּׁית מְסָךְ לְפָּתַח הָאֹהֶל הְבֵּלֶע זַלְבְעָע צִפְּוֹן: 36 וְעָשִּׁית מְסִרְּ לְפָּתַח הָאֹהֶל הְבֵּלֶע זַלְב וְנִיהֶם זָהֶב וְיֵצַקְתָּ לָהֶם חֲמִשֶּׁה אַרְגִי וְחְשֶׁת: ם זַלְב וְוִיהֶם זָהֶב וְיֵצַקְתָּ לָהֶם חֲמִשֶּׁה אַרְגִי וְחְשֶׁת: ם

אינישל לינוים אינים פּתוֹנְים אינים פּתוֹנְים פּתוֹנְים פּתוֹנְים פָּתוֹנְים פָּתוֹנְים פָּתוֹנְים פָּתוֹנְים פְּתוֹנְים פְּתִים פְּתוֹנְים פְּתִים פְּתִים פְּתִים פְּתִים פְּתִים פְּתִים פְּתִים פַּתְים פּתְים פּתְיּתְים פּתְיּתְיּתְיּתְיּים פּתְיּתְיּתְיּתְיּתְי



35 וְשַּׁמְתָּ אֶת־הַשֻּׁלְּחָן. שֻׁלְחָן בַּצְפּוֹן מְשׁוּךְ מִן הַכּּעָל הַבְּבוֹן יְשׁוּךְ מִן הַכּעָל הַבְּבוֹי שְׁמֵּי אַמּוֹת וּמֶחֱצָה, וּמְנוֹרָה בַּדְּרוֹם מְשׁוּכָה מִן הַבְּבוֹי שְׁמֵּי אַמּוֹת וּמֶחֱצָה, וּמְנוֹרָה בַּדְרוֹם מְשׁוּכָה מִן הַבּּעָל הַּדְּרוֹמִי שְׁמֵּי אַמּוֹת וּמֶחֱצָה, וּמִוְבָּח הַוְּהָב נְתוּן בְּנָגֶּד אֲמִיר שָׁבִּי הַמִּישְׁכָּן וְלְפָנִים. בֵּיצִד? אֶרְךְּ הַמִּשְׁכָן מִן הַבְּעוֹיך מְשְׁרִם אַמָּה, הַמִּוְבָּח וַהַשְּׁלְחְן וְהַמְּנוֹיְה הַפְּתַח לַפָּר הַמְן הְצָד מַעֲרָב עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת: 36 וְעְשִׂיתְ מִסְּף. וְיִלּוֹן וְהַמְּנוֹיְה הָפָתח לְצָד מֵעְרָב עָשֶׂר אַמּוֹת: 16 וְעִשִּׂיתְ מִסְף. מִיּנְר הַבְּעָרוֹן שָׁרְּבּוֹן מִן הַשְּׁבְּת הַבְּבוּח הְשָׁלְחוֹן וְהַמְּנוֹיְה מְטִר, שָׁה הַבְּבוּ הַצְּיִה הַבְּבוּוֹי שִׁלְשִׁר בְּבִּרוֹת שְׁלִיוֹן בְּבִּוּת הַבְּרְצוּף שָׁל עַבֶּר זָה. רְקָם. שֵׁם הָאָמְן וְלֹא שֵׁל עַבֶּר זָה בְּּרְצוּף שָׁל עַבֶר זָה בְּבְרצוּף שָׁל עַבֶּר זָה בְּבְּר בִּיְרִים אָשְׁר בְּמִבְּר בְּיִרְים שְּשִׁית הַבְּרְבוּף שָׁל עַבֶּר זָח. רְבָּם הַאַמְּוֹן וְלֹא שִׁר מִבְּר בִּנְיִר וְתִּבְּר בִּיְרִים אָשְׁר בְּמִבְּר הַבְּבִּיוֹם הַשְׁלְּחוֹן וְהַבְּנוֹן הִישְׁרְת שְׁלִיוֹן בְּבִּיוֹם הְעִשְׁר בְּבִּיוֹם הַשְׁבְּים הְשִׁבְּיוֹן בְּבִּיוֹם מְעִבְּר הַבְּבּוֹים הְעִשְׁר בְּבִים בְּבִּיוֹם הְשִׁבְּיוֹל בְּבִיוֹם בְּיִּבְּיף שִׁלְּיִם בְּבִּיוֹי שְׁבְּבוֹים הְשִׁבְּבוּיף שָׁל עַבֶּר זִייְר בְּיִר בְּמִיבְית מִן הְבִּבְּיר הַבְּבוֹים הְשִׁבּים בְּיִים בְּבִּשְׁים בְּבְּיוֹם בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּבִּיוּ בְּבִּיוֹם הְעָבִיף הַיּבּיף בְּיִבּיף בְּיִים מִּיְּבּים בְּיִים בְּבִּיוֹים בְּיִים בְּבִּיוֹם בְּבִּיוֹם בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיוֹם בְּבִּיוֹם בְּיבּיוּם בְּיִים בְּבִיוֹים בְּבִיוֹים בְּיִים בְּבְּבוֹים בְּבִּבוּים בְּבְּבוּים בְּיִים בְּבִּיוֹם בְּבּבוּים בְּבִיוֹים בְּבִּיוֹם בְּבּיוֹם בְּבִיוֹים בְּבִּיוּם בְּיוֹבְם בְּבוֹים בְּיוֹם בְּיִּבְים בְּיוֹם בְּבִיוֹים בְּיוֹם בְּיבּבּיוֹם בְּיִים בְּבִיוֹים בְּיוֹים בְּיבְיּבְיוֹם בְּיִיבְיוּים בְּיוּבְיים בְּיִיבְייִבְּיוּים בְּיבְּיוּים בְּבְּיוֹים בְּבְּיוֹים בְּיוֹים בְּיוֹבְיים בְּיוֹים בְּעִיי

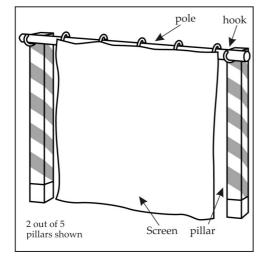


Figure 36a: The Screen — perspective

.70 איוב א, י.

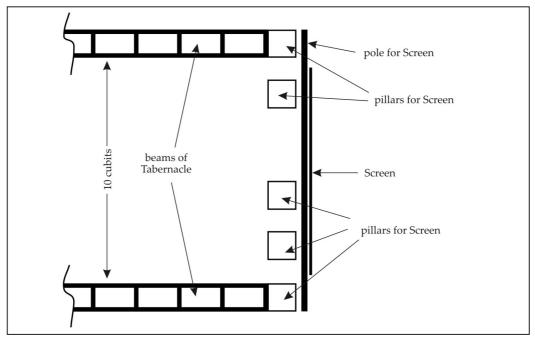


Figure 36b: The Screen - top view

35 You shall have them place the Table outside the Curtain, and the Candelabrum opposite the Table on the south side of the Tabernacle, two and a half cubits from the south wall, and you shall have them place the Table on the north side, two and a half cubits from the north wall. There will be a third article in the outer chamber as well—the Golden Altar, on which the incense will be burned—but the directions for its construction will be given later¹⁰⁵ (see Figure 34).

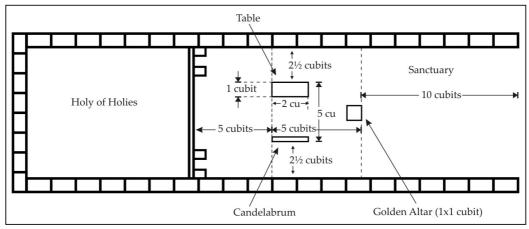


Figure 34: The furnishings in the Sanctuary

The Screen

36 You shall have them make a Screen for the entrance of the Tent, i.e., of the Tab-

ernacle, out of the same material as the Curtain: threads composed of six strands each of **turquoise**, **purple**, **and scarlet** wool, **and twined linen**. Have them **embroider** it—not weave it—with figures of eagles and lions, the same figures appearing on both sides of the cloth. The Screen, like the Curtain, shall be ten cubits tall and ten cubits wide.

37 You shall have the artisans make five acacia pillars for the Screen: The Screen will be suspended from a horizontal pole that will rest on hooks projecting from the pillars. These pillars shall be ten cubits tall, one cubit wide, and one cubit thick. 106 You shall have them overlay these pillars and their tops 107 with gold and affix decorative, gold-overlaid bands around them. 108 Equip the pillars with their hooks, which shall also be of gold. Have the artisans whittle the bottom of each pillar so as to leave a tenon one cubit long. You shall have the artisans cast five copper bases for them, one cubit tall, one cubit wide, and one cubit thick (see Figure 35 and Figures 36a and b)."

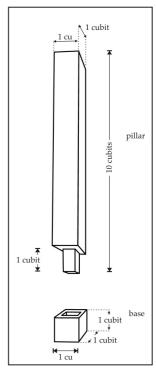


Figure 35: The pillars for the Screen

^{105.} Below, 30:1-6. 106. Rashi on 26:5, above; *Yalkut Shimoni*, *Pekudei* 422. 107. Below, 36:38. 108. Ibid.

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ית מַדְבָּחָא דְּאָעֵי זְיָת מַדְבְּחָא דְּאָעֵי זְיָתְיָא מְרַבָּע יְהֵי מִדְבְּחָא אָמִין אַרְכָּא וְחָמֵשׁ אַמִּין אַרְכָּא וְחָמֵשׁ וּתְלַת אַמִּין בּוֹמָה: 2 וְתַעְבָּיִד קּרְנוֹהִי עַל אַרְבַּע וְיְיָתה מִבָּה יֶהֶוְיָן קַרנוֹהִי וְתָחַפֵּי יָתָה נָחָשָׁא:

שישי 27:1 וְעָשִּׂיתָ אֶת־הַמִּוְבֶּחַ עֲצֵי שִׁשִּׁים חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת אֹבֶרְ וְהָשֶׁים הָמִשׁ אַמּוֹת אֹבֶרְ וְהָשֶׁים הָמִשׁ אַמְּוֹת הֹחַב רְבָּוּעַ יִהְיֶה הַמִּוְבֵּח וְשָּׁלְשׁ אַמְּוֹת קְמָּנוּ בּוְרָנֹתִיו עָל אַרְבַּע פִּנֹתְיו מִמֶּנוּ מִקּנוּ הַתְּיֵּת בְּרָנֹתִיו וְצָפִּיתַ אֹתוֹ נְחָשֵׁת:

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מְקַנֵּים ״וְשָׁלֹשׁ אַמּוֹת קֹמְתוֹ״? מִשְׂפַת סוֹבֵב וּלְמִעְלָה: מְמֶנּוּ תִּהְיָּיןְ קַרְנֹתִיוּ, שֶׁלֹא יַעֲשֵׂם לְבַדָּם, וִיחַבְּרַם בּוֹ: וְצְשֵׂם לְבַדָּם, שְׁנָאֻמַר: יְנִשְׁת מֵצַח, שֶׁנֶּאֻמַר: ״נְּמִצְחַה בוּנִישָׁת. לְכַפֵּר עַל עַזּוּת מֵצַח, שֶׁנֶּאֻמַר: ״נְמִצְחַה בּוֹנִישׁת.

וּ וְעָשִׂיתָ אֶת־הַמִּוְבָּחַ וְגוֹ׳ וְשָׁלֹשׁ אַמּוֹת לְּמָתוֹ. דְּכָרִים בְּכְּרִים בְּכְּרִים בְּבִּי יוֹטֵי אוֹמֵר: נָאֶמַר בָּאוֹ ״ִרְבוּעִ״י״, מְה־לְּהַלְּן גְּבְהוֹ פִּי ״ִרְבוּעַ״י״, מַה־לְהַלְן גְּבְהוֹ פִּי ״ִרְבוּעַ״י״, מַה־לְהַלְן גִּבְהוֹ פִּי שָׁנַיִם בָּאָרָבּוֹ, אַף בָּאוֹ גָּבִיּהוֹ פִּי שָׁנַיִם בָּאָרָבּוֹ. וּמָה אַנִּי שָׁנַיִם בְּאָרָבּוֹ. וּמָה אַנִּי

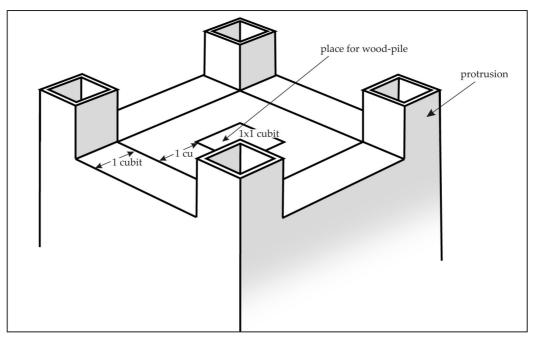


Figure 37b: The copper Altar - top view

-∞ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ-

slaughter—i.e., renounce—our animalistic orientation toward life. Sprinkling the blood and placing the fat of the slaughtered animal on the Altar alludes to how we re-orient our enthusiasm (warm blood) and sense of delight (fat) to Godliness. Burning the animal by fire on the Altar alludes to the consumption of our animal nature by Divinity.

The Altar for animal sacrifices was situated outside

the Tabernacle itself, in the Courtyard, indicating that sublimation of the animal nature is prerequisite to entrance into the realm of holiness and Divine consciousness embodied in the Tabernacle itself.¹¹¹ When we enter the Tabernacle, we encounter the three furnishings that allude to the process of rectifying the three components of our intellect: the Candelabrum, signifying *chochmah*;¹¹² the Table, signifying *binah*,¹¹³ and the Inner Altar, signifying *da'at* and *keter*.¹¹⁴

^{111.} Reshimot 108. 112. See above, on 25:31. 113. See above, on 25:23. 114. See below, on 30:1.

The Outer Altar

- ♦ Sixth Reading 27:1 God then instructed Moses concerning the furnishings outside the Tabernacle, in the Courtyard. "You shall have the artisans make the Outer Altar out of panels of acacia wood, assembled into a hollow box five cubits long and five cubits wide—the Altar shall be square—and ten cubits tall. It will be three cubits high above its Border, as will be described presently.
 - 2 You shall have them make protrusions for it on the top, at its four corners, the protrusions being of one piece with it. The protrusions will each be one cubit tall, one cubit long, and one cubit wide. The space between these protrusions, plus an additional cubit inward, will serve as space for the priests to walk on the top of

the Altar when they burn the offerings. This will leave one square cubit in the center of the Altar's top for the woodpile (see Figure 37).¹⁰⁹ Although most of the other furnishings of the Tabernacle are to be overlaid with gold, you shall overlay this Altar **with copper.** This is because the word for "copper" (nechoshet) is similar to the word for "stubbornness" (nachush),110 and the sacrifices offered on this altar atone inadvertent sins. which a person generally commits as a result of his stubborn deference to the animal side of his personality.

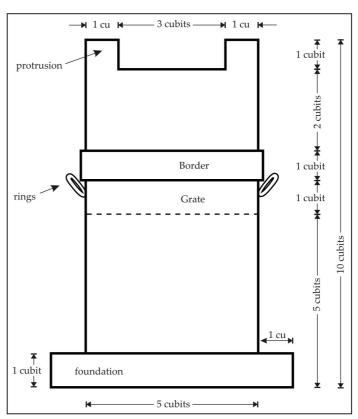


Figure 37a: The copper Altar - side view

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1 You shall make the Altar: The Outer Altar was used for offering animal sacrifices. Animal sacrifices allude to the sublimation of our animal soul. Three types of animals could be offered on the Altar—oxen, sheep, and goats. These allude to the three varieties of animal soul: The ox corresponds to the confrontational type, who is always seeking to oppose the directives of the

Divine soul. The sheep corresponds to the conformisttype, who follows the crowd and is too weak to assert his Divine nature if it entails going against the tide. The goat corresponds to the stubborn type, who brazenly refuses to budge from the preconceived notions inculcated into him by his animal soul.

Slaughtering the animal alludes, of course, to how we

זְעְשֵׂיתָ פְּירֹתִיוֹ לְדַשְּׂנוֹ וְיָעִיוֹ וּמִוְרְכֹּלְיוֹ וּמִוְלְנֹתֵיוֹ
 זְעֲשֵׂיתָ לְכָל־כֵּלֶיוֹ תַּעֲשֶׂה נְחְשֶׁת: 4 וְעְשֵׂיתָ לֹוֹ מִכְבֶּר מִבְּעַתְ מַבְּעַתְ מַבְּעַתְ מַלְּהַתְּ תַּלְּהַ תַּחַת בַּרְכָּב מַבְּעַתְ בַּרְכָּב מַבְּעָת עֵר חֲצִי הַמִּוֹבְחַ: 5 וְנָתַתְּה מִלְה תַּחַת בַּרְכָּב מַבְּעָת עֵר חֲצִי הַמִּוֹבְחַ: 6 וְעָשֵׂיתָ בַּדִים לַמִּוְבָּחַ בַּדֵּי עֲצֵי שִׁמֶים וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתֶם
 זְעְשֵׂיתָ בַּדִּים לַמִּוְבָּחַ בַּדֵּי עֲצֵי שִׁמֶים וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתֶם נְחְשֵׁת:

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3 **סִירֹתָיו.** כְּמִין יוֹרוֹת: לְדַשְׁנוֹ. לְהָסִיר דִּשְׁנוֹ לְתוֹכָם, וְהוּא שֶׁתִּרְגֵּם אוּנְקְלוֹס: "לְמִסְפֵּי קִטְמֵהּ" — לְסְפּוֹת הַדֶּשֶׁן לְתוֹכָם. כִּי יֵשׁ מִלּוֹת בְּלְשׁוֹן עִבְרִית, מִלְּה אַחַת מִתְחַלֶּפֶת בְּפִתְרוֹן לְשַׁמֵשׁ בִּנְיָן וּסְתִירָה, כְּמוֹ: ״וַתַּשְׁרֵשׁ שָׁרָשֶׁיהָ״״, ״אָוִיל מַשְׁרִישׁ״״״. וְחִלּוּפּוֹ: ״וּבְכָל־ ּהְבוּאָתִי תְשָׁרֵשׁ״־״. וְכָמוֹהוּ: ״בִּסְעָפֶיהָ פּׂרִיָּה״״. וְחִלּוּפוֹ: יְוֶדּה יִינְתה פָּאַרָה יִינְה מְפַשַּׁחַ אָרָה יִינְה פַּאַרָה יִינְתה מְפַשַּׁחַ יִּכְמוֹהוּ: יְוְזֶה יִינְתָ ָהָאַחֲרוֹן עִצְּמוֹ״ - שָׁבַר עֲצְמוֹתָיו, וּכָמוֹהוּ: ״וַיִּסְקְלֻהוּ – הָאַחֲרוֹן עִצְמוֹי״. בָאַבָנִים"⁷⁷, וְחִלּוּפוֹ: "סַקּלוּ מֵאֶבֶן" פּ – הָסִירוּ אֲבָנֶיהָ, ּוְכֵן ״וַיְעַזְּקֵהוּ וַיְסַקְּלֵהוּ״יּ³, אַף כָּאן: ״לְדִשְׁנוֹ״ — לְהָסִיר ּדִשְׁנוֹ. וּבְלַעֵז אישצינדרי״ר²: **וְיָעָיוֹ.** כְּתַרְגּוּמוֹ, מַגְרֵפוֹת שָׁנוֹטֵל בָּהֶם הַדֶּשֶׁן, וְהֵן כִּמִין כִּסוּי הַקְּדַרָה שֶׁל מַתֶּכֶת ַדַּק וְלוֹ בֵּית יָד. וּבְלַעַז ודי״ל ּנּ: **וּמִזְרְקֹתָיוּ.** לְקַבֵּל בָּהֶם דַּם הַזְּבָחִים: **וּמִזְלְגֹתִיוּ.** כְּמִין אַנְקָלִיּוֹת כְּפוּפִים, וּמֵכֶּה בָהֶם בַּבָּשָׂר וְנִתְחָבִים בּוֹ, וּמִתְהַפְּכִין בָּהֶן עַל גַּחֲלֵי הַמַּעֲרָכָה, שֶׁיְהֵא מְמַהֵר שְׂרַפָּתָן. וּבְלַעֵז קרוצינ״ש'ּיּ. וּבִלְשׁוֹן חֲכָמִים: "צִנּוֹרִיּוֹת": וּמַחְתֹּתִיוּ. בֵּית קבּוּל יֵשׁ לָהֶם, לִטֹל בָּהֶן גֶּחָלִים מִן הַמִּזְבֵּחַ, לְשֵׂאתָם עַל מִזְבַּחַ הַפְּנִימִי לַקְטֹרֶת. וְעַל־שֵׁם חֲתִיָּתָן קְרוּיִים ״מֵחְתּוֹת״, כְּמוֹ: ״לַקְתּוֹת אֵשׁ מִיֶּקוּד״⁵⁵, לְשׁוֹן שְׁאִיבַת אֵשׁ מִמְּקוֹמָהּ, וְבֵן ״הֲיַחְתֶּה אִישׁ אֵשׁ בְּחֵיקוֹ״ۥ׃ **לְבֶּל־בֵּלִיוּ.** בְּמוֹ ״בָּל־בֵּלָיו״: **4 מִבְבָּר.** לִשׁוֹן כִּבָּרָה שֶׁקּוֹרִין קריבל״א, כִּמִין לְבוּשׁ עשוּי לוֹ לַמִּוְבֵּחַ עָשׁוּי חוֹרִין חוֹרִין כְּמִין רֶשֶׁת. וּמִקְרָא ֶזֶה מְסֹרֶס, וְכֹה פִּתְרוֹנוֹ: וְעָשִׂיתָ לוֹ מִכְבַּר נְחֹשֶׁת מַעֲשֵׂה ֶרֶשֶׁת: 5 בַּּרְבֹּב הַמִּוְבַחַ. סוֹבֵב. כָּל־דְּבָר הַמַּקִיף סְבִיב ּבְּעִגוּל, קָרוּי ״בַּרבּב״, בְּמוֹ שֶׁשָּׁנִינוּ בְּ״הַכֵּל שׁוֹחֲטִין״יּּ אַלוּ הֵן גּוֹלְמֵי כְּלֵי עֵץ, כָּל־שֶׁעָתִיד לְשׁוּף וּלְכַרְכֵּב. ָוָהוּא כָּמוֹ שֶׁעוֹשִׂין חֲרִיצִין עֲגוּלִין בִּקַרִשֵׁי דְּפְנֵי הַתֵּבוֹת ּוְסַפְּסֶלֵי הָעֵץ. אַף לַמִּזְבֵּחַ עָשָׂה חָרִיץ סִבִּיבוֹ, וְהָיָה רָחִבּוֹ

אַמָּה בְּדָפְנוֹ לְנוֹי, וְהוּא לְסוֹף שֵׁשׁ אַמּוֹת שֶׁל גָּבְהוֹ, בְּדִבְרֵי הָאוֹמֵר גָּבְהוֹ פִּי שְׁנַיִם כְּאָרְכּוֹ. הָא, מָה אֲנִי מְקַיֵּם ״וְשָׁלֹשׁ אַמּוֹת לְמָתוֹ״״ּ מִשְּׁפַת סוֹבֵב וּלְמַעְלְה. אֲבָל ״סוֹבֵב״ לְהִלּוּךְ הַכֹּהֲנִים, לֹא הָיָה לְמִזְבַּח הַנְּחֹשֶׁת, אֶלֶּא עַל רֹאשׁוֹ לִפְנִים מִקַּרְנוֹתָיו. וְכֵן שָׁנִינוּ בִּזְבָחִים ּ״ּ: אֵיזֶהוּ כַּרְכַּב? בֵּין קֶרֶן לְקֶרֶן, וְהָיָה רוֹחַב אַמָה, וְלִפְנִים מֶהֶן אַמָּה שֶׁל הִלּוּךְ רַגְלֵי הַכֹּהְנִים, שְׁתֵּי אַמּוֹת הַלְּלוּ קְרוּיִים ״בַּרְכּב״. וְדִקְדַּקְנוּ שָׁם: וְהָכְּתִיב: ״תַּחַת כַּרְכּבׁ הַמִּזְבֵּחַ מִלְּמָשָה", לָמַדְנוּ שֶׁהַבַּרְכֹּב בְּדָפְנוֹ הוּא, וּלְבוּשׁ הַמִּכְבָּר תַּחְתָּיו? וְתַרַץ הַמְתָרֵץ: תְּרֵי הֲווֹ: חַד לְנוֹי, וְחַד לַכּהֲנִים דְּלָא יִשְׂתָּרְגוּ. זֶה שֶׁבַּדּפֶן לְנוֹי הָיָה, וּמִתַּחְתִּיו הַלְבִּישׁוּ הַמִּכְבָּר, וְהִגִּיעַ רְחָבּוֹ עֵד חֲצִי הַמִּוְבֵּחַ. נִמְצָא שֶׁהַמִּכְבָּר רָחָב אַמָּה, וְהוּא הָיָה סִימָן לַחֲצִי גָבְהוֹ, לְהַבְּדִּיל בֵּין דָּמִים הָעֶלְיוֹנִים לַדָּמִים הַתַּחְתוֹנִים. וּרְנֶגְדּוֹ עָשׁוּ לְמִזְבַּח בֵּית עוֹלָמִים, דוּגְמַת חוּט הַסִּקְרָא ּבְּאֶמְצָעוֹ. וְכֶבֶשׁ שֶׁהָיוּ עוֹלִין בּוֹ, אַף־עַל־פִּי שֶׁלֹא פַּרְשׁוּ רַעָּעֶן זָה, כְּבָר שָׁמַעְנוּ בְּפָרשַׁת: ״מִוְבַּח אֲדָמָה תַּעֲשֶׂה־בְּענִין זָה, כְּבָר שָׁמַעְנוּ בְּפָרשַׁת: ּלִי...לא־תַעֲלֶה בְמַעֲלוֹת״יי — לא תַעֲשֶׂה לוֹ מַעֲלוֹת בַּבֶּבֶשׁ שֶׁלּוֹ, אֶלָּא בֶּבֶשׁ חָלָק. לְמַדְנוּ שֶׁהְיָה לוֹ בֶּבֶשׁ. כָּךְ ָשָׁנִינוּ בִּמְכִילְתָּאיּ. וּמִזְבַּח אֲדָמָה הוּא מִזְבַּח הַנְּחֹשֶׁת, שָׁהָיוּ מְמַלְּאִין חֲלָלוֹ אֲדָמָה בִּמְקוֹם חֲנָיָתְן. וְהַכֶּבֶשׁ הָיָה בָּדְרוֹם הַמִּוֹבֶּחַ, מֻבְדָּל מִן הַמִּוֹבֵּחַ מְלֹא חוּט הַשַּׂעֲרָה, וְרַגְלָיו מַגִּיעִין עַד אַמָּה סָמוּךְּ לְקַלְעֵי הֶחָצֵר שֶׁבַּדְּרוֹם, ּבְּדַבְרֵי הָאוֹמֵר: עֶשֶׂר אַמּוֹת קוֹמְתוֹ. וּלְדְבְרֵי הָאוֹמֵר: ּדְבָרִים כִּכְתָבָן, שָׁלֹשׁ אַמּוֹת קוֹמָתוֹ – לֹא הָיָה אֶֹרְךְּ הַבֶּבֶשׁ אֶלָּא עֶשֶׂר אַמּוֹת. כָּךְּ מָצָאתִי בְּמִשְׁנַת אַרְבָּעִים ּוְתֵשַׁע מִדּוֹת²׳. וְזֶה שֶׁהָיָה מֻבְדָּל מִן הַמִּוְבֵּחַ מְלֹא הַחוּט, בְּמַשֶּׁכֶת זְבָחִים ּ ּ לְמְדוּהוּ מִן הַמִּקְרָא:

^{73.} תהלים פ, י. 74. איוב ה, ג. 75. איוב לא, יב. 76. ישעיה יז, ו. 77. ישעיה י, לג. 78. ירמיה ג, יז. 79. מלכים־א כא, יג. 80. ישעיה סב, י. 18. ישעיה ה, ב. 82. לָפִפּוֹת אֶת הָאֵפָר. 83. יָצָה, מֶגְרַפָּה. 84. וְזִים, קוֹלֶבִים. 85. ישעיה ל, יד. 86. משלי ו, כז. 87. חולין כה, א. 88. לעיל פסוק א. 89. סב, א. 90. שמות כ, כ־כב. 91. יתרו מסכתא דבחודש פרק יא. 92. הובא בילקוט שמעוני פקודי רמז תיט. 93. סב, ב.

- 3 Inasmuch as this altar will be used for burning animal sacrifices, you shall have the artisans make its pots with which to remove the ashes from it; its scoops, with which the ashes will be shoveled into the pots; its basins, in which the blood of the slaughtered animals will be received in order to be applied to the altar; its forks, which will be used to turn over the meat of the sacrifices as it burns; and its fire pans, which will be used to carry coals from this altar into the Sanctuary and place them on the Golden Altar for the purpose of burning the incense. You shall have them make all its implements of copper (see Figure 38).
- 4 You shall have them make a Grate of copper network to girdle the Altar, one cubit wide, occupying the sixth cubit of the Altar's height. You shall have them make on the network four copper rings, on the four corners of the Grate.
- 5 Have them make a decorative Border around the Altar, one cubit thick, occupying the seventh cubit of the Altar's height from the ground. You shall have them place the Grate below the decorative Border of the Altar, extending downward until the middle of the height of the Altar, i.e., until the point 5 cubits from the ground. It will thus be clear where the midpoint of the Altar's height is, and this will be necessary for there are certain offerings whose blood must be applied to the upper half of the Altar and others whose blood must be applied to the lower half of the Altar.
- 6 You shall have them make rods for the Altar, rods of acacia wood, and you shall have them overlay them with copper.

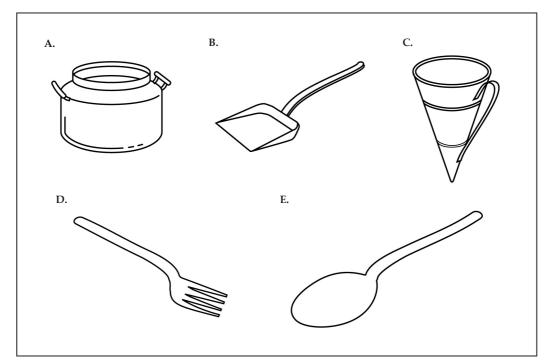


Figure 38: The utensils of the altar: A. pot; B. scoop; C. basin; D. fork; E. fire pan

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ז וְיָצֵל יַת אֲרִיחוֹהִי בְּעִוְקָתָא וִיהוֹן זְיַצֵל יַת אֲרִיחוֹהִי בְּעִוְקָתָא וִיהוֹן אַרִיחִי, אַ עַל הְרֵין סִטְרֵי מִּדְבְּחָא יְתָהּ בּ חֲלִיל לּוּחִין תַּעְבֵּיד יְתַהְּ בְּטוּרָא מִשְׁבְּנָא לְרוּחַ צֵיבֵר דְּרוֹמָא סְרָדִין מֵשְׁבְּנָא לְרוּחַ צֵיבֵר דְּרוֹמָא סְרָדִין מֵשְׁבְּנָא לְרוּחַ צֵיבֵר דְּרוֹמָא סְרָדִין אַרָּא לְרוּחָא חֲדָא:

ק וְהוּבָא אֶת־בַּדֶּיו בַּפַבָּעָת וְהָיֵוּ הַבַּדִּים עַל־שְׁתֵּי צַּלְעָת הַפִּוְבֵּח בִּשְׂאֵת אֹתְוֹ: 8 נְבִוּב לֻחָת תַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתֻוֹ בַּאֲשֶׁׁר הַרְאָה אִתְּדָּ בָּהֶר בֵּן יַעֲשִׁוּ: ם

שביעי* 9 וְעָשִּׁיתָ אֵת חֲצֵר הַפִּשְׁבֶּן לִפְאַת נֵגָב־ הֵילָגָה קְלָעִים לֶחָצִר שֵׁשׁ מִשְׁוֹר מֵאֶה בְאַפָּה אֹרֶךְ לַפֵּאָה הֵאֶחֶת:

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ-

עשׂוּיִין כְּמִין קַלְעֵי סְפִינָה, נְקָבִים נְקְבִים, מֵעֲשֹׁה קְלִיעָה וְלֹא מַעֲשֵׂה אוֹרֵג. וְתַרְגּוּמוֹ: ״סְרָדִין״, כְּתַרְגוּם שֶׁל ״מִכְבָּר״י״ הַמְתַרְגָם ״סְרָדָא״, לְפִי שֶׁהַן מְנַקְבִין כִּכְבָרָה: לָבָּאָה הָאָחַת. כָּל־הָרוּחַ קָרוּי ״פָּאָה״: 7 בּשַּבְּעֹת. בְּאַרְבַּע טַבְּעוֹת שֶׁנְּעֲשׂוּ לַמִּרְבָּר: 8 נְבוֹב לָחֹת. בְּאַרְבּע טַבְּעוֹת שֶׁנְעֲשׁוּ לַמִּרְבָּר: 8 שְׁטִּים לָּחֹת. בְּתַרְגוּמוֹ: ״חֲלִיל לוּחִין״ — לוּחוֹת עֲצֵי שִׁטְיִם מְבֶּל־צַד, וְהָחָלֶל בָּאֶמְצַע. וְלֹא יְהֵא כֻלוֹ צֵץ אֶחְד שֶׁיְהֵא עָבֹיוֹ חָמֵשׁ אֲמוֹת כָּמִין סַדְּן: 9 קְּלְעִים.
עָבִיוֹ חָמֵשׁ אֲמוֹת עַל חָמֵשׁ אֲמוֹת בְּמִין סַדְּן: 9 קּלְעִים.

.94. לעיל פסוק ד.

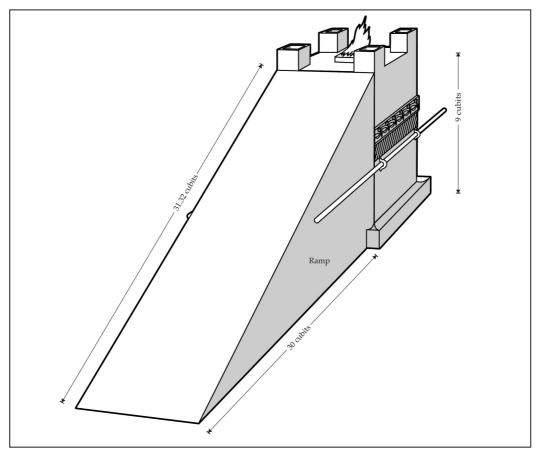


Figure 40: The ramp

^{*}If the Sabbath of parashat Terumah coincides with Rosh Chodesh and is also Shabbat Shekalim, the sixth reading continues until the end of the parashah, the Maftir-reading for Rosh Chodesh is the seventh reading, and the Maftir of Shabbat Shekalim is read as the Maftir.

7 Its rods shall be inserted through the rings, so that the rods will be on the two sides of the Altar when it is carried (see Figure 39).

8 You shall have them make the Altar a hollow structure, of panels, and fill it with earth every time it is set up. 115 It will not be solid, and it will not have a built-in roof. As He showed you on the mountain, so shall they make it. In order to ascend the altar, have the artisans build a ramp, since it is forbidden to ascend the altar by stairs (see Figure 40). 116 This ramp will be positioned to the south of the Altar. 117 There is another article outside the Tabernacle—the Laver—but the directions for its construction will be given later. "118

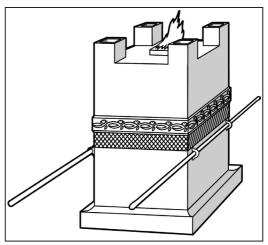


Figure 39: The copper Altar with its rings and rods

The Courtyard

◆ Seventh Reading* 9 The walls of the Tabernacle set off the area occupied by it as holy space. In order to define the area of the surrounding Courtyard, God told Moses: "You shall have them make the Courtyard of the Tabernacle as follows: On the south side there shall be loosely netted crocheted hangings made of twined linen for the Courtyard, one hundred cubits long in order to make one side of the enclosure. These hangings shall be five cubits tall.¹¹¹9

-⊗ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ-

8 You shall make a hollow structure: As mentioned above, the Outer Altar alludes to the process of refining our animal natures. The material and form of the Outer Altar allude to the two opposite attitudes we need to cultivate in order to accomplish this.

On the one hand, we must be resolute in our dedication to spiritual advancement. The Jews are called "a stiff-necked people";¹²⁰ this can be a positive quality if expressed as determination and obstinacy in realizing spiritual goals. This quality is alluded to by the fact that the Altar was made of copper, the word for which (nechoshet) is related to the word for brazen (nechush) stubbornness.¹²¹

On the other hand, the hollow Altar was filled with dirt. 122 So, while we must be externally stubborn, we must be internally humble as dirt. As we say in our prayers, 123 "and may my soul be as dust to all." 124

9 Crocheted hangings made of twined linen: These

hangings were made of linen because flax, from which linen is made, differs from other plants in that only a single stalk grows from each seed.¹²⁵ One of the words for "linen" in biblical Hebrew (*bad*) reflects this attribute, since it also means "alone." Since the Jew is distinguished from other nations by virtue of his absolute monotheism, it is appropriate that the curtain separating the Tabernacle from the surrounding world was made of this material.¹²⁶

In addition, the flax plant alludes to our mission to spread of the knowledge of God's oneness to the world at large. Our sages tell us that "flax depletes the land [i.e., the soil of its nutrients]," 127 and "land" signifies the earthly, materialistic consciousness that opposes the faith in one God. This is the mystical meaning of the phrase "a single people in the land," 128 which is used to describe the Jews: they are a people who bring awareness of God's oneness to the materialistic world. 129

^{115.} Rashi on 27:5, above. 116. Above, 20:23. 117. Rashi on 27:5, above. 118. Below, 30:18-21. 119. Below, 38:18; *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 16, pp. 443-446. 120. Below, 32:9, 33:3, 33:5, 34:9; Deuteronomy 9:6, 9:13. 121. See Isaiah 48:4. 122. Above, 20:21. 123. Following the *Amidah*. 124. *Reshimot* 108. 125. *Zevachim* 18b; Rashi *ad loc*. 126. *Likutei Torah* 2:28b ff. 127. *Bava Metzia* 109a. 128. 2 Samuel 7:23, and elsewhere. 129. *Tanya*, *Igeret HaKodesh* 9, etc.

−∞ ONKELOS ଔ—

10 וְעמּוּדוֹהִי עֶשְׂרִין וְסַמְכֵּיהוֹן עֲשְׂרִין וְסַמְכֵּיהוֹן עֲשְׂרִין דְּנְחָשָׁא וְוֵי עַמּוּדַיָּא וְבַּנּיּשִׁיהוֹן בְּסָף: 11 וְכַן לְרוּחַ צִפּוּנְיִּא בְּאַרְכָּא סְּרָדִין מְאָה אֻרְכָּא וְעַמּיּדוֹהִי עֻשְׂרִין וְסַמְכֵיהוֹן עֲשְׂרִין וְסַמְכֵיהוֹן עֲשְׂרִין וְסַמְכֵיהוֹן עֲשְׂרִין בְּחָשָׁא וְוֵי עַמּוּדַיָּא וְכִבּוּשֵׁיהוֹן בְּסְרָ: 12 וּפַתְיָא לְרוּחַ מַעַרְכָּא סְרָדִין חַמְשִׁא וְוֵי עַמּוּדַיִּהוֹן עַשְּׂרָא וְסִמְּכֵיהוֹן עַשּׂרָא וְסִמְּכֵיהוֹן עֵשִּׂרָא: עַשִּׂרָא וְסִמְּכֵיהוֹן עֵשִּׂרָא:

10 וְעַפֻּוּדֵיו עֶשְּׂרִים וְאַדְנִיהֶם עֶשְׂרָים נְחֲשֶׁת וְוִיְ הֻעַפֻּוּדִים נַחֲשָׁקִים בְּסֶף: 11 וְכֵּן לִפְּאָת צְפוֹן בָּאֹרֶךְ קְלָעִים נַוְחֲשֵׁקִיהֶם בְּסֶף: 11 וְנִישְׁרִים עֲשְׂרִים נְאַדְנִיהֶם עֶשְׂרִים נְאַדְנִיהֶם עֶשְׂרִים נְחָשֵׁקִים וַחֲשֵׁקִיהֶם בְּסֶף: 12 וְרְחַב הֶחְצֵר לְפְאַת־יָּם קַלָּעִים חֲמִשִּׁים אַפֶּח עַפֻּוּדִיהֶם עֲשָׂרָה לִפְּאַת־יָּם עֲשָׂרָה:

-⊗ RASHI ശ-

ני"ו, ראשוֹ זָקוּף לְמַעְלָה וְרֹאשׁוֹ אֶחֶד תָּקוּעַ בְּעַמּוּד, בְּיֹרוֹת שֶׁקּוֹרִין גונ"ש", וְרֹחַב בְּאוֹתְן שֶׁעוֹשִׁין לְהַצִּיב דְּלָתוֹת שֶׁקּוֹרִין גונ"ש", וְרֹחַב הַקּלְע תָּלוּי מָלְמַשָּה, וְהִיא קוֹמֵת מְחִיצוֹת הָחָצֵר: וְזָיּ הָעְמּוּדִים. הַם הָאוּנְקְלִּיּוֹת: וַחֲשָׁקִיהָם. מֻקְּפִין הִיוּ הָעִמּוּדִים בְּחוּטֵי בֶּסֶף סָבִיב. וְאֵינִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם עַל פְּנֵי כַּלְּן, אם בְּרֹאשָׁם, אִם בְּאָמְצְעָם. אַךְ יוֹדֵעַ אֲנִי שֶׁ"חֲשׁוּק" אִם בְּרֹאשָׁם, אָם בְּאֶמְיצְעָם. אַךְ יוֹדֵעַ אֲנִי שֶׁ"חֲשׁוּק" לְשׁוֹן חֲגוֹרָה, שֶׁבֵּן מְצִינוּ בְּפִילֶגֶשׁ בְּגְבְעָה: "וְעְמּוֹ צָמֶד חֲמוֹרִים חֵבוּשִׁים"", הַּרְגוּמוֹ: "חֲשׁוּקִים":

10 וְעַמָּדְיוּ עֶשְׂרִים. חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת בֵּין עַמּוּד לְעַמּוּד:
וְאַרְגִיהֶם. שֶׁל הָעַמּוּדִים נְחֹשֶׁת. הָאָדְנִים יוֹשְׁבִים עַל
הָאָרֶץ, וְהָעַמּוּדִים תְּקוּעִים לְתוֹכָן. הָיָה עוֹשֶׂה כְּמִין
קְנְּדְּסִין שֶׁקּוֹרִין פּל״ש²٠, אָרְכָּן שִׁשָּׁה טְפָחִים וְרְחְבָּן
שִׁלֹשְׁה, וְטַבַּעַת נְחֹשֶׁת קְבוּעָה בוֹ בְּאֶמְצְעוֹ, וְכוֹרֵךְ שְׂפַּת
הַקֶּלַע סְבִיבְיו בְּמִיתְרִים כְּנֶגֶד כָּל־צַמּוּד וְעַמּוּד, וְתוֹלֶה
הַקּנְדֶּס דֶּרֶךְ טַבַּעְתּוֹ בָּאוּנְקָלִיוֹת שֶׁבְּעַמּוּד הָעָשׁוּי כְּמִין

. י, בירום. 97. שופטים ט, י. 95. יְתֵדוֹת, כְּלָנְסָאוֹת. 96. צִירִים.

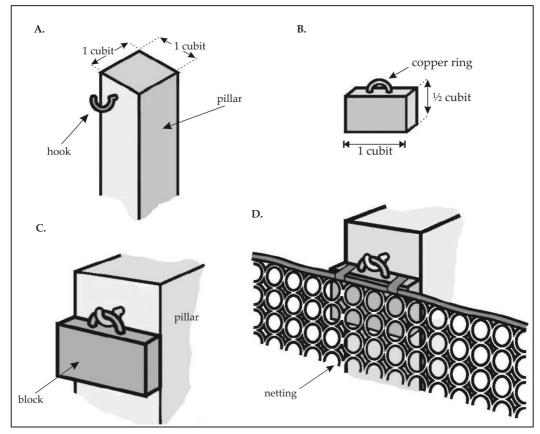


Figure 42: The netting hanging on the pillars: A. a hook on a pillar; B. wooden block; C. block hanging on pillar; D. netting hanging on block

- 10 For this side of the enclosure, have them make twenty pillars, with their twenty copper bases, on which to hang the nettings. There will thus be five cubits between one pillar and the next (see Figure 41). The pillars shall be made out of acacia wood overlaid with copper on the sides¹³⁰ and silver on the top.¹³¹ The pillars shall be a cubit wide, a cubit thick, 132 and just over five cubits tall. The bases shall be one cubit tall. Have the artisans whittle away the bottom of each pillar so as to leave a tenon one cubit long, by which they shall insert the pillars into the bases. 133 Have them make hooks that will project out of each pillar at the top, and wooden blocks, one cubit long and a half a cubit wide, to hang from the hooks by a copper ring. The netted hangings will be attached to these blocks by ropes, and this is how they will hang from the pillars (see Figure 42). Have them also affix decorative bands around the pillars (see Figure 43). The hooks of the pillars and their bands shall be made of silver.
- 11 Likewise, along the length of the north side, there shall be hangings one hundred cubits in length, with their twenty pillars and their twenty bases of copper; the hooks of the pillars and their bands shall be made of silver.
- 12 For the width of the Courtyard on the west side there shall be crocheted hangings fifty cubits in length, with their ten pillars and their ten bases.

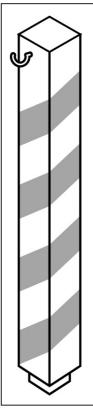


Figure 43: The decorative bands

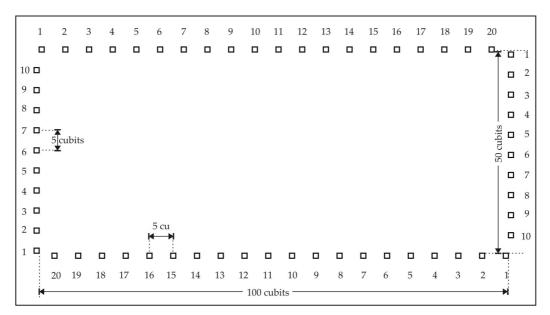


Figure 41: The pillars of the Courtyard — top view

^{130.} Yalkut Shimoni, Pekudei 425. 131. Below, 38:16-19. 132. Mizrachi on Rashi on 27:18, below. 133. Analogous to the planks and bases of the Tabernacle.

13 וְרַחַב הֶּחָצֵׁר לִּפְּצֶת כֵּןדְמָה מִוְּרָחָה חֲמִשִּׁים אַפֵּוה:
14 וְחַבֵּשׁ עֻשְּׁרֵה אַפָּוּה קְלָעִים לַפָּתֶף עַפִּוּדיהֶם שְּׁלשָּׁה
וְאַדְנִיהֶם שְׁלשָׁה: 15 וְלַפָּתף הַשִּׁנִית חֲמֵשׁ עֶשְׂרֵה
קְלָעִים עַפֵּוּדיהֶם שְׁלשָׁה וְאַדְנִיהֶם שְׁלשֵׁה: 16 וּלְשַׁעַר
הָּחָצֵׁר מָפֶך וּ עֶשְׂרֵים אַפָּוֹה הְבַּלֶּת וְאַרְנִּיהֶם
וְשִׁשׁ מִשְׁזֵּר מַעֲשֵׂה רֹכֵּם עַפֵּוּדיהֶם אַרְבָּעָה וְאַדְנִיהֶם
ארבּעה:

מפטיר 17 בְּל־עַמּוּבֵׁי הֶחָצֵר סְבִיבֹ מְחֻשָּׁקֵים בֶּּסֶף וְוֵיהֶם בְּסֵף וְצִיהֶם בְּסֵף וְוִיהֶם בְּסֵף וְצִיהֶם נְקִּשֶׁת: 18 אָנֶרך הֶחָצֵר מֵאָה בְאַפְּׁה וְרַחַב וְחַמִּשִׁים נְקֹמָה חָמֵשׁ אַמְּוֹת שֵׁשׁ מִשְׁזֶר וְרַחַב וֹחֲשׁת:

-⊗ ONKELOS ଔ-

13 וּפַתיָא דְדַרְתָּא לְרוּחַ קִדּוּמָא מַדִּינָחָא חַמִּשִׁין אַמִּין: 14 וַחֲמֵשׁ עשָׂרֵי אַמִּין סְרַדִין לְעַבְרַא עַמּוּדֵיהוֹן תִּלַתָא וְסַמְבֵיהוֹן תִּלַתָא: 15 וּלְעָבָרָא תִּנִיָנָא חֲמֵשׁ עַשְׂרֵי סְרָדִין עַמּוּדֵיהוֹן הְּלָתָא וְסַמְבֵיהוֹן תַּלַתָא: 16 וְלְתָרֵע דַּרְתַּא פָּרַטַא עשְׂרִין אַפִּיין דְתִכְלָא וְאַרְגְוָנָא וּצְבַע וְהוֹרֵי וּבוּץ שְׁוִיר עוֹבַד צִיּוֹר עַמּוּדֵיהוֹן אַרְבִּעָה וְסַמְכֵיהוֹן אַרְבְּעָה: 17 כַּל־עַמוּדֵי דַרְתַּא סְחוֹר סְחוֹר מַבְבְּשִׁין כְּסָף וַוֵיהוֹן דְּכָסֶף וְסַמְבֵיהוֹן נָחָשָׁא: 18 אַרְכָּא דַרָתָא מָאָה אַמִּין וּפַּתִיָא חַמִּשִׁין בַּחַמִשִׁין וְרוּמַא חֲמֵשׁ אַמִּין דְבוּץ שִׁזִיר וְסַמְבֵיהוֹן דְּנְחַשַׁא:

⊗ RASHI 🗷

13 לפאת קדמה מזרחה. פני הַמִּזְרַח קרוּי "קֵדֶם" לְשׁוֹן ״פַּנִים״. ״אַחוֹר״ לְשׁוֹן ״אַחוֹרַיִם״, לְפִיכַךְ הַמְּזְרַח קַרוּי ״קֶדֶם״ שֶׁהוּא פַנִים, וּמַעַרֵב קַרוּי ״אַחוֹר״ כִּמָה דְאַתִּ אָמַר: ״הַיָּם הָאַחֵרוֹן״ — ״יַמָּא מַעֵרְבָא״: חֵמְשִׁים אַמָּה. אוֹתָן חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה לֹא הָיוּ סְתוּמִים כֻּלֶּם בַּקּלֶעִים, לִפִּי שָׁשָׁם הַפֶּתַח אֶלָּא חֵמֵשׁ עֲשָׂרֵה אַמָּה קּלָעִים לְּכָתֵף הַפֶּתַח מִכָּאן, וְכֵן לַכָּתֵף הַשַּׁנִית, נִשְׁאַר רֹחַב חֲלַל הַפֶּתַח בֵּינִתִיִם — עֲשִׂרִים אַמָּה. וְזֵהוּ שֶׁנָּאֲמַר: ״וּלְשַׁעַר הָחַצֵר מַסַךְ עֲשָׂרִים אַמַה״ּ״. וִילוֹן לְמַסַךְ כָּנֵגֶד הַפֶּּתַח, עשרים אַמַה אֹרֶךְ כָּרֹחַב הַפָּתַח: 14 **עַמְדִיהָם שִׁלֹשַה.** חַמֵשׁ אַמוֹת בֶּין עַמוּד לְעַמוּד – בֵּין עַמוּד שָׁבְּרֹאשׁ הַדָּרוֹם הָעוֹמֶד בִּמִקְצוֹעַ דְּרוֹמִית מִזְרַחִית, עַד עַמּוּד שָׁהוּא מָן הַשִּׁלֹשָׁה שֶׁבַּמִּוְרָח — חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת, וּמְמֶנוּ לַשַׁנִי — חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת, וּמָן הַשֵּׁנִי לַשָּׁלִישִׁי — חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת, וָכֶן לַכָּתֶף הַשֶּׁנִית, וְאַרְבַּעָה עַמּוּדִים לַמַסַף, הַרֵי עֲשַׂרָה עַמוּדִים לַמְּזָרָח כָּנָגֶד עֲשָׂרָה לַמַעַרָב: 17 **כָּל־עַמוּדֵי** הָ**חָצֵר סָבִיב וְגוֹ׳.** לְפִי שֶׁלֹא פֵרַשׁ וָוִין וַחֲשׁוּקִים וְאַדְנֵי

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top of the Altar.¹³⁴ However, the Talmud also records an opinion that Moses was ten cubits tall;¹³⁵ so, in this view, although the hangings hid the priest from the people, they only hid the lower half of Moses' body. Although the people fashioned the components of

Although the people fashioned the components of the Tabernacle, it was Moses who actually erected it.¹³⁶ Similarly, with regard to the spiritual Tabernacle

18 The height shall be five cubits: Although Rashi adopts the opinion that the Outer Altar was ten cubits high, according to another opinion it was only three cubits high. In this context, the Talmud records an opinion that the reason the hangings were five cubits high was so the people standing outside the Courtyard would not be able to see the priest officiating on

נְחֹשֵׁת אֵלָּא לַצְפּוֹן וְלַדָּרוֹם, אַבַל לַמְזֵרָח וְלַמְּעָרָב לֹא

נֵאֶמַר וַוִין וַחֲשׁוּקִים וִאַדְנֵי נִחֹשֶׁת, לְכַךְ בָּא וִלְמֵּד כַּאן:

18 אֹרֶךְ הַחָצֶר. הַצָּפוֹן וְהַדֵּרוֹם, שֵׁמְן הַמְּזָרַח לַמַעֵרַב

מָאָה בָאַמָּה: וְרֹחַב חֵמְשִׁים בַּחֵמְשִׁים. חָצֵר שֶׁבַּמְזְרָח

הָיִתָה מָרֻבַּעַת חֲמִשִּׁים עַל חֲמִשִּׁים, שֶׁהַמִּשְׁכָּן אָרְכּוֹ

שְׁלֹשִׁים וְרָחְבּּוֹ עֶשֶׂר, הֶעֱמִיד מִוְרָח פִּתְחוֹ בִּשְׂפַת חֲמִשִּׁים הַחִיצוֹנִים שֶׁל אֹרֶךְ הָחָצֵר, נִמִצְא כֻּלוֹ בַּחַמִשִּׁים

הַפּּנִימִיִים וְכָלָה אָרִכּוֹ לְסוֹף שָׁלֹשִׁים. נִמִצְאוּ, עֵשִׂרִים

אַמַה רָוַח לַאַחוֹרַיו בֵּין הַקּלַעִים שַׁבַּמַעַרַב לַיִרִיעוֹת

שֵׁל אַחוֹרֵי הַמִּשְׁכַּן, וְרוֹחֵב הַמִּשְׁכַּן עֲשֵׂר אַמוֹת בְּאַמְצַע

רוֹחַב הֶחַצֵר, נִמִצְאוּ לוֹ עֲשָׂרִים אַמַה רָוַח לַצַּפוֹן

וְלַדָּרוֹם מָן קַלְעֵי הֶחָצֵר לִירִיעוֹת הַמִּשִׁכָּן, וְכֵן לַמַּעֵרָב,

וַחֲמִשִּׁים עַל חֲמִשִּׁים חָצֵר לְפָנָיו: וְקֹמָה חָמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת.

גֹּכַה מְחִיצוֹת הֶחָצֵר, וְהוּא רֹחַב הַקְּלֶעִים: וְאַדְנֵיהֶם

נָ**חשָת.** לְהָבִיא אַדְנֵי הַמְּסָךְ. שֶׁלֹא תֹאמַר: לא נֶאֶמְרוּ

אַדְנֵי נִחֹשֶׁת אֶלֶּא לְעַמוּדֵי הַקּּלֶעִים, אֲבָל אַדְנֵי הַמָּסֶךְ

שֶׁל מִין אַחֵר. כָּךְ נִרְאָה בְּעֵינֵי, שֵׁלְּכָךְ חָזֵר וּשְׁנָאַן:

- 13 The width of the Courtyard on the front, the east side, shall also be fifty cubits.
- 14 Of this width, there shall be fifteen cubits of crocheted hangings to one side of the entrance, with their three pillars and their three bases, five cubits apart,
- 15 and likewise, there shall be fifteen cubits of cro**cheted hangings to the other side** of the entrance, with their three pillars and their three bases, five cubits apart.
- 16 To close the entrance to the Courtyard, have the artisans make a twenty-cubit wide Screen **out of** the same material used for the tapestries of the Tabernacle, its Screen and its Curtain: threads composed of six strands each of turquoise, purple, and scarlet wool, and twined linen. Have them embroider it with figures of eagles and lions, the same figures appearing on both sides of the cloth.

It shall have four pillars and four bases (see Figures 44a and b).

Maftir 17 Although it was only mentioned previously that hooks and bands of the pillars on the northern and southern sides of the enclosure should be made of silver, and that the bases on these sides should be made Figure 44b: The Screen of the Courtyard - perspective

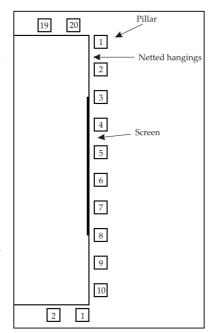
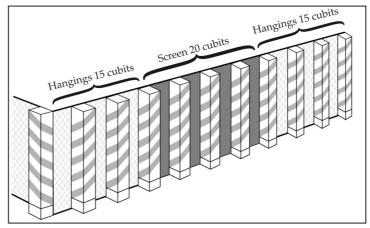


Figure 44a: The Screen of the Courtyard - top



of copper, this applies to all sides of the enclosure: All the pillars surrounding the Courtyard shall be banded with silver; their hooks shall be made of silver, and their bases, of copper.

18 Although the length of the Courtyard shall be one hundred cubits, the Tabernacle shall be situated only in the western half of the Courtyard. Thus, the width and breadth of the empty, eastern half of the Courtyard shall be fifty cubits by fifty. The copper Altar and the Laver shall be placed in this area (see Figure 45, next page). The height of the enclosure shall be five cubits. The entire height of the enclosure will consist of the hangings made of twined linen. The bases of pillars that hold up the Courtyard Screen, like the bases of the other pillars of the Courtyard, shall be made of copper.

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19 לְכֹל מָאנֵי מַשְׁבְּנָא בְּכֹל פַּלְחָנֵה וְכָל־סִכּוֹהִי וְכָל־סִכֵּי דרתּא דּנחשׁא:

19 לְכֹל בְּלֵי הַפִּּוֹשְׁבָּן בְּכִל עֲבְדָתְוֹ וְכָל־יְתֵדֶתִיו וְכָל־ יִתִרת הַחַצֵּר נִחִשָּׁת:

צ"ו פסוקים. יעי"ו סימן. סל"ו סימן.

№ RASHI

וּתְלוּיִין וְכָבְדָן מַכְבִּיד שָׁפּוּלֵי הַיְרִיעוֹת שֶׁלֹּא יָנוּעוּ בְּרוּחַ. וְאוֹמֵר אֲנִי, שֻׁשְׁמָן מוֹכִיחַ עֲלֵיהֶם שֶׁהֵם תְּקוּעִים בָּאָרֶץ, לְכָךְּ נִקְרְאוּ ״יְתֵדוֹת״, וּמִקְרֶא זָה מְסַיְעֵנִי: ״אֹהֶל בַּל־יִפֻע יְתֵדֹתְיו לָנֶצַח״״י: חסלת פרשת תרומה 11 לְכֹל בְּלֵי הַמִּשְׁבָּן. שֶׁהָיוּ צְרִיכִין לַהֲקָמֶתוֹ וּלְהוֹרֶדְתוֹ, בְּזֹן: מַקְבוֹת לְתְקוֹע יְתֵדוֹת וְעַמּוּדִים: יִּתְדֹת. כְּמִין נְגְרֵי בְּחֹשֶׁת, עֲשׂוּיִין לִירִיעוֹת הָאֹהֶל וּלְקַלְעֵי הָחָצֵר, קְשׁוּרִים בְּחֹשֶׁת, עֲשׂוּיִין לִירִיעוֹת הָאֹהֶל וּלְקַלְעֵי הָחָצֵר, קְשׁוּרִים בְּמִיתָרִים סָבִיב בְּשָׁפּוּלֵיהֶן, כְּדֵי שֶׁלֹא הְהֵא הָרוּחַ מֵּגְבִּיהָתַן. וְאֵינִי יוֹדֵע אָם תִּחוּבִין בְּאָרֵץ, אוֹ קִשׁוּרִין מַגָּבִיהָתַן. וְאֵינִי יוֹדֵע אָם תִּחוּבִין בְּאָרֵץ, אוֹ קִשׁוּרִין

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other hand, are primarily physical acts, and thus leave our thoughts open to diversion.

Thus, Torah-study is alluded to by the five visible upper cubits of Moses' body, and commandment-performance by the lower five cubits, which were concealed from view by the linen curtains.¹⁴⁰

19 The stakes for the Courtyard: Rashi suggests the possibility that the stakes were not actually hammered into the ground but rather simply held the curtains in place by their weight. Nonetheless, he feels that the evidence indicates that they were indeed imbedded into the ground.

If the stakes only acted as weights, the connection between the Tabernacle and the ground it stood on was merely coincidental, but if the stakes were implanted in the ground, it means that the holiness of the Tabernacle actually permeated the ground. The Torah describes later how the ground under the Tabernacle was actually used as part of a religious rite.¹⁴¹

In either case, the ground on which the Tabernacle stood absorbed holiness only while the Tabernacle was standing upon it. When the Tabernacle moved on, the ground reverted to its previous mundane status. Similarly, for a few days before the giving of the Torah, Mount Sinai was off limits by penalty of death. But after the Torah was given, Mount Sinai became once again freely accessible.

Later, with the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem, the capacity of holiness to permeate the material world went a step further. Unlike the Tabernacle, which was constructed mainly out of wood and fabric—both substances from the vegetable kingdom, the Holy Temples were constructed primarily from stone—a substance from the mineral kingdom. The holiness of the Temples was compelling enough to permeate even the inanimate aspects of creation. Hence the ground upon which the Temples stood remains holy even nowadays.

Thus, with the building of the Temple, we have been given the power to infuse light—in a permanent and internal way—even into those places that appear to be earth: inanimate, and lifeless. The Temples of holiness that we build throughout the world can never be uprooted.¹⁴²

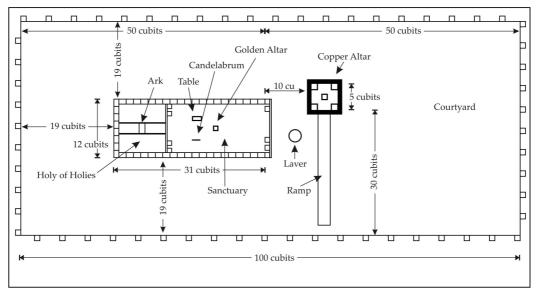


Figure 45: The Tabernacle and its furnishings in the Courtyard

19 All the implements of the Tabernacle used in the work of constructing and dismantling it,¹³⁷ such as hammers to pound the stakes into the ground, shall be made of copper. Stakes will be used to anchor ropes tied to the goat-hair covering to the ground, so that it not flap in the wind. Similarly, stakes will be used to anchor ropes tied to the netting of the Courtyard enclosure, so it also does not flap in the wind. All the stakes of the Tabernacle and all the stakes for the Courtyard shall be made of copper.

The Haftarah for parashat Terumah may be found on p. 319. The Maftir and Haftarah for Rosh Chodesh may be found on p. 336. The Maftir and Haftarah for Shabbat Shekalim may be found on p. 343. The Maftir and Haftarah for Shabbat Zachor may be found on p. 347.



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we build for God out of our own lives, it is our inner Moses that actually erects it, that unique capacity we each possess to know God directly, regardless of the limitations of our human intellect.¹³⁸ It is only by tapping this aspect of our souls and relating to God in this way that we can construct a sanctuary for Him, a realm within our consciousness which we can enter to renew our awareness of His oneness.

Allegorically, Moses' height of ten cubits signifies the fact that he (and the spark of Moses within each of us) constructs the Tabernacle out of all ten powers of the

soul. Our intrinsic connection to God—our inner Moses—is manifest through our learning the Torah and performing its commandments. Our sages state¹³⁹ that the holiness of the Torah protects us from our evil inclination (*yetzer hara*) while we are studying it. Therefore, while studying Torah, we do not need a "curtain" to separate us from the world. In contrast, performing the commandments does not protect us from our evil inclination. Simply stated, this is because Torah-study presupposes that we, the students, are absorbed in understanding what we are studying, and our mind is thus engrossed in holiness. Commandments, on the

^{137.} Cf. Likutei Sichot, vol. 26, p. 273, note 12. 138. Tanya, chapter 42; Likutei Torah 2:2a. 139. Sotah 21a.