

Parsha Q&A



Parshas Tetzaveh

For the week ending 11 Adar 5759
26 & 27 February 1999

Parsha Questions

1. What two precautions were taken to assure the purity of oil for the *menorah*?
2. How was Aharon commanded to kindle the *menorah*?
3. What does *tamid* mean in reference to the *menorah*?
4. What does *kehuna* mean?
5. Name the eight garments worn by the *kohen gadol*.
6. To what does Rashi compare the *ephod*?
7. In which order were the names of the Tribes inscribed on the *ephod*?
8. The stones of the *ephod* bore the inscription of the names of the sons of Yaakov. Why?
9. For what sins did the *choshen mishpat* atone?
10. What are three meanings of the word *mishpat*?
11. What was lacking in the *bigdei kehuna* in the second *Beis Hamikdash*?
12. Which garment's fabric was woven of only one material?
13. When the *kohen gadol* wore all his priestly garments, where on his head was the *tefillin* situated?
14. What does the word *tamid* mean in reference to the *tzitz*? (two answers)
15. Which garments were worn by a *kohen hediot*?
16. During the inauguration of the *kohanim*, a bullock was brought as a sin offering. For what sin did this offering atone?
17. Moshe was commanded to wash Aharon and his sons to prepare them to serve as *kohanim* (29:4). How were they washed?
18. What was unique about the bull sin-offering brought during the inauguration of the *kohanim*?
19. How did the oil used for the meal-offering differ from the oil used for the *menorah*?
20. What does the crown on the *mizbach haketores* symbolize?

In honor of Purim, this week's edition features

Sherlox Holmes' Smarter Brother...

Sidelox Holmes

Sidelox Holmes and Dr. Watstein went on a camping trip. As they lay down for the night, Sidelox says to Watstein: "Watstein, look up into the sky and tell me what you see."

"I see millions and millions of stars," Watstein replies.

"And what does that tell you?" asks Sidelox.

"Astronomically, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Theologically, it tells me that G-d is great and that we are small, and meteorologically it tells me that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?"

"That someone's stolen our tent," replied Sidelox.

(Sidelox is inspired by.... Okay, so it's NOT inspired.)

I Did Not Know That!

"And its sound will be heard (v'nishma) when he enters the sanctuary..." (28:35)

The word "v'nishma" occurs only three times throughout Tanach:

- Here, regarding the Temple service
- In the verse "naaseh v'nishma — we will do and we will hear" regarding Torah study (Shemos 7:7)
- In the verse from Megillas Esther "v'nishma pishgam hamelech...ki raba — and the word of the king will be heard...for it is great." (Esther 1:20)

This alludes to the Talmudic statement that the Megillah reading supersedes both Talmud Torah and the Temple service. That is, the Megillah reading, alluded to by the above verse "and the word of the king will be heard..." supersedes the other two, "for it is great — ki raba," greater than even Temple service and Torah study.

Ba'al Haturim

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Parshas Tetzaveh — 11 Adar 5759, 26 & 27 February 1999

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Megillah I Did Not Know That!

“After these things, King Achashverosh promoted Haman...” (Esther 3:1)

Haman's power lasted for seventy days. That is, when you count from Nissan 13, when Haman delivered his first executive decree — i.e., the letters he sent out against the Jews (Esther 3:12) — until it was effectively nullified on the 23rd of Sivan (Esther 8:9), you find that exactly 70 days elapsed.

Alluding to this, there are exactly 70 verses from the above verse describing Haman's promotion until the verse “they hanged Haman” (Esther 7:10).

Me'am Lo'ez

Recommended Reading List

Ramban

28:2	Royal Robes
28:5	Trustworthy Treasurers
28:30	Divine Communication Through “ <i>Urim V'Tumim</i> ”
29:9	Donning of the <i>Kohen's</i> Garments
30:1	The Incense Altar

Malbim

28:4	Mystical Significance of the Garments
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Sefer Hachinuch

98	The <i>Menorah</i> Lights
99	Inspiration from Attire
102	Respect from Eating
103	Respect from Smelling

Answers to this Week's Questions

All references are to the verses and Rashi's commentary, unless otherwise stated

- 27:20 - The olives were pressed and not ground; and only the first drop was used.
- 27:20 - He was commanded to kindle it until the flame ascended by itself.
- 27:20 - It means that it should be kindled every night.
- 28:3 - Service.
- 28:4,36,42 - *Choshen, ephod, me'il, kesones, mitznefes, avnet, tzitz, and michnasayim.*
- 28:6 - A woman's riding garment.
- 28:10 - In order of birth.
- 28:12 - So that Hashem would see their names and recall their righteousness.
- 28:15 - For judicial errors.
- 28:15 - 1) The claims of the litigants; 2) The court's ruling; 3) The court's punishment.
- 28:30 - The *Urim V'Tumim* — the “*Shem Ha'meforash*” placed in the folds of the *choshen*.
- 28:31 - The fabric of the *me'il* was made only of *techeles*.
- 28:37 - Between the *tzitz* and the *mitznefes*.
- 28:38 - 1) It always atones, even when not being worn; 2) The *kohen gadol* must always be aware that he is wearing it.
- 28:40,42 - *Kesones, avnet, migba'as, and michnasayim.*
- 29:1 - The sin of the golden calf.
- 29:4 - They immersed in a *mikveh*.
- 29:14 - It is the only external sin-offering that was completely burned.
- 29:40 - Oil for the *menorah* comes only from beaten olives. Oil for meal-offerings may come from either beaten olives or from ground-up olives.
- 30:3 - The crown of *kehuna*.