

Parashah 23 Tidbit

Exodus 38:21 – 40:38

Pekudey, פְּקוּדֵי, The Counting of, the Reckoning

by Marc Gravelle

marc@bondservantsofyeshua.ca

Exodus 38:21 – 40:38

Pekudey, פְּקוּדֵי, the Counting of

The Hebrew word P'kudei, פְּקוּדֵי, means *the counting of, the reckoning, commanders of, who were counted* and it is the same spelling as the word Piqudey פִּקּוּדֵי which means, *under someone's command or commandments*. This Parashah therefore, begins by telling us, that we, who claim to be part of the family of Yisrael, that happens to be, the **ONE AND ONLY** Family of YHVH, are under an everlasting *Commandment to build the tabernacle, EXACTLY* as it was shown to Mosheh on the Mount, in heaven. We must understand that it is YHVH, the Creator of the universe that has **Instructed** and or **Commanded** us to **DO SO**. Therefore, since the Tabernacle **IS** a shadow picture of our Messiah, and our Messiah **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, who was sent to us, by our heavenly Father, to show us the Way by which we are to love YHVH and each other, and that **IS**, by mimicking Messiah's Torah obedient Life, which will cause, whoever does so, with a loving heart, to inherit everlasting Life. If we truly want to be resurrected onto everlasting Life, on judgment Day, then we absolutely **MUST** do what Messiah did, we **MUST** obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, as Messiah did and taught us to do.

Now the only way that anyone can do that, according to Scripture, is by first, surrendering their hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father, and then, willingly and lovingly choosing, to commit to live our whole lives, in total loving surrendered obedience to all the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, as Messiah did and taught us to do. I know that it might seem like I am repeating myself, **BUT** this is so very important that it bears repeating and repeating, until we get it firmly entrenched in our hearts. We **MUST** learn to believe, follow and obey **EVERY WORD OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE, EXACTLY AS IT WAS GIVEN TO MOSHEH AT THE MOUNT**, without **adding** anything to it, **nor taking anything away** from it, **or else**, we will **NOT be following** the Commandment of YHVH to build the tabernacle **EXACTLY** as He instructed and commanded us to do.

The past four Parashah teachings, have described the Commandments that were given to the people of Yisrael to build the Tabernacle, and then, it describes the actual building of the Tabernacle. These events that describe the building of the Tabernacle (Temple), paint a beautiful picture, that shows us, that in the construction of the Tabernacle, we have to first, *Shemah*, we have to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow and obey **ALL** the instructions that we have been given to us by our heavenly Father, and **THEN**, we have to willingly and lovingly choose to **OBEY** them.

Scripture makes it very clear that we are to **KEEP** and **OBEY** the Commandments of YHVH, exactly as they were given to Mosheh and us, on the Mount. Furthermore, according to the words in these *verses*, when we do keep the Commandments of Elohim in the manner that He has prescribed, without adding anything to them, nor taking anything away from them, then the **PRESENCE** and or

THE GLORY of Elohim **WILL** descend upon us, as it did on the tabernacle.

It is important that we all understand that in all of these Parashah teachings, in the Scriptures, that speak of the tabernacle, we find the essence and the meaning of the Tabernacle and the seven pieces of furniture. The Brazen Altar for example, **IS** *the place of whole sacrifice*, the Laver is the place where we *are washed by the water of the Word, which cleanses our daily walk*, and then we enter the Holy Place, and there, we see three pieces of furniture. First of all we have to understand that the Holy Place is symbolic of our minds, and it contains two pictures of the Words of the Torah of Life, and one picture of prayer.

Let's begin with the Menorah, which represents **the Light of the World**, and Scripture makes it very clear that Messiah Yeshua **IS** *the Light of the world*. Then we have the table of showbread, which again depicts our Messiah, for He **IS** *the Bread of Life*, He **IS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Living Torah made flesh, and the last detail before we enter into, the Holy of Holies, is the picture of prayer, the Altar of Incense, which represents **the prayers of the saints**.

These items or pieces of furniture, tell us that **IF** we want to enter the Holy Place, and commune with our heavenly Father, we have to understand that we **MUST** learn to first **offer ourselves up**, offer our hearts, minds, souls and strength, as a totally surrendered sacrifice to YHVH. Then, we wash our hands and feet with the water of the Laver, which represents the water of the Word of YHVH, and the water of the Word of YHVH, **IS** representative, of the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life made flesh. Then we have to commit to willingly adhere to, and obey the Words of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, and finally, we are to pray and worship our heavenly Father, before we can enter the *Holy of Holies*, which is a picture of our own heart, where YHVH has chosen to dwell.

Once we enter the Holy of Holies, with YHVH's blessing, we see that contained in the Holy of Holies, is the Ark of the Testimony, covered by the Mercy Seat. We are told that originally, when the Ark was first built, that the two tablets of Stone, whereon are written the Ten Commandments of our heavenly Father, by the Finger of Elohim, the same tablets that were given to Mosheh at the Mount, were placed in the ark, and that later, the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, that were given to Mosheh and which he, Mosheh, wrote on a scroll, was also placed inside that Ark, and the Words of that Torah, were given to Mosheh by the inspiration of YHVH. We have to understand that these Words, ARE the actual Words of the written Torah of our heavenly Father. In the Ark was also found some of the manna that YHVH provided for Yisrael for forty years, and it also contained, Aharon's rod, that budded, and all of this is covered by the Mercy Seat. Now the picture that is painted here, is of Elohim's Word, His Torah, Elohim's daily provision, represented by the manna, and Elohim's fruit, represented by Aaron's rod that budded, which represents the Fruit of the Spirit that mankind will indeed produce when they willingly and lovingly choose, to believe, follow and obey all the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father; and the Mercy Seat, which covers all of this, represents our heavenly Father and His Son's great and infinite Love, Grace and Mercy that they extend to us every day, and as you can see, they are all an inseparable, they are all part of Elohim's heart, they are Echad, they are one.

This is the pattern or the process, that YHVH Himself has established for us, my friends. This **IS** how we can be delivered from the **second death**. The pattern or the process **IS**, we must first receive the Words of Life (*John 3:16*), the Gospel of our Salvation (*Romans 1:16*), the Good News, the

TRUTH (*Ephesians 1:13* and *Psalms 119:142*), the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life made flesh, **AND** we must have an ear to hear, which means that we must shemah, we must learn to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow, obey and **DO**, what He has commanded us to do.

Then, when our ears have heard (shemah) and our hearts have chosen to lovingly surrender in obedience, to the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, our minds respond, and we come to YHVH in surrendered prayer, and Scripture makes a point of telling us, that YHVH **ANSWERS ALL** hearts that have willingly chosen to surrender themselves to Him. It is important that we all understand that when we surrender our hearts to our heavenly Father, which is what He has wanted every created human being to do from the beginning of time, that He our heavenly Father **IS** like the Father of the Prodigal Son, He not only receives us with loving open arms, **BUT**, He runs towards us, with joy in His heart, to welcome us, for we have finally come back home.

Then and only then, when our hearts have made the commitment to believe, follow and obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, YHVH places His Word, His Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions **on our hearts**; are then we are **FIT** to be called sons and daughters of the Living Elohim. Please understand, that YHVH will **NOT** place the Words of His Torah on a heart that **is NOT willing** to receive and obey His Words, the Words of His beautiful Life Giving Torah. The added bonus, that those who have chosen to allow YHVH to write the Words of His Torah of Life on their hearts, **IS** that He fills us with His Holy Spirit, who is tasked with **CAUSING** the process of spiritual growth to begin in us in the way that our heavenly Father originally designed the Tabernacle, from the inside out.

The way of salvation pictured by the Tabernacle, **IS** from the inside out. **IF** we have the testimony of Yeshua the Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, dwelling within us, **THEN** our minds have the opportunity of taking instructions from the Word, the Living Torah, the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, and **NOT from the world, NOR from any man made source**, such as secular humanism, or man made religions and their false man made doctrines. It is important that we all understand this, because, **IF** anyone **HAS NOT ALLOWED** the Holy Spirit, to **CAUSE** them to believe, follow and obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, it means that their hearts and minds **ARE taking instructions from some other source**, from themselves, or from some man made secular or religious doctrine, and the Scriptures quite clearly point out **THAT THE WISDOM OF MAN, IS AS FOOLISHNESS TO YHVH**. However, **IF** we willingly take our instructions from the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, **THEN**, our hearts **WILL** be transformed and set free, because of His eternal **TRUTH**, which then makes it easier to willingly and lovingly give our minds over to YHVH, in total loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, and our words and our deeds, will then reflect the Words of YHVH's Torah that He has placed on our hearts, which means that we will have the mind of Messiah, the mind of the Words of the Living Torah made flesh.

Yeshua our Messiah **IS** our example; He showed us the way, by leading a fully loving surrendered obedient life to all the Words of our heavenly Father, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, which are contained in the Ark of the Testimony. Yeshua, **IS THE** faithful and **TRUE WITNESS** of the Ark of the Covenant, and what is contained therein. Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, **IS** the sweet acceptable fragrance unto our heavenly Father, on our behalf (*Ephesians 5:2*; *2 Corinthians 2:15*). He taught us how to be holy

as our heavenly Father's is Holy, He taught us how to live a life without Sin, and please remember, that according to *1John 3:4* Sin **IS** transgression of the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life. Messiah set the example for all to see and follow, when He said, *I only speak the Words that My Father told Me to speak, and I only do what I saw My father doing.* Which means that Messiah lived a Torah obedient Life, and since He **IS** the prototype, He is the blueprint on how we are to live our lives, it would behoove us to follow in His Torah obedient footsteps. Messiah showed us *in Matthew 6:9-13* in what manner we are to pray to YHVH, when we are at His Altar. What **WE** absolutely have to realize however, **IS** that the blueprint **IS NOT** the prayer, **BUT A MODEL ON HOW WE ARE TO PRAY.** Let me explain!

The prayer known as the *Lord's Prayer* for Christians and as *the Our Father* by Catholics, **IS NOT REALLY A PRAYER!** This may sound like blasphemy to many believers, but hear me out.

In *Matthew 6:1 – 9* where the words *in this manner therefore pray,* are spoken, Yeshua has just finished admonishing His disciples that when they give alms to the poor, they should do it secretly and never pridefully, for the whole world to see them, and then Messiah says, our Father, who sees you in secret, will reward you openly. Yeshua goes on to say that when you pray, **pray in this manner;** Our Father.... Etc.

What Yeshua is telling us is that this **IS** a guideline, as to how we are to pray, but the guideline **IS NOT** the prayer itself. If you use the guideline as the prayer then you will miss the full impact of the prayer, because you diminish the full meaning of what the prayer truly is. Let me show you what I mean.

First of all, the setting for this prayer is in the Apostolic Scriptures in *Matthew 6:9* where Messiah is speaking to His disciples, therefore, it is assumed that the one that is reading it, is a believer. One must believe that there is an Elohim or one cannot pray to Him.

The instructions begin with:

Our Father:

Inherent in the word Father, is the understanding that as my Father, He formed me, He has control over my life, He sets the rules that I am to obey, *as I obeyed my earthly father.* Also understood in the word Father, is that He loves me with a perfect love and wants the very best for me, and because He loves me, He will do everything in His power to direct my life, and cause me to walk on His path of righteousness, and that includes disciplining me, chastising me, and yes even punishing me when and if necessary.

As our Father, he has gone even farther and given us a list of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions (called the Torah) and **GUARANTEED US, THAT IF WE WILL WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY FOLLOW AND OBEY** these Words, these teachings and instructions, to live our daily lives by them, exactly as He has given them to Mosheh and to us on Mount Sinai, that we **WILL HAVE LONG LIFE,** (*Psalm 91*), **WE WILL PROSPER** (*Deuteronomy 28:2 His many blessings will hunt us down and overtake us*), and **HE WILL TAKE AWAY ALL SICKNESS AND PUT NONE OF THE DISEASES OF THE WORLD UPON US.** (*Deuteronomy 7:15*) This is what we are to understand and believe as we approach our Father in prayer.

In the next step, we are to recognize who He is and where He is!!!

Who art in heaven:

These words speak of Elohim's sovereignty. They tell us, that we must recognize whom He is as we pray. We are to understand and realize that our Father **IS** Ruler and Master over **ALL** things on earth and in all of the endless galaxies and universes. Because of these two words we must accept and believe that He is in charge and that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without His will. (*Matt. 10:29*)

The next step tells us that we are to worship Him!!!

Hallowed be Your Name:

Now we get into the meat of the prayer. Here we are to put all of our personal needs and wants aside, and show our love and reverence for Him, by praising and worshipping Him for His multitude of attributes. According to *Psalms 24* and *Exodus 19:5* the earth and all that therein dwell, **BELONG** to Him, therefore, it is appropriate that **we praise and worship Him**. Over and above the fact that He owns the earth and all that therein are, the Scriptures tell us that our heavenly Father is gracious, compassionate, merciful, longsuffering, just, and the picture of perfect love. Therefore we are to learn to love, praise and worship Him, because, He first loved us. Now, once we have achieved the state of awareness that our Father is Omniscient, Omnipresent and Omnipotent, and that He **ACTUALLY LOVES US, THEN** I believe that we are in the right frame of mind to begin to approach Him with our requests.

But before we get into the litany of request that we all have, regarding loved ones, family and ourselves, we are to recognize one more thing!!!

Thy Kingdom come

Here Yeshua instructs us to pray that Elohim's kingdom **would come**. How does Scripture tell us that His kingdom will come? The Scriptures tell us that the kingdom of Elohim begins within us. Therefore we are to pray that the kingdom of Elohim including **its constitution**, the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah, that Yahweh gave to Mosheh, at Mount Sinai, which IS His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instruction, His Directives for everlasting Life, dwells within us. We are to pray that what Yahweh told us in *Ezekiel 36:26* *A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put My Holy Spirit within you, and CAUSE you to walk in My Statutes, and you shall keep My Judgments, and DO them;* actually comes to pass in our own lives.

We are to focus on the assurance that YHVH will fill us with His Holy Spirit and what His Holy Spirit will **DO** for us. YHVH Himself says *I will put My Holy Spirit within you, and CAUSE you to walk in My Statutes, and you shall Keep My Judgments, and DO them*. This is the reason **WHY** YHVH places His Holy Spirit within us, **to help us KEEP and OBEY ALL the Words of His Torah of Life**. Since our heavenly Father created us, He knows that we cannot do it on our own, even though He gave us the opportunity to try to keep the Words of His Torah of Life, by our own strength; an exercise, that we failed miserably at, and therefore, that is **WHY** we need His help. That is how much He loves us.

Now that we have affirmed and recognized and understand who our Father in heaven truly **IS**, and that we can trust Him in every aspect of our lives, **WE CAN BEGIN** to pray, and we begin with the statement:

Thy Will be done on earth,

Not only on earth in general but also in our hearts, in our souls, in our spirits, in our minds and in our bodies, in our homes, in our families, in our work place, when we are alone, when we are with friends, with family or with any of your creation Heavenly Father, may Your will be done in me ***AS IT IS DONE IN HEAVEN***. The word Heaven, reiterates His sovereignty. We can only pray that His will be done in our lives, ***IF WE TRUST HIM*** with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength. In other words, it is only when we ***are totally surrendered to Him***. Now you might ask ***WHAT IS the Will of our heavenly Father?***

Scripture makes it very clear what His Will is: *Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Yisrael, what does YHVH your Elohim REQUIRE of you, BUT to FEAR YHVH your Elohim (the fear of YHVH IS the beginning of wisdom), to walk in ALL His Ways, and to love Him, and to Serve YHVH your Elohim with ALL your heart and with ALL your soul, To keep the Commandments of YHVH, and His Statutes, contained in the Words of His Torah of Life, which I command you this day for your good?*

Now after we have done all of that, we can begin to tell Him what we would like:

Give us this day our daily bread.

Here Yeshua instructs us that we are to recognize that it is our heavenly Father that provides the food that we eat every day, and that we are to rely on Him for all our needs. Understood in this statement, is that Messiah, came to earth to bring us life, and to bring it to us more abundantly. We are to understand that apart from Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, ***WE*** can do nothing. Bread (words, doctrines) received from any other source than Yeshua (*the Words of the Living Torah of YHVH, made flesh, the Bread of Life*) ***is worthless***, therefore, we pray that He, our heavenly Father, provides His bread, His Manna for our lives, so that we may grow in His righteousness, walk in His promises and be a blessing to all people around us, by sharing this *Bread of Life*, and that bread of Life my friends, ***IS*** Yeshua the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, our Saviour.

And forgive us our trespasses,

With this admonition, Yeshua tells us to make known our requests to the Father and to rely completely on the Father's promises, that ***IF*** we ***forgive*** what people do against us, then He, our heavenly Father will also ***forgive us*** our trespasses. We are to understand that Yahweh has made us a new creation by Messiah's sacrifice on the cross and that our righteousness comes from Him alone. We are to recognize that the old man that we once were, and willingly put to death, often comes back, and sadly, we often give in to those temptations. We must recognize that we fall short of the glory of Elohim on a daily basis, therefore, heavenly Father we need Your merciful forgiveness everyday of our lives. Please understand that the trespasses that we are to ask forgiveness for, ***IS*** the Trespasses of the Words of His Torah of Life, for *1John 3:4 says; Whosoever commits Sin transgresses or trespasses also the Torah: for Sin IS the transgression and or the Trespassing of the Torah.*

As we forgive those who trespass against us,

Here, Yeshua, through the Scriptures tells us that we ***must first forgive all trespasses*** that have been done against us, ***IF*** we are to be forgiven by our heavenly Father, ***BUT*** to forgive ***is NOT in us***, unless we receive our heavenly Father's divine intervention to help us to do so. Therefore we implore You heavenly Father to please help us, through Your infinite love, grace, and mercy to grant

us the desire to forgive all trespasses committed against us, as Yeshua our Saviour forgave us from the cross,

Let us NOT be lead into temptation.

Dear Father, IF we are left to our own devices, we ***WILL*** return to our old ways, as Your Word says, a little leaven leavens the whole loaf. If tempted, we ***WILL*** fall, therefore YHVH, we implore You to keep all temptation away from us while You are building us up to be strong in our belief in You, and Your Words of Life, until the day comes, that we fully believe ***ALL*** of Your Scriptures and Your promises and understand, what it truly means to be in a Covenant Relationship with Our Elohim, where we can ***BELIEVE*** Your promises that state that *the battle is Yours* and that, *obedience is better than sacrifice*, is completely entrenched and internalized in our hearts, minds and souls and then we, with a surrendered heart to You, we ***CAN*** learn to resist the devil and he will flee from us,

But deliver us from evil.

Evil surrounds us everyday and the only real protection ***IS*** You, Heavenly Father, You are our strong Tower. Give us the discernment to help us to recognize the evil in our lives, for many times it manifests itself as *good intentions* by which we are often deceived. Teach us to run to You, our Strong Tower every time that evil lifts its deceitfully ugly head,

For truly thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, amen!

You are the Creator of all things and all of creation belongs to You. You are Omnipotent and the battle that we call our daily lives, can only be won by lovingly surrendering ourselves to You in loving obedience to the Words of Your Torah of Life. For it is in Your merciful teachings and instructions, where ***true*** and ***everlasting Freedom*** is found, and it can only come through surrendering our hearts to You in loving obedience to the Words of Your Torah, Your system of justice.

YOU SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE IS MESSIAH'S GUARANTEE. True liberty can only be experienced in and through our Heavenly Father's justice, the Words of His Torah, which is His inerrant and everlasting teachings and instructions and that is why ***ALL GLORY AND PRAISE BELONG TO HIM.***

Let's continue, He was and is our Menorah as He proclaimed in *John 8:12*, where He says, *I am the Light of the world.* Then He said to all of us in *Matthew 5:14* ***You are the Light of the world. IF*** Messiah says that He ***IS*** the Light of the world in *John 8*, and in *Matthew 5*, He tells us, ***WE ARE the Light of the world, THEN***, it must mean that we have Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah dwelling within us, ***OTHERWISE WE CANNOT BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.***

Messiah ***IS*** the Living Word of YHVH, the Living Torah, and He is what ***SUSTAINS US*** in this world, on our journey called life. He is the Bread of Life *John 6:32-33*. He became the Laver when He washed the disciples' feet in *John 13:1-10*, then came the final act of His walk here on earth, when He finished His ***work*** by offering Himself willingly and completely, on a tree of judgement for our sins our trespasses of the Father's Torah of Life.

The Tabernacle, my friends, is a wonderful picture of our Messiah, as the head of the body, and we ourselves as the body. When we begin to see ourselves as this Tabernacle, then we can in turn begin

to appreciate all the complexities of the Tabernacle, **FOR IT IS A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP**, in other words, we must become one with the Tabernacle, because the Tabernacle **IS** a picture of our Messiah and we are to be one with Him, **THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL WE TRULY BE ABLE TO BE A LIGHT UNTO THE NATIONS.**

There are 6 Aleph Tav's in these few verses of Exodus 38

Verse 22 Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made **Aleph Tav** all that YHVH commanded Moses.

Verse 27 And of the hundred talents of silver were cast **Aleph Tav** the sockets of the sanctuary, and **Aleph Tav** the sockets of the veil;

Verse 30 and **Aleph Tav** the brazen altar, and the brazen grate for it, and **Aleph Tav** all the vessels of the altar;

Verse 31 **Aleph Tav** and all the pins of the tabernacle,

There are also another seven Aleph Tav's that are attached to words with a Maqef, and there are fourteen words that contain both the Aleph and Tav letters within them. The number seven in Scripture speaks of completeness, YHVH's completed plan of redemption onto salvation and the number fourteen speaks of salvation. Therefore I believe that YHVH is telling us through the use of these Aleph Tav's that **IF** we will surrender our hearts to His, in total loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, then and only then, will He complete His work in us and we will be `resurrected onto everlasting Salvation in His timing. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought, and your every deed. Shalom Alechem. Amein