



Message 3-11-17
Tetsaveh-You Shall Command
Exodus 27:20-30:10
1 Samuel 15:2-34
John 1:1-5

Introduction

Tetzaveh begins with commands about providing fuel for illumination; in this case, olive oil.

Exodus 27:20

20 "You shall command the people of Israel that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the **light**, that a **lamp** may regularly be set up to burn. (ESV)

Don't you find it interesting that what they are talking about must be pure beaten olive oil for the Menorah.

<03974> מְאֹרָה *maor* or מְאֹר *maor* or מְאוֹרָה *meorah* or מְאוֹרָה *meorah* (22c)

Meaning: *a luminary*

Origin: from 215

Usage: bright(1), light(12), lighting(2), lights(3), shining(1).

05216 נֵר *neer* {neer} or נֵר *neer* {neer} also נֵר *neer* {nare} or נֵר *neer* {nare} or (fem.) נֵרָה *nerah* {nay-raw'}

Meaning: 1) lamp

Origin: from a primitive root [see 05214; 05135] properly, meaning to glisten; TWOT - 1333b; n m

Usage: AV - lamp 35, candle 9, light 4; 48

The Hebrew word for light is *meh-or* or *meh-or-ah*, and lamp is *neer*. Now lampstand is the Hebrew word *menorah*, and it is the *menorah* that is the symbol of Israel, not the star of David. The *menorah* was lit at evening and burned all night, shining its light on the veil of the Holy of Holies.

Think about it for a moment as to why this was this way, except for the priests on duty to make sure the fire on the altar never went out, the Tabernacle and later the Temple did not operate at night. The *menorah* represents Israel and the Almighty. The light of the Holy One shines out to show Israel He is always with us, and that His Ark of the Testimony was there within the Holy of Holies to show us His covenant was with us always. He would

watch over Israel in the good times, the bad times, and would be there for them whenever they needed Him once their time of punishment was complete. When they were sent into exile, He was there with them always, letting them know that He loved them even when they were disobedient. Olive oil was used for several different things, but two of them were directly connected to God. The first was in the Menorah and the second to anoint priests, prophets, and kings as well as the sick. When used in the menorah, it had to be the purest oil the Israelites could make.

In the story of Chanukah, it was said they only had enough oil for one day, but it lasted for seven. There is no record of this in the Bible or the book of the Maccabees but is in the Talmud or Oral Writings of the Rabbis. So, we have no actual Biblical proof that this happened, but it makes for a good story. We must keep in mind that it is a story, and the Talmud is not Scripture, even though the rabbis claim it is. It is from men, though the rabbis claim that when Moses received the Ten Words at Mount Sinai, God gave him the Torah, then gave him two Torahs: one the written Torah and the other one the Oral Torah. Moses gave the written Torah to Israel and the Oral Torah to Joshua who passed it to the Elders, and they passed it to the Judges, etc. The only Torah we are familiar with that came directly from God is the written Torah, which we can trace back to Adam and Chavah and from them forward all the way to Moses and onward. Of course, the Torah Adam and Chavah had was much simpler in nature because they were only two people, but we can assume that as they had children, what was necessary for His children to learn about, the Lord added to the Torah. By the time we come to Noah, we see that God decides to destroy the people who live on the face of the earth along with the animals, except for the eight people he chose to live and the number of animals two by two who he decided to save as well. The crime of mankind was violence. Most likely against one another and the animal kingdom. We are not told how many people lived on the earth at that time, but they were apparently concentrated into a small area and had not yet began to migrate until the time of the Tower of Babel.

So perhaps, it was because they were all living so closely together that they could not live in peace in much the same way that Abram and Lot could not co-exist because they needed more room to graze their flocks. Of course, everything that happened was part of the Almighty's plan to accomplish His purpose for His creation. It could not happen any other way, even if man tried to change things. Satan is the great manipulator thinking he can have his own way, and most likely he was jealous of Yeshua, who being God's Son, His only begotten Son, that he wanted to be Him but could never be. He might have believed it was going to happen when Yeshua died, but that dream was destroyed when the Father brought His Son back to life shattering any hope that Satan would ever have of becoming the Father's right hand. In many ways, Satan was the left hand of the Father doing his best to take down everything the right hand was creating and doing. You might be thinking how could Satan be the left hand of God since Satan was pure evil, but remember that God created good and evil. Sin was God's creation, not man's. Man, gave in to the sin that the Almighty created through His right hand Yeshua. So, Yeshua brought sin into the world, and in the end, He would have to deal with what He had created by the power of the Father.

Colossians 1:14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (ESV)

Why do we receive redemption through Messiah? It is because He created sin. He is the visible image of the invisible Father. He is the firstborn of creation. How? It is because He is the spoken word of the Father brought into existence as the third part of the plurality of the God head. The *Ruach HaKodesh*-the Holy Spirit was already present before the Father spoke the Son into existence. If the Son is not part of God, then who and what is He? All that existed in the beginning was chaos and darkness, and it was into this that the Father brought the Son to be the light in the darkness taking us forward to the menorah that lights up the veil covering the Holy of Holies, the place where the covenant resided and God would come to meet the High Priest once a year on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. The symbolism that runs throughout the Bible shows us a plural God, not a singular one. It is everywhere and in most things. Adam and Chavah, most likely, represented the physical manifestation of the Father and the Holy Spirit, and then the children represented Messiah, who was both flesh and spirit. It is simply amazing and should blow our minds how God runs through all parts of the Bible and is everywhere and in everything.

1 Samuel 15:1-3

1 And Samuel said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to **anoint** you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the LORD. ² Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I have noted what Amalek did to Israel in opposing them on the way when they came up out of Egypt. ³ Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'" (ESV)

<04886> מָשַׁח *mashach* (602d)

Meaning: *to smear, anoint*

Origin: a prim. root

Usage: anoint(21), anointed(42), anointing(1), oil(1), painting(1), spread(4).

Saul was set apart as king to rule over Israel not because the Lord wanted Him to but because the people wanted a king like the other nations. He gave them what they wanted, and if we learn anything from not just this situation but all situations in the Bible and in life is that God does not always give us what is best for us, especially when we ask Him. The people wanted a king. They turned away, not from Samuel, but from God. Samuel was God's chosen representative on the earth, a type and shadow of Moshiach. The people rejected God's Messiah when they turned their backs on Samuel, yet Samuel, just as Yeshua did, followed through with whatever God asked of him even when he had to reject his two sons because they were corrupt. Sometimes, it is not easy to walk in the footsteps of one's father because even Yeshua, at one point, facing the reality that His moment of trial was at hand, asked His Father if the cup could pass from Him, but in the end, He

knew what He had to do, and it was His Father's will no matter what. This was the reality of the spiritual world happening in the earthly dimension. Heaven and earth were coming together as they would at other times foreshadowing the future when the New Jerusalem would finally come down out of heaven to take its rightful place on the earth with no one telling God He had to divide His city so His enemies can take up residence there. When man decides that the city God holds closest to His heart must be divided up between His people and His enemies, how it must hurt Him, and yet He knows this has to come to pass so that another part of His plan will come to pass leading to the end of all things ushering in the Olam Haba – the World to Come.

John 1:1-5

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (ESV)

I have always liked this passage of Scripture. Why? It is because it simply states the creation process just before it began when Elohim, the plural Godhead, was present not as El, the singular God, but as Elohim, the plural God. All parts of the Godhead had to come together to bring about Creation. The Father worked through the Son and the Spirit to bring into existence all there is in the heavens and on the earth. Have you ever thought about why there has never been any life found on any other planet except the earth? Maybe the Almighty was trying to teach us that all those worlds out there are meant to show us just how special we are because He decided to create us, make a home for us, and to give us the curiosity to think there might be other life on one of those planets out there, when in truth there is not. It's much like when man thought the earth was flat and that if they sailed far enough in any direction, they would fall off the edge of the earth. I wonder what they thought when they looked up at the night sky and saw the moon as a circle? Did they think it was simply shaped like pizza – flat and a circle? Isn't it amazing what thoughts run through our heads if we allow them to run without slowing them down and thinking about what it is we are thinking and saying?

As I come to the close of this week's Torah teaching, I want to close with this:

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. (ESV)

Isn't it just amazing how the beginning always comes around back to the beginning. Do you think the Holy One is trying to make a point?

Torah Man say: "If some men would lose their self-conceit, there wouldn't be much left of them."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

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