

# DAF TSAFON

16 March 2024  
6 AdarII 5784

Parashat Pekudei  
ArtScroll 530 Hertz 385



The book of Exodus that began with such high drama just a few months ago with the story of the Exodus from Egypt, ends on a rather bland and apparently purely technical note. The Torah once more reviews and recounts for us the details of the construction of the Mishkan and an exact accounting of the material goods that were used in its construction.

Through the ages, the commentators have dwelt long and hard on these parshiyot in the holy Torah. Why the superfluous repetition? Surely the Torah could have said, and the Children of Israel built the Mishkan according to the plan presented by Hashem to Moses.

What is the Torah trying to teach us? The Mishkan had the miraculous quality of being built exactly and unwaveringly according to its original plan. Many times in life people and institutions set out to create structures, organizations and policies that will be of great benefit to society upon completion. Rarely if ever does the finished product match exactly the plans and true intentions of those who planned and initiated the project.

Rabbi Berel Wein of Jerusalem offers a unique insight into our problem. He writes that all human plans and blueprints are subject to change, alterations and even to cancellation. The plans for the Mishkan, shrouded in the spirituality of God's commandments, were not subject to such changes. Therefore Bezalel, Ahaliav and the Jewish people were complimented for their strict adherence to the original plans given to Moses for the construction of the Mishkan.

Every detail of the construction of the Mishkan is reviewed in the parshiyot of this week. All builders are aware of the importance of detail in their work. A missing screw or nail or hook can lead to later disaster. This is true in the physical mundane life of people. It is doubly true regarding the spiritual and moral character of a person and a community. Only in the completion of the details is the whole person or project seen.

The measure of an artist, whether in pictures or music, is always in the nuances - in the details. The avoidance of shortcuts that invariably lead to shabbiness is the true hallmark of the gifted performer. Moses lovingly records for us every piece of material goods that came together as the holy Mishkan.

Our Parasha serves to reemphasize the importance of the detail. Although the Mishkan is no longer physically present with us, its lessons and greatness still abide within the Torah we study and in the value systems of the Jewish people. By reading the Torah's description of it and studying the underlying principles that it represents, the Mishkan gains life and influence within us individually and collectively. The beauty of the details allows us to appreciate the picture as a whole. A beautiful message to finish the book of Exodus.

Shabbat Shalom

**Haftorah** I Kings 7:51 - 8:21 ArtScroll 1164 Hertz 392

The relevance of the Haftorah to this week's Parasha is self-evident. The Parasha detailed the final inspection and construction of the Mishkan culminating in G-d's presence filling the Tabernacle in the form of a cloud. In 2935 the Temple was completed and King Solomon assembled the nation to Jerusalem to witness as the Aron was carried into the Holy of Holies. After describing the procession, the celebration, and the Holy of Holies, the Haftorah relates that the presence of G-d filled the Temple in the form of a cloud. The two events, the construction of the Mishkan and the inauguration of the Temple spanned 486 years. At both occasions the "House of God" was sanctified by the presence of God descending in the form of a cloud.

מזל טוב

**Wedding anniversaries**

Rodney and Lucelle Bregman  
Raeburn and Hazel Chapman  
Anton and Johanna Lever  
Brett Ullman and Andrea Bloom  
Harold and Sandra Zev

מזל טוב

**Bar Mitzvah anniversaries**

Jaime Bergman  
Robert Lipman

**PURIM 5784**

**Adult event:**

**Saturday, 23 March 2024 – 8.30pm**

Megillah reading, followed by a temptingly delicious,

**‘DESSERT BAR’**

for congregants and friends. A double celebration - Purim and the twentieth anniversary of Rabbi's leadership of our warm and friendly congregation.

Early birds: \$40.00 members. Non-members: \$50.

Book through Humanitix.

(see flyer in Rabbi's Weekly News)

**‘PURIM FOR THE YOUNG’**

**Sunday, 24 March 2024 - 10.30am**

**Megillah reading, costume competition,  
games... lots, lots more!**

**So that we know numbers, please  
register that you're coming via Humanitix.**

**We're going to have a great time together...**

**Our congregation acknowledges the following  
yahrzeit anniversaries and wishes long life to  
those who are commemorating a  
yahrzeit during the coming week.**

**חיים ארוכים**

Phyllis Benjamin  
Ian Joel Halperin  
Woolf Proskewitz  
Rebecca Sheftz  
Julia Wittal

sister of Eda Millner  
husband of Gayle Halperin  
grandfather of Wendy Penn  
sister of Hymie Rubin  
wife of Frank Wittal, mother of  
Richard Wittal and Michelle Walter