

# KMS Family Parsha Sheet

בס"ד

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תרומה - Terumah

## Parsha Questions

(Answers on the back)

- 1) The people gave donations to the building of the Mishkan. Why does it not say "veyitnu" — "and they should give" (25:2)?
- 2) Since they were building the Mishkan (not the Beit Hamikdash) should it not have said "ve'asu li Mishkan"? Furthermore, it should have said "betocho" (in it) instead of "betochem" (in them)? (25:8)
- 3) Of all the donations to the Mishkan, which one was not voluntarily given?
- 4) Where did they get wood in the Midbar to build the Mishkan?
- 5) What was the Aron Kodesh made out of?
- 6) Why was the Aron covered in gold on both the outside and the inside (25:11)?
- 7) What did the Keruvim on top of the Aron represent?
- 8) What did the Keruvim look like?
- 9) Aside from the Keruvim mentioned in the context of the Mishkan, where else in the Torah are Keruvim mentioned?
- 10) How did Moshe know the shape of the Menorah?

Sir, we've gone from tent to tent. We've got lawyers, doctors, high-tech business owners, actors, comedians, architects, Nobel prize winners etc., but no sign of any Jewish builders to build the Mishkan...



## Words of Wisdom

Pirkei Avot 1:12

הוֹי מַתְלַמְדֵיךְ שֶׁל אֶהְרֵן, אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם,  
אוֹהֵב אֶת הַבְּרִיּוֹת וּמִקְרִיבן לַתּוֹרָה

Be of the disciples of Aaron, loving and pursuing peace,  
loving mankind and drawing them close to the Torah.

## Did You Know?

### Jewish Leap Years ([outorah.org](http://outorah.org))

The Jewish calendar is based on the cycles of the moon.

A lunar month (from one new moon to the next) is approximately 29 ½ days. Since two lunar cycles are about 59 days, the length of a Jewish month alternates between 29 and 30 days. A lunar year (which consists of 12 lunar cycles) is approximately 354.36 days, while a solar year is about 365 ¼ days. Thus, the lunar year is about 10.89 days shorter than the solar year (365 ¼ - 354.36). If the calendar would not be amended, Pesach (which falls on the lunar date of the 15th day of Nissan) would be progressively earlier on the solar calendar every year. This would be problematic because the Torah states (Shemos 23:15) that Pesach is celebrated "bichodesh ho'oviv", in the month of spring. To correct the imbalance between the lunar and solar calendars, a leap month is added every 2 or 3 years, for a total of 7 leap years every 19 years. Since the extra month (Adar Aleph) is always 30 days, 210 days are added to the calendar over the course of 19 years (19 X 30). 210 is close to the 207 days (10.89 X 19), which is the number of days that that lunar calendar lags behind the solar calendar over the course of 19 years. To compensate for the extra three days, we shorten Kislev to 29 days (rather than 30 days) three times during the 19-year cycle. In this way, every 19 years the two calendars coincide. The year 5782 (this year) is the sixth year of the 19-year cycle.



## Parsha Answers:

- 1) When a Jew gives tzedakah he is not only giving but also receiving, because when the poor man accepts the tzedakah, the giver receives a zechut for the mitzvah.
- 2) Baal HaTurim - The first Beit Hamikdash lasted 410 years, and the second Beit Hamikdash 420 years. The word "veshachanti" (ושכנתי) can be read as two words: "ושכן" - "and I will rest [in it]" - "410" - "י" years (10 = י, 400 = ת). The word "ושכנתי" can also be rearranged to read "ושני ת"כ" - "and the second, 420." Since the pasuk is alluding to Hashem's dwelling in the 1st and 2nd Beit Hamikdash, it says "betochem."
- 3) Silver; there was a levy of 1/2 shekel upon every adult Israelite.
- 4) Rashi 25:5 - Yaakov had a Nevuah that they would one day build a Mishkan so he planted cedar trees in Egypt and told his children to bring the wood with them when they left.
- 5) Acacia wood overlaid with pure gold.
- 6) Yoma 72b - This teaches us that our insides should match our outsides (i.e we should be sincere). This is known as being Tocho K'varo.
- 7) One Keruv represented Hashem and the second one represented the Jews. These reflected the relationship between the Jews. When the Jews did not sin, the Keruvim faced each other representing unity. However, if they sinned then the Keruvim would turn away from each other, reflecting distancing from each other.
- 8) Rashi 25:18 - The Keruvim looked like children. Rashbam and Chizkuni say that they looked like birds. Rabbeinu Bechayei says that they looked like Malachim (angels).
- 9) In Parshat Breishit (3:24) Hashem guards the path to the Tree of Life with two Keruvim.
- 10) Rashi 25:40 - Hashem showed Moshe a Menorah of fire.



## Tefilla Insights

### Pesukei D'Zimra

(outorah.org)

The section that starts with the prayer Hodu through the end of the Shira is called "pesukei d'zimrah" ("verses of praise"). This section is bookended by two blessings: Baruch She'amar at the beginning and Yishtabach at the end. Once a person has started Baruch She'amar, he may not interrupt this section with speech until he has finished it. (Since pesukei d'zimrah is a single unit, doing so would be tantamount to speaking in the middle of a blessing.) However, if a mitzvah requires a person's attention, different rules apply than in the section of reciting Shema (as we will see in chapter 16). For example, one may reply "Amen" to a blessing during pesukei d'zimrah, even during Baruch She'amar or Yishtabach. Similarly, one may recite the verse of Shema with the congregation, as well as respond to Kaddish, Kedusha and Barchu (though it is preferable, if possible, to arrange to stop at a natural break, such as between paragraphs, or at least between verses). One does not respond "Baruch Hu u'baruch shmo" during pesukei d'zimrah. If one used the facilities, he should wait to say Asher Yatzar, since it need not be recited immediately.



## This Week In Jewish History

### Adar 4

(Aish.com)

Yahrtzeit of Menachem Begin (1913-1992), prime minister of Israel. Prior to the creation of the state, Begin became leader of the Irgun and used militant means to force the British government to withdraw from Palestine. In the Knesset, Begin led the opposition party for decades, before being elected prime minister in 1977. Begin negotiated the Camp David Accords with Anwar Sadat of Egypt, for which he was awarded the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize. Begin is also remembered for his conviction to Jewish tradition (he was known to consult with great rabbis and to walk to meetings on Shabbat), and his resolve to defend the Jewish people from another Holocaust (Begin had lost his parents and a brother to the Nazis), which factored greatly in his decision to bomb the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981.



## Key Number or Word In The Parsha

### Shechina - שכינה

(Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)

God said to Moses, "Let them build me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." The key word here is the verb sh-kh-n, to dwell. Never before had it been used in connection with God. It eventually became a keyword of Judaism itself. From it came the word Mishkan meaning a sanctuary, and Shechinah, the Divine Presence. Central to its meaning is the idea of closeness. Shakhen in Hebrew means a neighbour, the person who lives next door. What the Israelites needed and what God gave them was a way of feeling as close to God as to our next-door neighbour.