

23 Hours & 59 Minutes

6 WAGONS & 12 OXEN

A Sanctuary Within

The *Nesi'im*, leaders of each Tribe, donated 6 wagons and 12 oxen on the last day when Moshe completed setting up the Mishkan. These 6 wagons were divided among two families of the Leviim who were in charge of transporting the Mishkan. The Gershon Family got 4 wagons and 8 oxen, while Merari got 2 wagons fitted with 4 oxen.

Ultimately four wagons were used to carry 12 *kerashim* (beams), 100 sockets, & 60 pillars fitted with an additional 60 brass sockets. The transport was so precarious that very specific instructions were given for exactly how to load the wagons; 12 boards were placed horizontally in two double-stacks on each wagon. A Levi was appointed to follow the wagons while readjusting the beams if they should shift, making sure that nothing fell.

The Mishkan was ornate and beautiful, the donations from the Jewish people were so abundant that not everything could even be used. Why did the *Nesi'im*, who donated last, seem to hold back when gifting the wagons & oxen? Six wagons from 12 tribes almost seems cheap. There was no shortage of resources; they could have fashioned more wagons in Egypt, or bought materials from traveling merchants.



There was no need to be stingy with the wagons, especially as it's said regarding the Temple, "there cannot be poverty in a place of wealth [like the Mishkan]."

The Mishkan was indeed a place of splendor and the minimal number of wagons was not a sign of poverty or lacking. Every detail of the traveling temple was EXACTLY as it should be – there was nothing less and nothing more; indeed, anything extra or unnecessary would have diminished the importance of each detail. The Midrash explains that the wagons and oxen had the status of a *korban* (ritual sacrifice). Superfluous wagons to lighten the load would have actually minimized the meaningful and holy nuance found in each very specific detail of the Mishkan. ➡

Tanya Shiur Summer Series

5:00pm Shabbat afternoon

Chabad House Zal

144-01 69th Avenue

(enter on Main St. btwn 68th Dr. & 69th Ave.)

Separate seating for men & women

Torah Q&A for Your Shabbos Table

Q: Are you allowed to open and close a book on Shabbos that has writing on the sides of the pages?

A: It is permissible to open & close a book with writing and/or symbols on the side of the pages

שו"ע הרב סי' ש"מ סעי' ד'

Q: Am I allowed to cut a slice of cake on Shabbos if the cake is decorated with words and the knife will slice through the words?

A: One should not cut a cake with icing in the form of words or shapes on it. However, one may cut between the letters (unless they are script).

שמירת שבת כהלכה פי"א ה"ז

Q: When waiting before eating dairy after a meat meal, do I need to wait from when I finish eating the meat, or from the time I say Birkat Hamazon?

A: One needs to wait only from the time he finished eating the meat, even if the meal itself concluded later.

שו"ע רמ"א יו"ד סי' פט

Torah Questions?

You can submit any Q's that you would like to see in this column to Rabbi Shaul Wertheimer at rabbi@qChabad.org

Seven Lessons from a Thief

A Sanctuary Within (continued)


The Leviim were essential workers in the truest sense, every action mattered and every detail was relevant. They did not prepare wagons unless they were needed. They did not consume space unless it was needed.

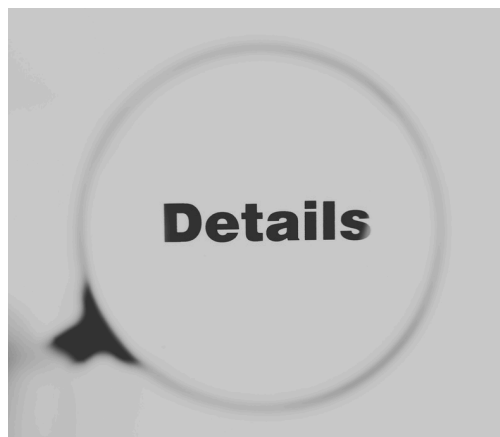
Hashem commanded the Jewish people to construct a Mikdash (sanctuary) so the He could dwell within them. The Chassidic masters teach that this means that each individual should construct an internal "holy space" for G-d to dwell within each individual.

Just as every detail in the physical Mishkan in the desert was necessary and needed for a specific purpose, so too every talent, strength, ability and inclination within ourselves is vital as well. There is purpose for every moment and everything that a person has been given by the Giver of all Givers.

"Even if you have already filled 23 hours and 59 minutes of your day," the Lubavitcher Rebbe said, "you must make sure that the remaining 1 minute is not wasted."

When each individual utilizes every detail and moment of their life to fulfill their unique purpose, they bring G-dliness into the world and hasten the coming of Moshiach. May it be speedily and in our time.


(Likkutei Sichos Vol. 28 Rosh Chodesh Sivan). 



Chassidic Story

Reb Zusha of Anipoli learned a lesson from everything he encountered. Here are 7 things that Reb Zusha learned from a thief:

1. Be discreet
2. Be fearless
3. Be mindful of details
4. Be patient
5. Be eager and willing
6. Be confident and optimistic
7. Always try again

If Reb Zusha could learn so much from a criminal, how much more can we learn from our friends and family and all the other people in our lives. L'chaim! 

HAYOM YOM

11 Sivan

From my father's talks: "The avoda of serving G-d according to Chassidus comprises all kinds of levels... The level of "corpse" does not need much elaboration; but, thank G-d, there is also "revival of the dead" in spiritual avoda. A corpse is cold; there is nothing as frigid as natural intellect, human intellect. When one's natural intelligence comprehends a G-dly concept, and the emotions latent in intellect are enthused and moved by the pleasure-within-intellect -- that is true revival of the dead.

Torah Q&A for Your Shabbos Table

Q: Do I have to say Birkat Hamazon in Hebrew?

A: Based on the Mishna in Sotah, the Shulchan Aruch states that one can say Birkat Hamazon in any language that one understands, provided that it is the same meaning as the Hebrew.

שו"ע או"ח קפה, א

Q: Is it permissible for a drunk person to recite Birkat Hamazon?

A: While being drunk is certainly not praiseworthy, it is nevertheless permitted to recite Birkat Hamazon while intoxicated (even though one may not daven in such a state).

שו"ע או"ח קפה, ד, ט"ז סק"א

Q: How many names are given for the holiday of Shavuot?

A: There are 5 names for the holiday and they are:

1. Shavuot - "weeks" because we celebrate 7 weeks after Pesach
2. Zman Matan Torateinu - "The season of the Giving of the Torah"
3. Chag Ha'katzir - "feast of the harvest" because it is the season of the wheat harvest in Israel.
4. Yom Ha'bikkurim - "Day of the first fruit". In the times of the Beis Hamikdash two loaves of bread baked with the new wheat were given as a gratitude offering.
5. Atzeret - "conclusion" as it makes the end of the sefira connecting Pesach and Shavuot.

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In honor of our wonderful children and grandchildren – Shaul & Tzipah, Mendel, Shoshi, Sruli, Shmuel and Zalmy."

8:06pm Candle Lighting

8:10pm Mincha

Followed by Kabbalas Shabbos

8:45am Chassidus Shiur

10:00am Davening

5:00pm Tanya Shiur

8:00pm Mincha

9:15pm Maariv / Shabbos Ends