

# PEKUDEI (reckonings)

Exodus 38:21-40:38

1 Kings 7:51-8:21



# TORAH

## BERESHIT

Bereshit  
Noach  
Lech Lecha  
Vayeira  
Chayei Sarah  
Toldot  
Vayeitzei  
Vayishlach  
Vayeishev  
Mikeitz  
Vayigash  
Vayechi

## SHEMOT

Shemot  
Va'eira  
Bo  
Beshalach  
Yitro  
Mishpatim  
Terumah  
Tetzaveh  
Ki Tisa  
Vayakhel  
**Pekudei**

## VAYIKRA

Vayikra  
Tzav  
Shemini  
Tazria  
Metzora  
Acharei  
Kedoshim  
Emor  
Behar  
Bechukotai

## BAMIDBAR

Bamidbar  
Naso  
Behaalotecha  
Shelach  
Korach  
Chukat  
Balak  
Pinchas  
Matot  
Massei

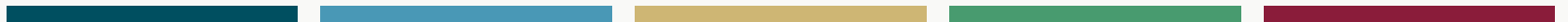
## DEVARIM

Devarim  
Va'etchanan  
Eikev  
Re'eh  
Shoftim  
Ki Teitzei  
Ki Tavo  
Nitzavim  
Vayelech  
Haazinu  
V'Zot HaBerachah

# THE STORY SO FAR



- God has forgiven the children of Israel for the Golden Calf.
- Since then, the construction of the Tabernacle has been in full-swing and details of its construction are given.
- Last week we read about how the workers were filled with the Holy Spirit in a limited way to do the work they needed to do.
- This week the Tabernacle is completed and the Presence of the Lord filled it.



# THIS WEEK



Exodus 40:33-38

And he erected the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

# PEKUDEI

Interestingly, it states here Moses couldn't enter the Tent of Meeting, whereas elsewhere (Num 7:89) it states that Moses would regularly enter the Tent of Meeting. RASHI\* explains that while the cloud was over the Tent, representing the Presence of G-d, not even Moses could enter.

\*RASHI, a.k.a Rabbi Shlomo ben Yitzchak (1040-1105), a revered French medieval rabbi, known for his commentary on the Bible and Talmud.

RABBI SOLOMON ben ISAAC a.k.a RASHI

# PEKUDEI



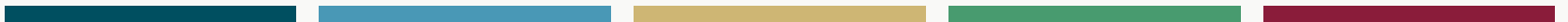
## 1 Kings 8:1-11

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' houses of the people of Israel, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. And all the men of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. And they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered.

# PEKUDEI



Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.



# PEKUDEI



In the first Temple also, we see that even the ministering priests, after innumerable sacrifices, were unable to stand in the Presence of the Lord and live.

Simply, the Presence was off limits, even though it dwelled amongst the people. While it was in their midst, it was not directly accessible.





# PEKUDEI



- As an interesting side-note, the month in which the Temple was dedicated was the “seventh month,” known as Tishrei/Tishri today. It was dedicated during “the feast” (which is probably Sukkot).
- Here it is called the month of Ethanim (Heb “Eitanim”).
- There might be a common thread to explain these names. The Hebrew word “Eitan” has a few meanings, mainly firm, strong, enduring. It is the source of the English name “Ethan.”

# PEKUDEI

19th Century Messianic Jewish scholar Theophilus Lucky\* from his article in Edut Le Yisrael:

“Perhaps it was called by this name because there was no rain during this month in Canaan and Palestine except for the water that came from the ever-flowing streams, which never dried up throughout the whole year, or perhaps because through these streams, and during this month, the *everlasting* foundations of the earth were created. The meaning of this name is actually “the month in which the heavens and the earth were created.”

\*Originally Chaim Yedidiah Poljak (1854-1916) was a Chassidic Jew who came to faith in Jesus. He led a movement of Jewish believers committed to harmonising their faith with their Orthodox Jewish roots.

THEOPHILUS LUCKY- EDUT LeYISRAEL

# PEKUDEI

The name “Tishrei” was adopted after the first exile in Babylon. The word comes from the Syrian word “Tishrin,” which means beginning or commencement.

These names probably refer to a deeply established Jewish tradition that the heavens and earth were created during this month, leading it to be called the “first month” even though the Bible refers to it as the seventh month.

THEOPHILUS LUCKY- EDUT LeYISRAEL

# PEKUDEI



- The example of the cloud is a striking illustration of the Presence of G-d on Earth.
- When it moved, Israel moved, when it stayed, they stayed.
- Traditionally it also gave Israel protection from the heat during the day.
- It turned into a fire at night, to give Israel light and warmth.



# PEKUDEI



- It is incredible that the Presence of G-d, that not even Moses could approach, became the man known as Yeshua:
  - John 2:18 “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”
  - John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

# PEKUDEI



- But Yeshua was only one step in the evolution of how G-d's Presence would relate to mankind.
- After Yeshua left earth, that Presence was gone.
- But he promised that the Holy Spirit would be in the heart of each believer.
  - 1 Corinthians 3:16 “Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?”

# PEKUDEI

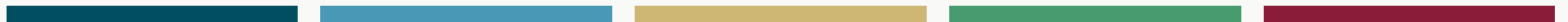


- We cannot take this new reality for granted.
- In the period of the Torah, the Presence of the Lord was too much for even Moses to bear.
- Now we have it within us, this is an indescribable transformation, we would do wise to steward this well.





Blessed are you Lord our God, King of the universe,  
Rock of all worlds, righteous through all generations,  
faithful God,  
who says and does,  
who speaks and fulfils,  
all whose words are truth and righteousness.







Faithful are you, Lord our God,  
and faithful are your words,  
and not one of your words shall return void,  
for you are a faithful and merciful God and King.  
Blessed are you Lord, God, faithful in all your words.

*Amen*

