

Torah Focus

יום המישי, כ"ט באייר, תש"ע

STUDY GUIDE #23

Preparing for Shavout

THIS WEEKS TORAH READING

Sh'mot (Exodus) 34:27 - 35:29
Ashlamatah: Jer. 31:32-39+32:40-41

Psalm 68:1-36
Pirqa Abot IV:1
N.C.: I Tsefet (Peter) 1:1-2

TONIGHT'S OMER COUNT

Tonight, Thursday evening, May 13, we count forty five days, which is six weeks and three days of the Omer.

Day 45 - **Tiferet of Malchut: Compassion in Nobility**

THE MOUNTAIN OF G-D

JOSEPHUS LOOKS AT THE TEM- PLE

Wars 5.184 But the Temple, as I have shown, was seated on the crest of a strong ridge, initially the ground was scarcely sufficient for the Temple and its altar not being a flat plain, the plain was downhill and made a shear incline.

185 But King Solomon who was the builder of the Temple, built up the ground of the eastern side. He placed a portico on this built up area and rest of the Temple היכל remained bare or exposed to the open air. However, in the succeeding generations the people leveled the hill and increased the area making a larger plane.

186 And the wall towards the north was later broken open to enlarge the entire surrounding conse-

crated area. This encompassed and protected the entire Temple complex.

187 And the walls were built from bedrock on three sides from the cresting of the hill. The work was greater than expected and the task continued until a time when the funds were exhausted, but the Temple treasury was replenished by the shared gifts sent to God for the Temple from the entire inhabited world and the upper and lower courts were enclosed.

Acts 2:2 And suddenly there came a echoing noise from heaven as of a blowing breath, and it filled all the house (Temple)¹ where they were sitting.

Acts 2:2 και εγενετο αφνω εκ του ουρανου ηχος ωσπερ φερομενης πνοης βιαιας και επληρωσεν ολον τον οικον ου ησαν καθημενοι

188 The lower regions of the walls were built up from the bedrock as much as three hundred cubits. But some areas exceeded this height. The depth was not apparent because the valleys were filled to level the narrow city streets.

189 Now stones as great as forty cubits in magnitude were used to build because of the abundance of funds and the

ambition of the people. The people expressed their desire to accomplish to accomplish the enterprise in an efficient time span by their positive determination.

190 But the work above the foundations was of corresponding importance, and the portico above it was of supreme craftsmanship, with double rows of glistening crystalline marble columns made from a single stone twenty-five cubits in height supporting a coffered ceiling of cedar wood that formed its roof.

191 The natural extravagance of these columns was a noteworthy spectacle. They were highly polished and well fitted without any ornamentation from a painter or carved artwork.

192 The outer courtyard was thirty cubits wide and the perimeter, including the Antonia, measured

1. TDNT 5.119

The Theological Dictionary of the New Testament suggests that when a specific house is suggested it is most likely the Temple. F.F. Bruce agrees with this statement in his commentary on Acts pg. 81

six stadiums. The open courtyard was paved with all sorts of cunning stonework of different variety.

193 Approaching the second court before the Temple was fence made of stone three cubits high, entirely surrounding the temple with graceful proficiency. (Dr. Walter Oakley's Translation)

Shemot 19.16-20 ¹⁶ ¶ And it happened on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders (voices) and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain. And the voice of the shofar was exceedingly loud, so that all the people in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with G-d. And they stood at the lower part of the mountain. (under the mountain)

¹⁸ And Mount Sinai was smoking, all of it, because L-rd came down upon it in fire. And the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

¹⁹ And when the voice of the trumpet (Shofar) sounded long, and became very strong, Moses spoke, and G-d answered him by a thunder (voice). ²⁰ And L-rd came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And L-rd called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

Acts 2:1-7 Acts 2:1 ¶ And in the fulfilling of the day of Pentecost, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly a sound came out of the heaven as borne along by the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. ³ And tongues as of fire appeared to them, being distributed; and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled of the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵ ¶ And dwelling at Jerusalem there were Jews, devout men out of every nation under heaven. ⁶ But this sound occurring, the multitude came together and were confounded, because they each heard them speaking in his own dialect. ⁷ And they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, Behold, are not these who speak all Galileans?

NOTES

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