

Vayakhel – Pekudei 2026

Vayakhel (“And He Assembled)/Pekudei (“Accounting of), Exodus 35:1-40:38, closes out the book of Exodus, and forms the final 2 parshahs of the 5 concerning the Tabernacle construction. Yet to truly understand the weight and significance of what is laid out within these passages (especially seeing as it seems to repeat the details already provided), we must look at the timeline. This passage picks up after the incident of the golden calf! The scenario of the golden calf was an act of idolatry, adultery, and just as the encounter with the nachash at the Tree of Knowledge shifted and changed the access Adam had to Yahweh and his standing, so this incident too has shifted the access Israel will have to His Presence! Yet is there a remedy revealed?

Exodus 35:1-3 – SHABBAT! It seems to highlight Shabbat not just as a day of rest, but as the remedy and means of restoration that is being offered to Israel who finds themselves in a compromised condition! It’s no accident that the rest of the passage deals with the construction of the Tabernacle or the Tent of Meeting – ‘ohel mo’ed, tent of appointed times which houses His Presence!

Now let’s take a look at the opening statement – vayakhel – gathered!

Gathered: Strong’s #6950 Qahal לָקַח to assemble together, to gather, to summon an assembly; when breaking it apart, it is written with the letter ק = symbolizes the horizon, represents time (a set/marked time) therefore also inferring what is expected to come and when looking at the ancient Hebrew rendering of this letter it reveals the tequphah (a circle pierced by the radius/sun on the horizon); this is then attached to the לָקַח root = to move quickly or briskly, as well as to irradiate or shine as the light of a luminous body (same concept seen in the meaning of the term “tent’/’ohel אֹהֶל)

ה = to breathe, to reveal & ל = teachings, instructions, as well as to goad or provoke to stimulate someone to action

The extrapolated definition then of this “gathering” sounds like a description of the sun (symbolic of the SON) briskly making his circuit across the sky to illuminate/reveal/give breath or voice to the teachings and instructions embedded within this heavenly scroll that reveals the remedy – His plan of restoration and redemption! It’s a revealing of the entirety of his circuit (His calendar) that is designed as the remedy to Israel’s exile. Yet it also infers that Israel is being provoked or goaded to action to partake of this that’s being revealed! Hence the admonishment regarding the most repeated and vital appointment – the Shabbat!

Continuing to look into this – vayakhel has a numerical value of 151, the same as #4723 miqvah מִקְוָה hope, expectation, or a congregation or gathering; a host, company, collection, or collected mass; interesting that much like vayakhel it indicates a gathering or congregation yet miqvah emphasizes another aspect of this gathering – to have the

cleansing waters applied which was necessary after becoming ritually impure, or having had contact with death! From Adam's fall forward there is now death working in us, yet the mo'edim function as miqveh's where the cleansing water can be applied granting us access to His Presence.

From the root #6960 qavah קָוָה to wait, look for, hope, or expect; to collect or bind together; it can also indicate to stretch out or forth, as in the head or neck with earnest intention and observation to see when a person or thing expected shall appear; and finally can indicate a marking line stretched out!

*If you've ever "marked the shadow" regarding the start of the year this is an exact description – qavah – you stretch the line to mark and see if it's arrived with expectation!

Breaking this word down further into the individual letters:

ק = once again symbolizes the horizon, representing time or what is to come, and when looking at the ancient Hebrew rendering of this letter it reveals the tequphah (a circle pierced by the radius/sun on the horizon)

ו = to be joined, connected, also functions to make what was future (unseen) present (manifest)

ה = to reveal, to make fruitful, to breathe

The word picture of miqvah reveals that the source of our hope and earnest expectation is intricately interwoven with Yahweh's timing and calendar and cannot be separated! We must be connected/joined to His timing to see and understand the manifestation of those promises that are being voiced. These same set appointments provide the timing of when He reveals the blessings and the inheritance to the heirs who are obedient to arrive!

Looking further at this aspect, the term qavah (hope – miqvah) is first seen in **Gen. 1:9** – "And Elohim said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together (qavah) unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so."

Dry Land: #3004 yabasaחַבַּשׁ dry land, dry ground; from the root Yabes (#3001) יָבַשׁ to be ashamed, put to shame, to make dry or wither – in the next verse this dry land is recognized as "earth" – 'eretz.

The term 'eretz is first seen in **Gen. 1:1** when Yahweh creates the heaven and the earth/'eretz and it is the 'eretz that is made tohu' v'bohu (waste and desolate). Yet the Ruach moves upon the waters – the term used there is rachaph (#7363) to hover, grow soft, relax, to tremble or vibrate; the same letters rearranged form charaph (#2778) חָרַף to reproach or to acquire or betroth

***Joshua 5:9** - "And Yahweh said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach (cherpah) of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day."

At Creation the moment a compromise takes place -waste and desolation, His Spirit is moving to deal with and remove the reproach! And its directly connected to His

Seed/WORD being released into the waters (function as a womb). When those covering waters are removed from the dry land – it reveals the shame of having been made desolate due to a compromise. It's revealing the pattern – the waters of the miqveh are there to cleanse and bring life making that which was desolate and shamed (yabasah) able to be inhabited – yashav יָשָׁב (same letters!) The mo'edim are the cleansing miqveh that remove the reproach and identify those who come as a fit dwelling place for His Presence capable of housing His WORD and seeing it produce! Yet removed from His calendar and mo'edim, we are waste and desolate!

*This becomes the pattern that is once again followed with Israel after the golden calf incident! They have become tohu v'bohu – waste and desolate and are in need of the cleansing waters – hence their admonishment to partake of the remedy provided (Shabbat)!

It seems the specific reason Yahweh is choosing to emphasize this here is due to Israel's encounter with the golden calf being directly connected to this compromising of the 'eretz at Creation.

This is the second reference of the term qahal, it is first seen in **Ex. 32:1** – “And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered (qahal) themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.” – they gather to make the golden calf!

The emphasis on this choice of wording cannot be overstated! You assembled for an intimate encounter with another, and now you are summoned to stand before the Creator at His marked time! Not only does Israel worship this molten image but it is declared in **Ex. 32:5** that it is a “Feast to Yahweh”.

Feast: Strong's #2282 Chag חַג feast, festival; but of the mo'edim listed only 3 are identified as “chag” – Unleavened Bread, Shavuot, and Sukkot – the 3 pilgrimage feasts where Israel was required to present themselves before Yahweh (**Deut. 16:16** – “Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before Yahweh thy Elohim in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before Yahweh empty:”)

*The required appearance dealt with Israel appearing before the all-powerful sovereign King to swear and prove their continued allegiance, yet simultaneously this covenant relationship afforded them the position of being considered sons and heirs! It's no accident that they are instructed to not appear before Him “empty” – reyqam רֵיקָם vainly, empty; yet the root stem forms the word reqam רֵקָם variety of colors, to be variegated, a cloth of various colors (Joseph's coat? The identity of the firstborn and heir!)

By calling this a “chag” in relation to the molten calf it reveals not only is Israel engaging in spiritual idolatry/adultery, but they have sworn allegiance and fealty to another and are

being publicly acknowledged and recognized as the heirs of this entity whose inheritance is death and destruction!

The glaring question remains - what provoked this choice from Israel? When looking at what Israel has just experienced - the 10 plagues, their redemption by the mighty Hand of Yahweh, the crossing of the Red Sea all of this was for the purpose of identifying and publicly proclaiming Israel as His heir and firstborn (Ex. 4:22)! They've now been brought to Sinai to be invested with the power and authority that comes with that role and yet they flippantly choose another?

Ex. 32:1 – “And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron...”

Delayed here in Hebrew is written as the phrase “ki-boshesh” כִּי־בֹשֶׁשׁ and it has a numerical value of 632, the same as bekorati בְּכֹרְתִי my birthright/my blessing – the right of the firstborn! A startling thought – how often have we expected an aspect of our “birthright” or our “blessing”, a promise to be seen in our lives yet when it is delayed in our minds because we don't understand His timing, we don't understand when the VOICE will walk, that we become disillusioned and perhaps our own commitment shifts and we look to another source?

This phrase bekorati is seen in Gen. 27:36 upon Jacob receiving Isaac's blessing in disguise and Esau declares “And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright (bekorati); and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing (bekorati). And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?”

*Could understanding the calendar of Yahweh also play a role in being considered a son like Jacob/Israel the chosen heir capable of handling the affairs of the house, or a son like Esau who despised the responsibility of the birthright yet sought the blessing of the inheritance?

Delayed: Strong's #954 bush בִּיֹּשׁ to put to shame, to be ashamed, disconcerted, or disappointed; once again this is only the second use of this Hebrew word, it's first seen describing the condition of Adam & Eve (prior to the fall) when they are “naked and not ashamed (bush)” (Gen. 2:25).

*Diving further into this Hebrew term bush/shame, according to Parkhurst this same root is seen in connection with the shame of idols (such as Baal Peor) as well as a specific idol and city located in Egypt (referenced in Ezek 30:17 – Pibeseth) taken from the idol's name Bubasti where the moon was worshipped and therefore this name indicates the countenance of the sky or the shame-faced goddess!

Now remember this is describing the fact that in Israel's eyes, Mosheh has “delayed” to return regarding their birthright/blessing! And so now they are preparing to present themselves before another “god” to receive what they feel is rightfully theirs, yet it's their timing that is off! This “chag/feast” that they choose to participate in is not a set determined appointment with Yahweh! The Hebrew indicates that perhaps it has

something to do with once again compromising and trying to bring in moon worship and using the moon to calculate their set times like what they saw in Egypt!

*It's no accident that based on the timing of this decision, Israel builds the golden calf (Baal), the bull divinity in all ancient cultures was directly associated with moon worship – his horns forming the crescent moon as the heavenly bull pushes the moon across the sky!

Digging a little bit further, this particular idol/goddess connected to this שֶׁשׁ root was pictured as woman with the head of a cat and was one of the most widely worshipped goddesses as one of the consorts of Ra (the Sun God). The cat was the chosen emblem as their eyes reflect any light at night (glowing), and was considered by the Egyptians to be the sun/light carried through the night by this cat/goddess, and according to the Egyptian lore this light was said to help the sun god Ra make it from sunset to sunrise, ensuring a new day begins! It connects these other false calendars (particularly based on the moon and lunar influence) with diminishing the role of our Redeemer and King, and puts the supposed ability, timing, and power into the hands of the wayward compromised bride!

Can you see how this convoluted compromised way of thinking began to influence Israel when they didn't understand the timing and patterns of Yahweh's calendar and way of regulating His appearances?

*Their lunar worship now becomes a way of helping bring about the "new day" and in their mind will guide Mosheh and the SON/Sun back. Yet it is a lie straight from the Nachash – instead they have become clothed in shame, His light is lost as their covering, and their status is compromised by meeting based on another's calendar – this compromised worship and timing only ushers in a fallen god (much like the antimessiah in the end days)!

Now you can understand this statement vayakhel – assemble – and the emphasis on the circuit being made by the sun/SON revealing the timing of His circuit directly connected to their redemption and yes the release of their inheritance and blessings! He's reasserting His authority, while simultaneously revealing Israel's condition as being tainted with death, yet He offers the miqveh waters – this is how you are cleansed!

Understanding the timing of His coming and His appointments become key to seeing His promises in your life, your birthright/inheritance, released as well as ensuring that we are in fact considered heirs of His house and prove and confirm this by our mandatory appearance at the set times! Could this be why the first order of business is putting Israel in remembrance of the Shabbat after their compromise?

Ex. 35:2

Six: Strong's #8337 shesh שֶׁשׁ six; yet this same root translates as linen garments – priestly garments; it's about being clothed with the garments that will identify you as the heir of His house in preparation for His scheduled determined appearance at Shabbat! Here it is conjugated as sheshet שֶׁשֶׁת with the added ת = seal or mark of the covenant! The gematria of this phrase = 1,000 – the same as the Hebrew phrase "deceiver"/kimta'tea' כִּמְתָאֵתָע found

in **Gen. 27:12** where Jacob states – “My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver/kimta’tea’; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.”

*Could it be that Jacob was concerned about the timing of accessing this blessing?! He understands that the birthright is his, he is the heir according to Yahweh, but he also understands that the manifestation of that promise is dependent upon the timing and calendar schedule of Yahweh and not for him to take into his own hands – lest he be like Esau!

In fact the root of this phrase is ta’ta’ תעתע translated as meaning to deceive, or scoff at or misuse is the mirror of the Hebrew word לע meaning set time or season, from the same root ‘ad לע as mo’ed! Jacob will not scoff at the significance of the timing of Yahweh that regulates and directs his own steps just as much as determining the coming and appearances of His Presence!

Are the dots connecting yet? The calendar of Yahweh also becomes the measuring line regarding who qualifies as heirs in His house and regulates the outpouring or release of the promises and inheritance! Israel is His chosen heir, yet they have compromised their status by attempting to manipulate set appointments for their own benefit and therefore taken on the garments of another!

Work: Strong’s #4399 mela’kah מלאכה occupation, work, business; 1st seen describing the “work” of Yahweh in the creation week, seeming to connect this to creative transformative actions.

*The 3 letter root of mela’kah forms the root stem מלא to fill, to finish, to satisfy, the act of making that which was empty no longer so; can also indicate a setting/mounting of jewels (like in the Breastplate), an ordination, consecration, or installation of someone or something

The breastplate stones were symbolic of the sons – could this be revealing that every week the “work” is about creating, filling and preparing, and come Shabbat the stones that have been polished, engraved, and prepared are now set and installed, the sons consecrated and returned to fill their place? Seeming to indicate that the 6 days of work are necessary for these stones to fit! You can’t circumvent this which is exactly what Israel was guilty of (much like Esau before them)!

Sabbath: Strong’s #7676 Shabbat שַׁבָּת from the root inferring to desist, cease, to rest, to cause to put an end to, also to sit down or to be still; 2 letter root forms shuv שׁוּב to return to an original or former place or state, to bring back, to restore – Shabbat is being revealed as the remedy! How can Israel (Adam) be restored back to their original/former state? Through the door of Shabbat!

*In fact the word Shabbat is a cognate of #7675 shebet שֵׁבֶת a seat, a dwelling place, to be inhabited; it is seen in **1 Kings 10:19,20** describing King Solomon’s throne – “The throne had six steps, and the top of the throne was round behind: and there were stays on either side on the place of the seat/shebet, and two lions stood beside

the stays. And twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other upon the six steps: there was not the like made in any kingdom.”

6 steps leading up to the Throne of the King, 6 days leading up to Shabbat which is the throne of our King, 12 lions seeming to represent the 12 zodiacal houses as well as the 12 tribes, 12 months, and 12 hours on the clock face!

Round: Strong’s #5696 ‘agol עָגַל round, to revolve; seems to connect this throne symbolically to the rotation of the heavens and time itself, seeming to further emphasize the role of set times guarding the throne of the King – granting or denying access and functioning as the provided remedy for the exiled one.

Yet this same root ‘agol (round) is the root of the Hebrew term ‘egel עֵגֶל calf – the molten calf! Once again connecting back to the poor attempt to access the throne to see a release of the birthright and promises without surrendering to the miqvah and learning to wait on His timing.

Psalms 25:3 – “Yea, let none that wait (qavah) on thee be ashamed (בוֹשָׁה buwsh): let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.” Cause – רֵיקָם reyqam, vainly or empty; remember **Deut. 16:16** – “...they shall not appear before Yahweh empty/reyqam:”

*The Psalmist reveals when you understand the timing of Yahweh’s circuit (His calendar) you won’t be put to shame (compromised by entertaining another) because you understand the answers, promises, inheritance, and blessings are in His perfect timing, and He is not slack nor incapable of delivering. Yet those who will be shamed are those who either fail to appear or appear in a compromised condition...

Psalms 27:14 – “Wait on Yahweh: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on Yahweh.”