

## Pekudei 2024

Pekudei/"Accounting Of", Exodus 38:21-40:38, closes out the book of Shemot/Exodus with the final dedicated parshah regarding the construction and layout of the Tabernacle. From past studies, we understand that the Tabernacle was not the square traditional structure we've been told, but was in fact a round domed tent, and as such its function included not only a point of connection for the Presence of Yahweh, but also functioned as a compass as Israel traveled throughout the wilderness and a time keeping piece (a clock and a calendar). It's no accident then that Yahweh is very precise in His instructions regarding when this tent is to be set up – on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month (Ex. 40:2) coinciding with the beginning of the year reaffirming the tabernacle's role in the calendar calculations. It is interesting to note that Yahweh addresses his calendar when delivering Israel from Egypt (Ex. 12:2 – "This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you." - He reorients the calendar) and the same terminology is used – pekudei/paqad.

Here 1 year later, it seems once again this is part of the focus and instructions. But it causes us to ask the question why? How were they keeping track for the past year, did they need assistance, or did something transpire to necessitate a revisitation once again regarding the role of His Calendar? Could the restoration of Israel, deliverance from bondage, access to our inheritance, all be contained and dependent upon how we handle this?

### Exodus 38:21

Sum: Strong's #6485 paqad פקד to attend to, to visit or search out, to number, but this same term can also mean to appoint over, or to commit to, to deposit something, to make an overseer or to be entrusted with, to commit to one's care; this same term is seen in the enigmatic code phrase Joseph instructed the children of Israel to listen for regarding the set time for their deliverance – paqod yiphqod פקדוּיִפְקֹדוּ – surely visit!

\*Joseph's instructions contain not only the code phrase that identifies the chosen redeemer, but also the purpose of Israel's deliverance – at the moment of their visitation they are going to be entrusted with something, appointed over it, made an overseer as something is deposited within their care!


Though the end goal was that Israel would be stewards over the land of the inheritance, prior to this, at the moment of the visitation, something is being deposited! Could it be that what is being revealed and deposited at this initial visit is what determines and enables Israel to have access to the inheritance of the land? Let's look further!

Breaking apart this term פקד paqad – פ = mouth, by extension expression, vocalization, speech, breath; functions as a gateway through which seed is released, or that which has been unknown is made visible (let there be – at the mouth it is declared and becomes manifest!), if something has breath it is living; this is connected to the פק which is the same root stem of qadosh קדוש – holy!

The meaning of qadosh is to be set apart for a specific special purpose. Tying this together, Joseph's instructions to Israel of paqod yiphqod reveals there is a future set time of resurrection on the horizon, when they will be breathed upon again with the intent of becoming a people set apart for a specific special purpose (holy) as they are entrusted and charged with something at this visitation! Without this there can be no restoration to the land of their inheritance because only living heirs can present their claim – dead things defile the land (Jeremiah 16:18).

\*Exodus 19:6 – “And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.” – notice that Yahweh specifically connects Israel's being set apart for a specific purpose – “holy nation”, with that of also functioning as a kingdom of priests – they go hand in hand!

Let's continue to break down this term paqad, a code phrase that reveals Israel's path to restoration and deliverance:

𐤀 = ancient picture  the horizon, the circuit, picturing the sun starting his journey/revolution or circuit, connected specifically to the concept of time (Yahweh's calendar!), yet it also carries the idea of a gathering place

𐤇 = the door, also can infer back and forth movement as one enters and exits via the doorway, going further the threshold of a family dwelling is the earliest and most ancient form of an altar! To cross over a threshold where the blood had been applied, was symbolic of a covenant being established. And the one who crossed was now seen as a full member of that family with all the rights and protection, hence not just anyone crosses!

Paqad – the word picture reveals that Israel, having been in bondage, considered in a dead unclean condition, is being breathed into – it's a resurrection taking place, for the purpose of the gathering of those who would compose that unique group known as a holy nation walking as a kingdom of priests. Israel is set apart for a specific purpose – that purpose is defined and found within this 𐤇𐤀 root! Israel is being given access to the doorways found embedded in the calendar of Yahweh – His Mo'edim/set apart times, to cross that threshold indicates a status change has taken place as they now enter into covenant with Yahweh and have arrived at His Altar – the divine place of connection between heaven and earth! This is the gathering place where the living sons and heirs are summoned!

It's no accident that paqad also infers a gathering in order to be numbered and is census terminology. At the moment of the visitation (the paqod yiphqod) it is a summoning of the living sons and daughters to be accounted for! The mo'edim reveal the set times when the living heirs are expected to appear before Yahweh, declaring and proving their rightful access to the inheritance of His Covenant, and becomes a vital piece in Israel being transformed from a nation of slaves to a nation of sons who are capable of handling the inheritance of the Father!

\*Those who answer the call are tasked with being set apart for a special purpose (a holy nation, a kingdom of priests) who will be entrusted with guarding those same doorways/gateways of the mo'edim as the one who crosses this threshold receives access to the inheritance and Covenant protection!

Do you realize the significance of what's taking place in our days now? There's a huge shift in focus regarding the true timing of the calendar of Yahweh, a necessary restoration that goes hand in hand with the restoration of the role of His people to a holy nation and a royal priesthood – His Segullah (1 Pet. 2:9)! As this is currently taking place, it indicates that it is the set time of our resurrection and restoration, and as living sons and daughters we now are being called/summoned, those who would comprise the “holy ones”, to be set apart and prepare to receive the specific purpose we were designed from creation to hold – those who would care for, guard, and be entrusted with access to His Name and the understanding of His set times all in preparation for seeing the full manifestation of the status change of His people as their inheritance is restored!

This same pattern is seen from the creation of Adam! Gen. 2:7-8 – “And Yahweh Elohim formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. And Yahweh Elohim planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.”

\*Adam is breathed into (פּ), his instructions later to dress and keep the Garden (Gen. 2:15) ‘abad and shamar are distinctly Priestly duties. He is in Eden גֶּדֶן which has the same etymological root as mo’ed – the appointed times! Adam as well was set apart for a specific purpose, and in his status of “living soul”, he was holy – set apart for this specific purpose and priestly duty!

Once again, Israel like Adam, must become a living soul (nephesh chayah)!

Soul/Nephesh (#5315) נֶפֶשׁ soul, life, desire, emotion, specifically deals with the mind; yet it is interesting to note that in the priestly instructions Lev. 21:1 – “...Speak unto the priests the sons of Aaron, and say unto them, There shall none be defiled for the dead among his people:” the term for dead used here is also nephesh! Seeming to reveal that the condition of our nephesh (our mind) determines our status of living (capable of operating in the role of priest and walking in holiness) or dead (defiled, compromising this same role).

\*It is also significant to note that nephesh has a numerical value of 430, the same value as the phrase tohu’ v’bohu (waste and desolate), which is exactly what Adam was charged with subduing and having dominion over, and it's the number of years associated with Israel's bondage in Egypt!

When Israel is sent into bondage in Egypt, it is the nephesh (their soul – their mind) that is in an exiled condition (tohu’ v’bohu), therefore their status is not seen as a living soul, a nephesh chayah, but one who is defiled by death and therefore incapable of functioning in the role of priest charged with dressing and keeping the appointed times!

\*The pattern holds true with Adam, when he partakes of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, death enters (Gen. 2:17 – “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”), and in his defiled dead condition, Adam is removed from Gan Eden – from having access as the caretaker to the Garden of Appointed Times!

One who has been defiled by the “dead” is incapable of standing in this role – which would seem a dilemma for all of Israel who has been in exile! What is the solution? Once again

Adam's instructions become our first clue, **Gen. 3:23** – “Therefore Yahweh Elohim sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.”

Till: Strong's #5647 'abad עָבַד to work, serve, also describes priestly service; breaking it apart into its individual roots & letters ע = to see, understand, discern; ב = house; & א = Door; notice the עָ root once again, the same root stem of mo'ed מוֹעֵד the feasts as well as the עָ root = threshold

\*As Adam is sent into exile, he is given the key to his restoration! Till the ground – 'abad part of his same priestly obligations while in the Garden, in exile he is charged with seeing, understanding, and discerning the door to the house – the mo'edim still function as a doorway into the Presence of Yahweh, and if Adam will choose to come to that threshold at the appointed time there is a prescribed means for his restoration!

What happens when we come to this threshold? Did you know there's a prescribed manner to cleanse one who has been defiled by contact with death? And it's directly connected to this term “ground” – 'adamah אָדָמָה, the Parah Adamah (Red Heifer – **Numbers 19**)! If Adam will come at the set time, to the set place, there is a means to restore and cleanse him waiting! This seems to be the exact message that is being revealed to Israel here in preparation for their exodus!

Further connecting this point, the Red Heifer was sacrificed at the Miphqad Gate, מִפְקָד comes from the root paqad פָּקַד the same term describing the visitation of Israel. This was the exact location our Messiah Yahshua was executed fulfilling this role as the only one capable of removing the sting of death and restoring those who had been exiled– the lost sheep of the house of Israel! It's the means of our resurrection and restoration – we must be sprinkled by the ashes of the Parah Adamah –the Messiah!

Miphqad = 224, the same value as zakar זָכַר to remember, to recall, call to mind; **Ex. 2:24** – “And Elohim heard their groaning, and Elohim remembered/zakar his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.”; as Israel is sprinkled/cleansed from their dead state and made to live again, they are remembered/zakar! It's no accident that zakar is also the term used to describe the firstborn male in animals marked for sacrifice, or the firstborn son – as Israel is sprinkled, the Covenant remembered, it also is marking the nation as the zakar, the one who will function as the firstborn heir of Yahweh!

\***Exodus 4:22** – “And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith Yahweh, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:”

And as the zakar ones – the marked remembered sons, they in turn are tasked with continually appearing at these exact appointed times/doorways to give an accounting of what they've been entrusted with. **Exodus 23:17** – “Three times in the year all thy males/zakar shall appear before Yahweh Elohim.” You cannot separate the deliverance and restoration of Israel from their charge to guard and keep the mo'edim/calendar of Yahweh!

\*It's no accident that Israel is exiting Egypt during the Feast of Unleavened Bread (crossing the Red Sea at Yom HaBikkurim), as the zakar (remembered sons) they are

now expected to present themselves before Yahweh 50 days later at Shavuot – hence their appointment at Mt. Sinai! But does Israel present themselves in the status of living heirs at Sinai? Have they understood and discerned the significance of their visitation?

Now with this foundation, we must ask the question, what does this have to do with this Torah portion and the erecting of the Tabernacle which is also pekudei/paqad – visited, entrusted, and becomes an overseer regarding what has been deposited? Could it be that something has transpired to cause Israel to be incapable of being the timekeepers and now it is the role of the Tabernacle itself? Did the zakar fail to keep their appointment?

The Tabernacle has several names it is referred to as, one the 'ohel mo'ed (tent of appointed times), with the focus seeming to be on its role as the clock/calendar it would seem fitting to be used here. However, as the Tabernacle is being “counted”, it is referred to as the Tabernacle of Testimony – the Mishkan Ha'edut! An interesting title seen only 4 times!

Tabernacle: Strong's #4908 Mishkan מִשְׁכָּן tabernacle, dwelling place; from the root #7931 shakan שָׁכַן to settle down, abide, dwell, or reside

Testimony: Strong's #5715 'edut עֵדוּת testimony; from #5707 'ed עָד witness, testimony, or evidence; this particular name focuses on the role of the tabernacle as something that is testifying or bearing witness...testifying regarding what?

The next time we see this particular title of the Tabernacle used (remember only seen 4x's total) is in **Numbers 1:50, 53** when Levi is appointed/paqad charge over this tent and instructed to encamp round about it. To understand these points, we must backtrack to see what led to this. Israel was originally intended to be a nation of priests, living heirs set apart for a specific purpose. At Mt. Sinai, Israel was to be presented proving their “living condition” when summoned. Parah adumah פֶּרֶה אֲדֹמָה (red heifer that cleanses from contact with death) has the same numerical value as הַר סִינַי Mt. Sinai = 335! Yet Israel refuses to appear, choosing instead to send Mosheh, while they choose to engage in the sin of the golden calf (Exodus 32) which results in a similar ceremony to the parah adumah with Israel now being made to drink the ashes of the calf!

Here's the reason the generation that is delivered from Egypt fails to enter the Promised Land! Due to this act of sin, Israel reveals the exiled condition of their nepesh, they are incapable of presenting themselves as living sons, therefore they are no longer capable of functioning as a nation of priests or being entrusted with the task they were first visited for, and therefore they are incapable of accessing their inheritance! They reject the cleansing protocol of the parah Adamah!

Levi is chosen in the stead of every firstborn of Israel. Looking further into this sin, this molten calf is made specifically from the golden earrings of Israel. (Ex. 32:2-3) Earrings: Strong's #5141 nezem נִזְמָה ring, nose ring, or earring; but the same letters rearranged form the term zaman זְמַן a set fixed time, or an appointed time; in fact in **Exodus 32:5** we are told- “And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and

said, Tomorrow is a feast/chag to Yahweh.” – Remember it is as the appointed chag/feasts that the zakar – the marked sons are to appear! They choose to appear at the wrong time and entertain the wrong person! Perhaps attempting to create their own door/gateway that would not require them to deal with their carnal fleshly mindset?

Israel was attempting to manipulate the very calendar and divine appointments they were entrusted within a matter of a few months upon being delivered – the condition of our nephesh/mind must be inspected and renewed lest we be found guilty of the same! Their actions change the pattern! The Tabernacle pattern was given to Mosheh patterned after the tabernacle in the heavens. **Exodus 25:9** – “According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.”

The 12 constellational houses in the zodiac represented the 12 tribes of Israel, corresponding as well to the 12 months on Yahweh’s calendar, with the 12 tribes encamped around the tabernacle it was matching the pattern of a nation of priests guarding the doorway of the mo’ed a witness in the heavens and on the earth!

Pattern: Strong’s #8403 תְּבַנֶּנָּה pattern, plan, form, construction, figure; from the root #1129 בָּנָה to build, rebuild, establish, to build a family name (to bring forth sons), can also infer to build an altar, as well as to establish/restore that which was exiled!

The pattern is the exiled sons rebuilt, restored, and established mirroring the pattern of the heavenlies, encircling the Throne, guarding the altar – the doorways/gateways to the Presence of Yahweh! Yet upon the sin of the golden calf, Levi encircles the Tabernacle, the tribe of Joseph is split – Ephraim and Manasseh, to make the 12 encircling. We now have 13 tribes, and is it any wonder with the pattern changed, that Israel eventually messes with the mo’edim calendar as well adding a 13<sup>th</sup> month which all act as a witness (Tabernacle of Witness/Testimony) to their continued exiled condition!

The 13<sup>th</sup> month is necessary when attempting to circumvent Yahweh’s pattern – the sun and stars which dictate the seasons and insert the moon as a time keeping piece! Is this what was taking place here at Sinai? Remember the golden calf? 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! They chose to worship and present themselves before the moon gods rather than appear before Yahweh at His set appointments!

Hmm...does Levi encircling the Tabernacle after Israel’s rejection of the priesthood become a teaching tool by Yahweh to show them their error? Does Levi now represent the pattern of the moon leaving the other 12 tribes who represent the 12 constellational houses – Levi encircles the tabernacle, blocking access to the rest of Israel, just as the lunar calendar hides the true timing of the mo’edim? He gives the people exactly what they want!

Yet the remedy remains the same...He is waiting at His set immovable mo’edim for the zakar – the marked living heirs to present themselves!