

Shemot 2024

Shemot/"Names", Exodus 1:1-6:1, lends its name not only to this parshah but to the entire book we know as Exodus. It is the transition from a family to a nation, and the journey from slaves to sons! When looking at the entirety of Exodus, the judgements, the miracles, the journey, it is intriguing to note this chosen title – Shemot/Names! Our attention is drawn and constantly reminded through everything that transpires of the shemot – the names both of the sons of Israel as well as the Name of Yahweh revealed to them via their deliverance. In fact it seems that there is a direct connection between the revealing of the Name of Yahweh and the recording of the names of the 12 sons/tribes. This subtle wordplay is further expounded on in the name of the chosen deliverer – Mosheh מֹשֶׁה drawn (from the water), or one from whom water is drawn; yet the mirror image of his name forms HaShem – the Name! As we too find ourselves preparing and anticipating a coming exodus, it seems that perhaps shemot functions as a key to unlock our ability to hear the coming deliverer and understand exactly why we are in Egypt!

Exodus 1:1 – the opening phrase “Now these are the names” in Hebrew is ve’elleh shemot וְאֵלֶּה שְׁמוֹת is where we’re going to begin to build a foundation.

These: Strong’s #428 ‘elleh אֵלֶּה these; cognate of ‘alah (#423) אָלַח an oath, a sworn covenant bearing a curse if violated; as well as ‘elah (#424) אֵלָח a terebinth tree, associated with Covenant cutting, a memorial or marker serving as a reminder, and as such a place of divine encounters, as well as where idols were buried. The 2 letter root אל is the shortened form of Elohim – the Mighty One, the Creator!

*This seemingly insignificant opening, in the Hebrew begins to reveal a powerful promise! Elohim has sworn a covenant in regards to “these names”, and each of these names in itself functions as a terebinth tree – a marker or memorial that is a reminder of that covenant as well as a designated place functioning as a doorway through which the Mighty One can be manifest – a space waiting for a divine encounter! It’s hinting at a covenant cut long before these 12 sons were born!

With the connection here specifically to the role of Elohim/'El cutting a covenant, it begs a closer look as we know Israel is about to have revealed to them the role and Name of Yahweh! Elohim is the name associated with Creation. Throughout Genesis 1 He is seen in the act of creating - #1254 bara' בָּרָא to create, shape, or form; can also infer to cut, carve out, or to polish and make smooth; the 2 letter root forms bar בָּר son attached to the א = Elohim! Elohim is carving out, shaping, and forming for the purpose of producing sons of Elohim – in His image! **Gen. 1:27** – “So Elohim created man in his own image, in the image of Elohim created he him; male and female created he them.”

Adam’s physical body is not formed until **Gen. 2:7** and now it is Yahweh Elohim! The description of the type of creating now changes as well – Adam is formed: Strong’s #3335

yatsar יָצַר to form, fashion, frame; from the root #3334 yatsar יָצַר to bind, be distressed, cramped, narrow, be in straights...hmm...sounds exactly like the meaning of Mitzrayim - Egypt מִצְרַיִם! In fact it's the same root stem!

Could it be that what's being revealed is that Elohim, the Creator, at the very beginning made a covenant regarding the producing of sons in His image – a spiritual promise was released. Yet that promise is only made manifest in the natural through the process of yatsar – a season of forming and fashioning, where those sons must go through the straights to be born and revealed – a season in which the role and Name of Yahweh is active! The naming of the sons of Israel is a reminder of the prophetic promise of Elohim, a covenant cut with those names, yet that promise and potential of those names is not manifest outside of the season of yatsar that they will experience in Egypt, where they will have revealed to them the power of Yahweh!

With the listing of the 12 names of the sons it is mirroring **Gen. 1:27** – the spiritual promise is released and reiterated and now we prepare to enter into the season of yatsar – the birthing process to see these sons of Elohim made manifest!

In the Hebrew this opening phrase is written as ve'elleh, the numerical value = 42, the value of yabal יָבַל to bring, to carry, to bear along, used to describe the returning exiles from captivity; it is the root of Yobel – Jubilee! Could this be the covenant promise Elohim has sworn to these names from the beginning of Creation? Exiles who will be carried and brought back from their captivity, restored and renewed at their set jubilee! The prophetic significance associated with this number cannot be ignored – 42 months of great tribulation and the 42 stops of Israel's coming exodus journey to see the manifestation of their yobel/jubilee! This sworn covenant promise goes beyond those comprising the house at that time in Egypt, but extends and is declared all the way to the generation at the end who will face an amplified version of these same judgments and exodus journey to see our own jubilee and to be transformed into the sons of Elohim (**Romans 8:19**)!

Names: Strong's #8034 shem שֵׁם name, reputation, glory, fame; to mark with a sign, to designate, a mark with which anyone is marked; from the root #7760 suwm שָׁמַם to put, set, place, appoint, or make; to set, ordain, establish or plant; to transform, fashion, make, or constitute; from a Hebrew mindset names are powerful! Names embody someone's reputation, character, authority, and so on.

*These names have been declared and released – yet the manifestation, the individuals that will fill out these names is yet to be brought forth! We will be transformed/fashioned/made into what has been declared over you and I.

Breaking apart שְׁמוֹת Shemot, ש = pictograph of fire, something that consumes, to transform or change, as a prefix it means who, that, or which; this is connected to the root = מוֹת #4194 death, ruin, and destruction; shemot/names or the act of naming then is the action of transforming that which was/who was dead, ruined or destroyed! It's the power of releasing a name that transforms and establishes you, or sets you in an appointed place – from death to life! It's dealing with resurrection power and life!

*This same promise is reiterated by Yahshua, the Messiah – “...I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” (Matthew 15:24) – a sworn covenant was made with those names! Lost: #622 (Greek) Apollymi ἀπόλλυμι to destroy, to be lost, ruined, or even death; the Messiah is honoring the covenant made with those shemot – the names, restoring what had been destroyed and ruined and bringing them from death to life!

Gematria = 746, the same as netzeroth נצרת mysteries; these names have encoded within them mysteries regarding their resurrection and jubilee! Netzeroth is from the root #5341 natsar נצר to guard, watch over, keep, to preserve, or even to observe a covenant! It is the same root stem as netzer (#5342) נצר sprout, shoot, branch; used to describe the Branch or the Messiah (Isaiah 11:1 – “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch/netzer shall grow out of his roots:”)

Looking closer at natsar – נ = represents seed, word released and since it is the picture of a seed sprouting, represents the idea of continuing on to a new generation, the concept of offspring, an heir, or the firstborn (whose role is to continue on the NAME)! נצ root = narrowness, tightness, distress; it’s the 2 letter root of Mistrayim/Egypt! The shemot/names conceal/guard/preserve the identity of the Branch/netzer – the WORD, the Heir of Yahweh, who will manifest the power of the NAME in the midst of the distress of Mitzrayim in order to yatsar – to form and fashion a body (the people) that are capable of filling out and housing the spiritual promise that’s been released and declared!

It is no accident that netzeroth is etymologically connected (and the root stem) of Mazzaroth – the constellational houses and signs! The names of the sons of Israel conceal a mystery regarding the Branch – the Messiah, the deliverer, the same message that’s written in the heavenlies. Those names as well represent and are directly connected to the 12 constellational houses of the Mazzaroth – those houses are the recording of the covenant oath Elohim made at Creation! It’s the same pattern as the creation of Adam in the image of Elohim with no physical body/house yet to place it in!

*Shemot is about the forming of the Body that will house that promise!

Continuing to build on that connection, shem שם (name) = 340, the same value as saphar (#5608) ספּר to count, recount, relate, to rehearse, or declare. First seen in Genesis 15:5 – “And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell/saphar the stars, if thou be able to number/saphar them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.”

This is followed on the heels with the Covenant of the Pieces where Yahweh reveals to Abraham how his seed will become what is written – Gen. 15:13 – “And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;”

*The 12 sons of Jacob which comprise the 12 Tribes of Israel become a physical manifestation of this promise to Abraham – they are the 12 zodiacal signs of the Mazzaroth, the netzeroth – a mystery guarding, preserving, and concealing the

promise and the Covenant that was entered into! But only after the “body” is formed to house that promise – their time in Mitsrayim was for this purpose. Do you think perhaps our own seasons of distress and while in the narrow places is for the same purpose? When they are named (shemot) it’s as if the promise contained within the heavenly scroll has become manifest and given new life/breath again! It’s a manifestation of the promise written first at Creation!

With everything seeming to point back to a pattern established at the beginning (at Creation), let’s look closer to understand what’s happening here! Remember these names are written in the heavenlies...

Genesis 1:16 – “And Elohim made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars *also*.” The Hebrew makes it clear the 2 lights being referred to here is the sun (the greater light) and the stars (lesser light). Could this be revealing not only the time keeping pieces of creation, but also the relationship and the distinct roles of Yahweh and His house (the 12 tribes of Israel represented by the 12 constellational houses)?

First let’s look at the role of the greater light – Yahweh, the Deliverer!

Greater: Strong’s #1419 gadol גדול great, emphasizes importance, size, and significance of something or someone; from the root meaning to twist together or to bind together as in a cord, picture of the twisted cord of DNA; gematria = 43, the value of Luz לוז almond tree, but remember it is at this location that Jacob dreams of the ladder – he has revealed to him the twisted cord of the DNA of Yahweh (the gadol light).

*It was here at Luz that Jacob’s own DNA had to be changed, his mind renewed. In fact Jacob renames this location Bethel בֵּית־אֵל House of ‘El/Elohim! Interesting that he chooses this name, connected to Elohim, when directly before this in **Gen. 28:16** – “And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely Yahweh is in this place; and I knew it not.” Once again there seems to be a connection between the role of Elohim cutting a covenant and that of Yahweh in regards to manifesting that promise in the natural to produce sons in the image (DNA) of Elohim!

The English leads us to believe that Jacob placed a stone as his pillow, yet the Hebrew term is mera’ashot מְרֵאֲשׁוֹת indicating he took stones (plural) and placed them around his head! Is it possible it was 12 stones, mirroring the message written in the Heavenlies, and Jacob lays down presenting a physical body (just like Adam) who will house that promise? As Jacob agrees to enter into and partake of this covenant promise (just like Abraham did), he then continues on and is sent to the house of Laban – the brick maker...it is here he is yatsar formed in the place of distress to bring forth the manifestation of that promise – 12 sons.

*His descendants in Shemot are following the same pattern as they make bricks for Pharaoh! We are following the same pattern – the promise is being reiterated, we’re entering the season of the woman in travail in order for the sons of Elohim to be made manifest!

Jacob becomes the physical house (body) to house the spiritual promise/covenant oath released by Elohim! But he is only able to do so after his encounter with the identity of Yahweh who changes his very DNA!

43 (value of gadol and Luz) is also the value of Ichabod: Strong's #350 אִי־כְבוֹד No Glory; from the root #336 'iy יָא not; cognate of #335 'ay אַי where? Same question asked of Adam in Gen. 3:9 – “Where are you?” & the root #3513 kavad כָּבַד heavy, weighty, honorable, glorious; it is the description of the Presence of Yahweh when made manifest or accessible to man, and the full name of Ichabod reveals that without Adam (a proper tabernacle) to house that glory or to receive the revelation of it, then we have a state of ichabod – no glory. There is no vessel for the DNA to be placed within, and no one for the gadol to be twisted/bound together with – becoming 'echad!

Within this Hebrew term 'ichabod we have the dilemma revealed– the Kavod/glory is in need of a vessel/tabernacle/body to house it! It does not diminish His weight or His greatness, yet it emphasizes the need of the “lesser light” as a Tabernacle to display the Glory of the greater light! (Ps. 19:4-5 – “Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.”)

Isaiah 42:8 – “I am Yahweh: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.”

Give: Strong's 5414 natan נתַן to give, put, set, or to designate, appoint, assign (1st reference is Gen. 1:17 regarding the lights in the firmament!); the 2 letter root forms tan תַן (#8565) dragon or jackal, the jackal is specifically associated with one who scavenges and dwells in the ruins and desolate places.

His Kavod/Glory, directly connected to His Name and identity – Yahweh, cannot be given, entrusted, appointed to a dwelling that is desolate or in ruins. The DNA of Israel has to be changed! They, like Jacob, must have an encounter where the one who was desolate is transformed. This is why this parshah begins with the shemot – the names, it's about changing and transforming Israel into what those names represent (the very promise Abraham is given). This is what the season in Egypt was about – they entered Egypt desolate based on their own choices and actions. While in Egypt, it was the season of yatsar, a forming, shaping, and molding preparing them to receive the revelation of the name of Yahweh and house His Glory!

They are the lesser light...

Lesser: Strong's #6996 qatan קָטַן young, small, insignificant, unimportant; from the root #6962 qut קָטַן to loathe, to detest or feel a loathing, be grieved, or to be cut off; these lesser lights reveal the Salvation message of Yahweh, they function as the Heavenly scroll, yet if cut off/separated from the greater light that reveals/shines (or vocalizes) that message, they will be detestable and in a state of loathing!

Gematria = 159, the same value as #5848 'ataph אָטאָפּ to turn aside, to envelop or cover oneself, but also to be feeble, faint, or grow weak; 1st seen in **Gen. 30:42** – “But when the cattle were feeble, he put them not in: so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's.”

Jacob is distinguishing and separating his flocks from Laban's (brick builder - Egypt), the 'ataph/the weak and feeble ones who have grown faint belong to Laban/Egypt!

Could it be Yahweh is doing the same thing when he arrives in Egypt – the lesser/qatan lights (Israel) who have held on to their promise and the covenant it will be evident in their very DNA! They are not the same sons who entered Egypt. His Glory will be seen upon them – they are a house/Bride who has made herself ready, compared to those who have separated themselves from His promise and are found in a state of loathing and detest.

This is why Mosheh comes in the Name of Yahweh! I AM THAT I AM – 'Ehyeh 'Asher 'Ehyeh
אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה

This is one of the most enigmatic phrases in all of the Torah – the name of Yahweh! The phrase itself seems to convey that we can never truly understand the depth or the vastness of what this means – it infers I was, I am, and I will be or even I will be what I will be, language itself seeming to be incapable of capturing in one phrase all that He is!

A name whose glory could only be seen in relation to the 12 tabernacles built to house and display that Name – the tribes of Israel!