

Shemot 2023

Shemot/"Names", Exodus 1:1-6:1, begins the second book of the Torah, lending its name not only to the portion but the entire book known as Exodus. Quite interesting to note since from the surface the main focus seems to be the enslavement and then the corresponding miraculous deliverance of Israel from Egypt! Yet the Hebrew title Shemot – "Names" immediately points to a different focus. In fact, as the overarching name of the entire passage, it would seem that the entire concept of Israel's deliverance and our ability to understand the redemption and restoration of Yahweh is hidden within this one word - shemot!

Isaiah 43:1-2 – "But now thus saith Yahweh that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

*The very redemption of Israel is directly connected to Yahweh calling Israel (you) by name!

Remember not only is Israel's deliverance from Egypt a pattern that each individual walks out as we are redeemed from the bondage of sin and death, but it is also the blueprint for the deliverance of the house as a whole in the end days as the plagues of Revelation are a replication of these very same Exodus events! Following on the heels of **Is. 43:1, vs. 5-6** – "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;"

With that said, perhaps the only way to gain a true understanding of what's on the horizon is to delve into this statement – shemot!

Exodus 1:1-6

Names – Shemot שְׁמוֹת, gematria = 746, the same as netzerot נִצְרֹת to hide, guard, observe, to maintain something entrusted to you, a mystery; from the verb stem natsar נָצַר meaning to watch, guard, or keep, it describes the diligent endeavor of keeping something shielded from an intervening outside world and maintaining the integrity!

From the root Strong's #8034 shem שֵׁם name, memorial, monument, reputation; from the root #7760 suwm שָׁם to put, place, set, appoint, or establish, to transform into, to set or make for a sign

*Within the shemot is a guarded mystery that's been hidden, for the purpose of shielding what's within from outside intervening forces that would seek to compromise the message of these names, in order to maintain the integrity of

the message that serves as a monument, a memorial, a sign pointing towards a future transformation and deliverance!

From a Hebrew mindset names are powerful! Names embody someone's reputation, character, authority, and so on. Your name is a prophetic declaration over your life that you are entrusted with to guard and grow into! It comes from the ancient root meaning to mark with a sign, to designate. Quite interesting because the Scriptures are filled with passages regarding people being marked/designated with a sign (which is directly connected to this concept of shemot/names) by either the beast and its system or Yahweh!

*Is Yahweh marking Israel before Pharaoh/the beast ever attempts to do so? I have called you by name – I have marked you/designated you with a sign, you are mine (Is. 43)! Yet the true scope of what is taking place is hidden for a season!

Specifically the focus is on the names of the 12 sons of Israel, who each becomes a house/banner that comprises the entire house/nation of covenant keepers! The 12 sons of Israel forming the 12 Tribes, are directly connected to the 12 constellational houses of the Zodiac, the 12 months of the Calendar cycle – they function both as the clock of Yahweh as well as the Heavenly scroll that proclaims the redemption plan of the Messiah! These 12 names are etched into the stones of the breastplate of the High Priest, each stone being an instrument used for the communication of Yahweh to His people! Therefore they are His mouthpieces on the earth as well!

The 12 also function as gateways! According to Ezekiel & Revelation the 12 gates leading into the New Jerusalem are inscribed with the names of the 12 tribes. This reveals another added layer – they are the gateway/doorway (spiritual gateways are synonymous with altars) therefore they are living altars connecting the spiritual and the natural!

It is interesting to note the order of the listing of the names of Jacob's sons! They are not listed in their birth order, but according to their mothers based on the order of when each was taken as a wife by Jacob. Leah's (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun), Rachel's (Benjamin – Joseph is separate), Bilhah (Rachel's handmaid – Dan & Naphtali), & Zilpah (Leah's handmaid – Gad & Asher). Why is this significant? These women were the womb of the promised seed and built the house – seems to once again emphasize Israel's role once again (both here in Exodus as well as now – you and I!) to once again become the doorway – an altar, a point of contact (just like the womb of the woman) that will allow the WORD of Yahweh to be released upon the earth, declaring the power of His Redemption and revealing what time it is!

It seems then the focus on the names of the sons of Israel is a powerful reminder in the face of the coming bondage and the might of Pharaoh that would attempt to obliterate them that their redemption is encoded in their very DNA! It's a memorial and a monument in the face of the opposition regarding the promise of Yahweh that

He has marked His people and they are designated and charged with guarding the redemption message! The declaration of the shemot literally puts into place a boundary line!

*Remember this points towards not only the physical generation physically walking this out here in Exodus, but the role throughout all of time regarding the sons (and daughters) of Israel! You are charged with being His clock, His scroll, His mouthpiece, and a living altar that guards these gateways that the enemy will do everything within his power to pervert and manipulate!

With this understanding, it adds a new layer to **Daniel 7:25** – “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

*The 12 Tribes/Israel is HIS CLOCK! Not only does this reveal that the anti-messiah will seek to change the times, in regards to shifting and obscuring the divine appointments of the Feast cycle, but also attempt to change (on a DNA level?) the clock – the sons of Israel!

Times: Strong's #2166 zeman זֶמַן a set time, season, an appointed time; it is interesting to note that the same letters rearranged form #5141 nezem נֶזֶם ring, earring, or nose ring; it is seen in a very particular setting – when Rebekah is chosen as the wife of Isaac she receives a nezem, when Jacob charges his house to give up their strange gods, they bury the gods and their nezem, when Israel builds the molten calf, they use their golden nezem to form him!

*The anti-messiah will seek to change the times...zeman, directly connected to the nezem a symbol of whose house you belong to, what god you worship, and literally whose altar you are! Rebekah was chosen to be the womb/altar/doorway through which would come the house of Israel. And we see 2 distinct examples in Israel's history of this role being compromised by strange gods!

Continuing to look at this concept, not only are we named – a prophetic declaration that functions as a doorway to reveal the hand of Yahweh in our lives, but did you realize that the action of naming is a task entrusted to those who would operate as kings & priests? Adam, the first king and priest, is entrusted and charged with naming all of Creation!

Genesis 2:19-20 – “And out of the ground Yahweh Elohim formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field...”

Let's dig a little deeper! Breaking apart Shemot שְׁמוֹת - 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/establishes/sets you in an appointed place – from death to life! It's dealing with resurrection power and life!

Adam was created to stand in opposition to the waste and desolate condition (tohu v'bohu) that had been unleashed by the enemy and the fallen ones in **Genesis 1:2**! After Adam is created he is given the mandate to be fruitful, multiply, replenish, subdue, and have dominion; and his first act to fulfill this in **Gen. 2:19** is to give names to all of creation – shemot, transforming that which was ruined/destroyed (tohu' v'bohu) back to life as he operated as a doorway through which the WORD of Yahweh could be issued forth!

Subdue: Strong's #3533 kabash כָּבַשׁ to subject, to subdue, to force, keep under, to bring into bondage; contains the 2 letter root stem כַּש meaning shame, confusion, pictures a husbandmen who is deprived of a harvest! As the shemot is declared, not only is this a prophetic act that is unleashing resurrecting power, transforming that which was dead to life, but it also has the power to cut off the harvest of the enemy as it subdues and causes the waste and desolation to cease! The shemot functions as a boundary line!

The list of names ends with the statement in **Exodus 1:5** – “And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already.” Seventy: Strong's #7657 sib'im שִׁבְעִים seventy; from the root #7650 shava' שָׁבַע to swear, adjure, to take an oath, covenant, or to swear an oath; it's interesting to note that according to the Midrash there are 70 holy days in a solar year – 52 Shabbats, 7 days of Passover/Unleavened Bread, 1 day of Shavuot, 1 day of Yom Teruah, 1 day of Yom Kippur, & 8 days of Sukkot!

*Once again connecting Jacob's house to the clock/calendar of Yahweh! And every Shabbat/Divine Appointment itself is a gateway for His Presence – an altar! Each one revealing another facet/layer of the other! There is also said to be 70 Names of Yahweh and 70 “faces” of the Torah! Jacob's house – these shemot, are designated as the face of the Torah charged with carrying and revealing the Name of Yahweh!

Exodus 1:8 – “Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.”

New: Strong's #2319 chadash חָדָשׁ new, new thing, fresh; from #2318 chadash חָדָשׁ to be new, renew, repair; it can refer to renovating or reconstructing of various items, such as an altar, or rebuilding the Temple; it's also the root of #2320 chodesh חֹדֶשׁ new moon, month, first day of the month

*Here in Exodus 1:8 is the first time this חָדָשׁ has been used in any other form outside of referring to the new moon/month cycles of the calendar! So to refer to this Pharaoh as a “new king – chadash melech” reveals an intentional connection to the calendar/clock, and the new moon, which is connected traditionally with

women specifically as well as the tribe of Joseph (Ps. 81:3-5)! Remember from the very listing of the names of the tribes, the emphasis has been placed on their mothers – the role of the bride and the womb as the gateway! It's also interesting to note that the moon phases are known to influence and exercise control over our physical bodies through its gravitational affect – especially on the mind.

Could it be revealing that this Pharaoh – as well as the coming “new king”/anti-messiah, was intentionally planning on manipulating the clock/calendar (the set times for divine appointments) in order to renovate/reconstruct an altar that would give the fallen spiritual entities that he worshipped a doorway to be manifested on the earth? And it would be a war waged against the mind of man as he attempts to exert his control? Romans 12:2 – “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

The gematria of chadash = 312, the same as #4569 ma'abar מַעְבָּר, ford, passing, a place of passing over; it's describing a method/location to cross through something safely that could be detrimental otherwise! Comes from the same root as the word Hebrew/'Ivriy!

Pharaoh recognizes that the 'Ivriy/Hebrews have functioned as an ark giving safe passage for the seed/Word of Yahweh, a protected gateway/altar that has produced a vast harvest, while up to this point successfully subduing (what Adam was charged with), therefore cutting off the harvest/seed of the enemy and the fallen spiritual entities that he himself is behold to! Could it be, his goal is now to usurp this safe crossing/ma'abar and use the 'ivriy/Hebrew to house/womb/function as an altar to bring forth his own harvest?

But he doesn't know Joseph!

Joseph: Strong's #3130 Yoseph יוֹסֵף Yahweh has added, Yahweh will do again; breaking his name apart – י = hand, power, authority ו = Connector, joining together of something & סף root = threshold, doorway (once again connects us to an altar)

*Yoseph has been charged with protecting the authority and power of the doorways/altars/gateways! He is the gatekeeper! He guards what is allowed to cross!

Not only is this a shadow picture of the role of Messiah as Messiah Ben Yoseph, not just a suffering servant, but one who restores and guards the heavenly altar and gateways. Yet it's also a pattern pointing to the role of the house of Joseph today! It seems that while the majority of the house becomes influenced by Pharaoh's deception as he manipulates the times and seasons to build a future 3rd temple and altar, Joseph will not be duped and instead expose the plans of Pharaoh!

Exodus 1:12 – “But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.”

Grieved: Strong's #6973 quts קָוָה grieved, loathe, abhor, to feel a sickening dread, to be put in terror by a siege; cognate of #6974 quts קָוָה to wake up, to arouse, but it also depicts resurrection! It is used as an imperative call to awake, meaning to become aware of a situation and to act accordingly!

Pharaoh and all of Egypt are terrified and have a sickening dread waiting for Israel to WAKE UP and be resurrected! Because Pharaoh knows the power of the shemot – that Israel was called by Name, marked, and designated to declare, release, and reveal the power and authority of the NAME of Yahweh!

Ezekiel 37:10 – “So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.”