

March 1, 2025

It has been an interesting week and I want to share with you what I have been experiencing not in word but in song...

The experience we are going through right now is pursuing 126 Spurwink Ave. has been lined with signs.

Jewish people encountered along every aspect of the process. For which this song has come to mind...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9lh7lqZojc>

Then throughout the week, I have had a quiet and deep joy reside within me.

Every night at work, this song comes on and it resonates with what I am feeling.

Even after our meeting with the bank, which was not entirely encouraging in that they were struggling with our financials and appeared rather hesitant.

What transpired after that meeting just as I was getting ready for work, this thought came to me...

Am I praying too small, that is seeking the approval of a bank?

Is not Adonai our bank?

Is he not the one who provides for His people?

So, my prayer has changed.

I am praying that we make an all cash offer and don't need a bank to work with us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8GEnkWLEtns>

In this week's Parsha we read of Adonai instructing the children of Israel to take up an offering that will be used for the construction of the Mishkan, The Tabernacle.

Exo 25:1 Adonai said to Moshe,

Exo 25:2 "Tell the people of Isra'el to take up a collection for me—accept a contribution from anyone who wholeheartedly wants to give.

And they were instructed to give...

Exo 25:3 The contribution you are to take from them is to consist of gold, silver and bronze;

Exo 25:4 blue, purple and scarlet yarn; fine linen, goat's hair,

Exo 25:5 tanned ram skins and fine leather; acacia-wood;

Exo 25:6 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense;

Exo 25:7 onyx stones and other stones to be set, for the ritual vest and breastplate.

Exo 25:8 "They are to make me a sanctuary, so that I may live among them.

This is the instruction given to Moshe.

Where did it all come from?

Where did a bunch of freed slaves get all that to give?

Exo 12:33 The Egyptians pressed to send the people out of the land quickly, because they said, "Otherwise we'll all be dead!"

Exo 12:34 The people took their dough before it had become leavened and wrapped their kneading bowls in their clothes on their shoulders.

Exo 12:35 The people of Isra'el had done what Moshe had said—they had asked the Egyptians to give them silver and gold jewelry and clothing;

Exo 12:36 and Adonai had made the Egyptians so favorably disposed toward the people that they had let them have whatever they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

Here is the response to the request of Adonai as conveyed by Moshe.

Exo 35:4 Moshe said to the whole community of the people of Isra'el, "Here is what Adonai has ordered:

Exo 35:5 'Take up a collection for Adonai from among yourselves—**anyone whose heart makes him willing is to bring the offering for Adonai: gold, silver and bronze;**

Exo 35:6 blue, purple and scarlet yarn; fine linen, goat's hair,

Exo 35:7 tanned ram skins and fine leather; acacia-wood;

Exo 35:8 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense;

Exo 35:9 onyx stones and stones to be set, for the ritual vest and the breastplate.

Exo 35:10 " 'Then let all the craftsmen among you come and make everything Adonai has ordered:

Exo 35:11 the tabernacle with its tent, covering, fasteners, planks, crossbars, posts and sockets;

Exo 35:12 the ark with its poles, ark-cover and the curtain to screen it;

Exo 35:13 the table with its poles, all its utensils and the showbread;

Exo 35:14 the menorah for the light, with its utensils and lamps, and the oil for the light;

Exo 35:15 the incense altar with its poles; the anointing oil; the fragrant incense; the screen for the entranceway at the entrance to the tabernacle;

Exo 35:16 the altar for burnt offerings, with its poles and all its utensils; the basin with its base;

Exo 35:17 the tapestries for the courtyard, with their posts and sockets; the screen for the gateway of the courtyard;

Exo 35:18 the tent pegs for the tabernacle; the tent pegs for the courtyard, with their ropes;

Exo 35:19 the garments for officiating, for serving in the Holy Place; and the holy garments for Aharon the cohen and the garments for his sons, so that they can serve in the office of cohen.' "

Exo 35:20 Then the whole community of the people of Isra'el withdrew from Moshe's presence;

Exo 35:21 and they came, everyone whose heart stirred him and everyone whose spirit made him willing, and brought Adonai's offering for the work on the tent of meeting, for the service in it and for the holy garments.

Exo 35:22 Both men and women came, as many as had willing hearts; they brought nose-rings, earrings, signet-rings, belts, all kinds of gold jewelry—everyone bringing an offering of gold to Adonai.

Exo 35:23 Everyone who had blue, purple or scarlet yarn; fine linen; tanned ram skins or fine leather brought them.

Exo 35:24 Everyone contributing silver or bronze brought his offering for Adonai, and everyone who had acacia-wood suitable for any of the work brought it.

Exo 35:25 All the women who were skilled at spinning got to work and brought what they had spun, the blue, purple and scarlet yarn and the fine linen.

Exo 35:26 Likewise the women whose heart stirred them to use their skill spun the goat's hair.

Exo 35:27 The leaders brought the onyx stones and the stones to be set, for the ritual vest and the breastplate;

Exo 35:28 the spices; and the oil for the light, for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense.

Exo 35:29 Thus every man and woman of the people of Israel whose heart impelled him to contribute to any of the work Adonai had ordered through Moshe brought it to Adonai as a voluntary offering.

They didn't go to the regional bank and take out a loan. What came from Egypt, for which Adonai influenced, having the Egyptians so broken, and desperate for the children of Israel to leave, as I had shared earlier, plundered, in other words figuratively bankrupted the nation.

What can we learn from this...

Heb 11:1 Trusting is being confident of what we hope for, convinced about things we do not see.

Heb 11:2 It was for this that Scripture attested the merit of the people of old.

So, what does Scripture attest to according to the merit of the people of Scripture?

Jos 3:9 Y'hoshua said to the people of Israel, "Come here, and listen to the words of Adonai your God."

Jos 3:10 Then Y'hoshua said, "Here is how you will know that the living God is here with you and that, without fail, he will drive out from before you the Kena`ani, the Hitti, the Hivi, the P'rizi, the Girgashi, the Emori and the Y'vusi:

Jos 3:11 the ark for the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going on ahead of you across the Yarden.

Jos 3:12 Now choose yourselves twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, one man for each tribe.

Jos 3:13 As soon as the kohanim carrying the ark of Adonai, the Lord of all the earth, put the soles of their feet in the water of the Yarden, the water of the Yarden will be cut off upstream and stand piled up like an embankment."

Jos 3:14 So the people left their tents to cross the Yarden, with the kohanim carrying the ark for the covenant ahead of the people.

Jos 3:15 When those carrying the ark had come to the Yarden, and the kohanim carrying the ark had waded into the water (for throughout harvest season the Yarden overflows its banks),

Jos 3:16 the water upstream stood piled up like an embankment for a great distance at Adam, the city next to Tzartan; so that the water flowing downstream

toward the Sea of the `Aravah, the Dead Sea, was completely cut off; and the people crossed over right by Yericho.

Jos 3:17 The cohanim carrying the ark for the covenant of Adonai stood fast on dry ground in the middle of the Yarden, while all Isra'el crossed on dry ground, until the entire nation had finished crossing the Yarden.

The boldness, the confidence the faith that was found in Yoshua was professed by Adonai upon the death of Moshe and the transition of leadership which was witnessed by the nation when Moshe laid hands upon Yoshua, selecting him to take over for Moshe, to lead the children of Israel into the land...

Num 27:18 Adonai said to Moshe, "Take Y'hoshua the son of Nun, a spiritual man, and lay your hand on him.

Num 27:19 Put him in front of El`azar the cohen and the whole community, and commission him in their sight.

Num 27:20 Delegate to him some of your authority, so that the entire community of Isra'el will obey him.

Num 27:21 He is to present himself to El`azar the cohen, who is to find out by means of the urim what Adonai's will is for Y'hoshua's decisions. Then, at his word they will go out, and at his word they will come in, both he and all the people of Isra'el with him, the whole community."

And Adonai proclaimed to him...

Jos 1:1 After the death of Moshe the servant of Adonai, Adonai said to Y'hoshua the son of Nun, Moshe's assistant,

Jos 1:2 "Moshe my servant is dead. So now, get up and cross over this Yarden, you and all the people, to the land I am giving to them, the people of Isra'el.

Jos 1:3 I am giving you every place you will step on with the sole of your foot, as I said to Moshe.

Jos 1:4 All the land from the desert and the L'vanon to the great river, the Euphrates River—all the land of the Hitti—and on to the Great Sea in the west will be your territory.

Jos 1:5 No one will be able to withstand you as long as you live. Just as I was with Moshe, so I will be with you. I will neither fail you nor abandon you.

Jos 1:6 "Be strong, be bold; for you will cause this people to inherit the land I swore to their fathers I would give them.

Jos 1:7 Only be strong and very bold in taking care to follow all the Torah which Moshe my servant ordered you to follow; do not turn from it either to the right or to the left; then you will succeed wherever you go.

Jos 1:8 Yes, keep this book of the Torah on your lips, and meditate on it day and

night, so that you will take care to act according to everything written in it. Then your undertakings will prosper, and you will succeed.

Jos 1:9 Haven't I ordered you, 'Be strong, be bold'? So don't be afraid or downhearted, because Adonai your God is with you wherever you go."

Is that promise not true today?

Jer 31:30 "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah.

The New Covenant

Jer 31:31 It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, for my part, was a husband to them," says Adonai.

Jer 31:32 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

A promise made to Israel and those grafted into the covenant...

Eph 2:11 Therefore, remember your former state: you Gentiles by birth—called the Uncircumcised by those who, merely because of an operation on their flesh, are called the Circumcised—

Eph 2:12 at that time had no Messiah. You were estranged from the national life of Isra'el. You were foreigners to the covenants embodying God's promise. You were in this world without hope and without God.

Eph 2:13 But now, you who were once far off have been brought near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood.

So let Moshe and Yoshua be witnesses to us.

Let the power of the New Covenant be seen through us as we pursue our own home, just as the children of Israel did long before us.

It is by faith, and that first step of faith that we are to follow Adonai.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKRUWHHeL2o> – Way Maker