



Table Talk Parshat Terumah

שמות כ"ה:ל"א-ל"ד

Exodus 25:31-34

וַעֲשִׂיתָ מִנְרֶתֶת זָהָב טָהוֹר מִקִּשָּׁה תַעֲשֶׂה הַמִּנְרֶתֶת
יִרְכָּה וְקִנָּה גְבִיעֶיהָ כַּפְתֵּרֶיהָ וּפְרָחֶיהָ מִמָּנָה יִהְיוּ:

You shall make a lampstand of pure gold;
the lampstand shall be made of hammered
work;

ספר החינוך צ"ח:ב'

Sefer HaChinukh 98:2

משרשי המצוה. שצונו השם יתברך
להיות נר דולק בבית המקדש
להגדלת הבית לכבוד ולתפארת בעיני
הרואים, כי כן דרך בני איש להתכבד
בבתיים בנרות דולקים, וכל ענין
ההגדלה בו כדי שיכניס האדם בלבו
כשיראהו מורא וענוה. וכבר אמרנו
(במצוה טז) כי במעשה הטוב תכשר
הנפש.

It is from the roots of the commandment
that God, may He be blessed, commanded
us that there be a lit light in the Temple for
the aggrandizement of the Temple, for [its]
glory and splendor in the eyes of the seers.
As it is the way of people to be glorified in
their homes with lit lights. And the whole
matter of its aggrandizement is in order that
fear and humility enter a man's heart when
he sees it. And we have already said (Sefer
HaMitzvot 16) that the soul is refined by
good action. And all of this revolves around
the principle established for us that
everything is defined according to the side
of the receivers (people);

"God exists everywhere, but not everywhere do we feel the presence of God in the same way. The essence of the holy is that it is a place where we set aside all human devices and desires and enter a domain wholly set aside for God. If the concept of the Mishkan, the Tabernacle, is that God lives in the human heart whenever it opens itself unreservedly to heaven, then its physical location is irrelevant."

- The Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Let's Talk!

If Hashem does not need light, why is there a Menorah in the mishkan? Who is it for?

How do reminders help people act better?

What reminders can we create to help us be more caring, empathetic people?

How is our neshama shaped by our actions?

How do we make our shuls special? Why do we make them special?



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