

Parshat Emor

Parsha Summary

The first half of Parshat Emor talks about rules for the Kohanim and the Kohen Gadol and of Korbanot. Kohanim are not allowed to be Tamei from a dead body unless the body is of a close relative or marry a divorced woman. A Kohen with a physical deformation is not allowed to serve in the Beit Hamikdash, and an animal with a deformity can't be brought as a sacrifice. A baby animal must be with its mother for seven days before it is able to be brought as a sacrifice and an animal and its offspring can't be brought as a sacrifice on the same day.

The second part of the Parsha lists the holidays that the Jewish people are told to celebrate. The Parsha talks about Shabbat, Pesach and the Korban Pesach, counting the Omer, Shavuot, Sukkot, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur. It also discusses the lighting of the Menorah in the Mishkan as well as the Lechem HaPanim that would go on the Shulchan every day.

The Parsha concludes with a story of a blasphemer getting executed and the punishment for murder and destroying one's property.

Classical Commentary:

Rashi on 23:3

[For] six days....: Why does the Sabbath [designated by God,] appear here amidst the festivals [designated by the Sanhedrin]? To teach you that whoever desecrates the festivals is considered [to have transgressed as severely] as if he had desecrated the Sabbath, and that whoever who fulfills the festivals is considered as if he has fulfilled the Sabbath, [and his reward is as great]. — [Be'er Basadeh; Torath Kohanim 23:144]

ששת ימים: מה ענין שבת אצל מועדות, ללמדך שכל המחלל את המועדות מעלין עליו כאלו חלל את השבתות. וכל המקיים את המועדות, מעלין עליו כאלו קיים את השבתות:

When reading through Perek 23, you'll notice that it lists the holidays given to us M'Deoraysa. Among them is Shabbos, which begs the question- why is shabbos listed here along with the holidays while it is written elsewhere many times in the Torah. Rashi gives an insightful answer above, logically explaining why the Torah would put this here again (explanation in Rashi).

Parsha Art (Ariel)



Darius Gilmont

I chose this piece of artwork since it accurately portrays a large portion of what the Parsha speaks about. I think that the reason that Shabbat was put in the middle was that it has become something that our lives revolve around. For the other five sections, there are little illustrations of different items that are involved in the holiday. In the very bottom, it shows a desert under Pesach and a different desert under sukkot, showing the locations where we were originally told to celebrate which I think ties the piece together.



By David Baruch Wolk

I think we can all admit that it is very hard to understand what is happening in this image, but I still think that it is worth mentioning. To start off, the artwork is called Parshat Emor, which allows me to include it in this assignment. I think that much like the work of Hillel Smith (the guy who works the Parsha's name into a piece of art) if you squint your eyes and tilt your head, you can see that Emor is spelled out in the piece.

Art Pt 2. (Noah)



Truthfully, I could not find the artist for this elaborately designed portrait; nonetheless, it is still an exemplary work of art. Though not explicitly stated, it could be assumed this picture could be of a daughter of a cohen. Alongside this picture has a lot of smaller details as well, only adding to its intricacy and depth. The closer one looks, the more there is to find and to say a picture is worth a thousand words would be a severe understatement for this artistic masterpiece.



This next work of art is by none other than the acclaimed Dawnstarstudios. While this was not necessarily made to be for Parshat Emor, it surely fits the storyline of the latter half of this week's Parsha. As we have already discussed, this Parsha goes back over the holidays we are given from the Torah- one of which is. Through my search, I found this beautiful painting of what I would interpret to be a sukkah and thought it would perfectly suit a major theme in this week's portion.