

Parshas Vayakhel 2022, prepare to thrive

The Parsha Perspective is in honor of Eretz Yisroel. May G-d protect our brave soldiers. May G-d return all the hostages in Gaza immediately.

The Parsha Perspective is in honor of the Refuah Shlema of HaRav Amitai Ben Shoshanna, Hinda Bas Udl and those who need to experience a speedy and complete recovery with G-d's help.

This week's Parsha Perspective is in loving memory of Edward Ben Efraim, Shlomo Ben Edward, and Yirachmiel Daniel Ben Gedalia. May their souls be uplifted and their memories a blessing.

Our Parsha begins with Moshe descending from Mt. Sinai with the second pair of Luchos. He did so only after successfully attaining forgiveness from G-d for the sin of the Golden Calf. He gathered the Jewish nation to teach them the intricate laws of constructing the Mishkan.

He told Betzalel and Oholiav that they were chosen by G-d to oversee and manage the construction of the Mishkan. The Parsha then goes through the building of the Mishkan and its components. From the beams and sockets that comprised walls to the priestly garments worn during their service.

However, a question comes to mind: The Pasuk at the beginning of Perek-chapter 36 states, *"And Bezalel and Oholiav did the work."* Yet, just a few Pasukim later, it clearly writes, (36:6) *"And they (Bezalel and Oholiav) took all the donations from Moshe."* How could Bezalel and Oholiav did the work if they did not have the materials the Jewish nation supplied? Why does the Torah first write that they did the job and then how they gathered the contributions? Multiple commentaries answer this question by explaining that the word *"Viosa"* is used here in the future tense. Meaning the Torah states that Bezalel and Oholiav **WILL** make all the components of the Mishkan. The commentaries explain that this Pasuk continues the last chapter wherein Moshe tells the Jewish people the merits of Bezalel and Oholiav. That G-d gave them divine knowledge, understanding and awareness to create His sacred home in our world.

However, the Chasam Sofer (*Rav Moshe Schreiber, an outstanding leader and scholar from the Austro–Hungarian empire in the early 19th century*) gives a deeper and more profound explanation. He explains that *"Viosa"* is past tense, meaning that Bezalel and Oholiav did the work. But they did not build the components rather, **they prepared to create them**.

They collected all the tools and equipment necessary to turn materials into divinely inspired parts of the Mishkan. They pre-assembled all the artisans, craftsmen and carpenters who were motivated like they were to begin the construction at once.

The Chasam Sofar writes that when Moshe saw Bezalel and Oholiav's enthusiasm, passion and eagerness to construct the Mishkan, **he considered it done before the work began**. He realized that G-d had selected the most suitable people to oversee the construction. Since G-d only had to add a design ability to a spiritually driven set of individuals. People who knew the **WHY** and were now given the how!

In our daily life, to take advantage of the many opportunities that lie ahead, we must develop ourselves beforehand to realize the possibilities hidden in plain sight. We must prepare our **hearts, minds and attitudes** to visualize our path and utilize our G-d given potential!

"It is not the will to win that matters – everyone has that. It is the will to prepare to win that matters."

Have a meaningful Shabbos! Rabbi Sholom Yemini