

# Secrets of the Ark of the Covenant

## Commentary to Parshat Terumah

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The Ark of the Covenant is gone, lost in time, concealed throughout the ages until the one who hid it comes again to reveal it.

There is an interesting legend told in ancient Merkava literature that when the Ark was secreted out of Jerusalem by the hands of the Levites, that they took it far away to a place that cannot be mentioned. There they were met by a group of angels called the Benei Elohim. These Angels took possession of the Ark from the Levites and were charged to hold it and guard it until such time when their Master in Heaven commanded them to return it to Earth. Those today who are seeking to find the lost Ark will search in vain, for it is nowhere to be found, anywhere on the planet Earth.



The Gemara (Yoma) however does mention to us a little known secret. There were actually two Arks made; one by Moshe and the later one by Betzalel. The earlier one held the Tablets of the Commandments until such time when Betzalel's Ark was completed. Then Betzalel's Ark took over as The Ark, and Moshe's Ark was dedicated to be the Ark of War. It was Moshe's Ark that went out into battle before the Israelite army sending forth some type of "energy" that struck dead its foes before it. Whatever happened to this Ark, we have no record. Perhaps this Ark is buried under the Temple Mount; perhaps it is in Ethiopia; or perhaps it is buried in a cave somewhere out in the Negev. Until it is found we will never know.

One thing is for certain, Moshe's Ark, as powerful as it was, still was not as powerful as Betzalel's Ark. Betzalel's Ark was unique, designed by the Hand of G-d, to reflect the image of the Heavenly Ark. We are taught that Betzalel was granted special wisdom, specifically the knowledge of the primordial creative forces in the universe. He

apparently needed this knowledge to construct the Ark. If the Ark was a mere box of wood and gold, however artistically intricate, he would not have needed such advanced technological information. Yet, such information was vital for the Ark's construction. What exactly Betzalel was taught and what technological secrets were used to build the Ark; we may never know until the Ark's return. The only insight that we have is what we have already said; Betzalel was a master of the creative arts found in the Sefer Yetzirah and that he used what he knew to build what he did. Why and how and for what purpose is information lost to us along with the Ark.

The Ark of the Covenant was by no means a mere box of wood and gold. The Cherubim angels were much more than a mere pretty decoration. We are taught that when the Divine Presence filled the Ark, the Cherubim on top came alive. Their wings were in a state of movement, opening and closing. Turning statues of gold into living creatures is certainly a feat worthy of the Sefer Yetzirah, but Betzalel did not bring them to life, the Shekhina did. Betzalel merely provided the body; G-d provided the soul. Yet, we should ask, were the bodies of the Cherubim magically animated or was there more to their construction that we know of. Was there some element of creation technology learned from the Sefer Yetzirah used here? We may never know, but judging logically we can only conclude in positive confirmation.

We are taught that the Ark below was formed in the image of the Ark above. In essence, one Ark communicated with the other. Now, modern Sages are of the unsubstantiated opinion that all spiritual reality is absolutely non-corporeal. Being that none of these Sages have ever had any personal experience with any reality of these alternate dimensions, we cannot rely on their conjecture as having any validity. This still does not mean that there is anything what we would call physical in Heaven. Still the Ark below was built in the image of the Ark above. Therefore there is such an image and such a reality, which is far more than mere symbolisms. Let me compare it to what today we know as computerized virtual reality and holographic imagery.

If we were to don virtual reality suits and actually place ourselves in a computer game, are we actually physically there inside the computer program? Of course not. Yet, to the computer generated artificially intelligent characters in the computer game we are no different from them, with only one exception. Our program is not the same as theirs. We can come and go into and out of the virtual reality computer game any time we want. The characters inside the program cannot. If those characters had any type of artificial intelligence, they might interpret our coming and going as something miraculous. Indeed, they might hypothesize that we take on forms just to be in their world and then disappear into formlessness, which they would consider to be our natural state. Yet, such formlessness is not our natural state, rather it is a state of transition that we pass through when we take off the virtual reality suit and come back into our real world; a world that the computer characters cannot possibly conceive. Next time, you think of anything



referred to in Torah as Above, remember this example. It will help you better understand the nature of our two worlds.

The Ark therefore was built in accordance to a pattern that would coincide with an already pre-existing Ark in what we call Heaven. No one can say for sure what its actual makeup might be. Maybe someday we will know; then again, maybe not. All that we can learn is that there is an alternate reality and that it plays a very important role in what transpires here in our reality.

The Ark as we know was a communications device. It allowed a certain properly prepared individual (the Kohen Gadol) to make connection with Heaven and to communicate openly. However the nature of this communication was far different from our modern technological means. The Ark was by no means a radio or telephone. The nature of the Earth to Heaven communication required many things. First, the properly prepared individual, the Kohen HaGadol had to be of a specific refined character. He was prohibited certain behaviors and required to perform others. These were no mere moral commands. Each of the laws of the High Priest was specifically designed to alter him down to the genetic level. Psychologically and even biologically the High Priest was prepared from the youngest age to take on his responsibilities as being the only one on Earth who could place the long-distance call to Heaven. Just what type of transformations the High Priest went through cannot be publicly elaborated.

The High Priest would approach the Ark in a very precise way. He certainly did not approach it alone. He was required to wear the mysterious Urim and Tumim along with the Hoshen Mishpat, the Breastplate of Judgment. Inside the Hoshen was a secret pocket. Inside the pocket was the Urim placed. No one knows for sure exactly what the Urim were. We are taught that it had the holy Names of G-d written upon it. But, this description is more of a non-description. It really does not tell us anything about the actual construction of the Urim or the Tumim, all the more so the nature of their operations and function. These are as lost in history as is the Ark.

In order to receive communication, the High Priest had to approach the Ark wearing the Urim, Tumim and Hoshen. He was then to contemplate his question. Apparently no verbal communication was necessary. The communication between the High Priest and the Ark was apparently telepathic. He thought his question and somehow the Ark understood and transmitted the message. Receiving the response is when things got very interesting.

As the High Priest was meditating, or should we more accurately say, telepathically communicating with the Ark, strange things began to happen. The stones on the Hoshen would begin to light up, specific letters on specific stones would begin to glow and a strange high pitch whine would come forth. Anyone watching, such as untrained Kohanim or the King would not be able to decipher anything from these lights and sounds. Yet,

there were trained Kohanim whose job it was to record everything that was happening. They transcribed which lights lit up and in what order. They apparently had some insight into the meanings of the whining sounds and somehow recorded them too. After it was all over, it was time to decipher Heaven's response to the telepathic communiqué from the High Priest.

One thing was certain, the lights that lit up and the letters that glowed never spelled out any intelligible and rational sentence or words. The message was, from our rational point of view always a garbled mixture of letters and sounds. Here now is the key to their decipherment. Like Betzalel before them, the Priests were also trained in the usage of the Sefer Yetzirah. Through the sounds they could intuit the proper order of the letters. They knew how to form them into rational words and sentences. The communication apparatus worked just fine; however without the proper interpreters, the message from Heaven would never be decipherable.

The Ark therefore only worked in conjunction with the Urim, Tumim and Hoshen. One was incomplete without the other. This was the power of Betzalel's Ark over Moshe's. Moshe's Ark had the power, but Betzalel's Ark was the telephone to Heaven.

It is no wonder then as we entered into the historical period of exile that the Ark, along with the Urim, Tumim and Hoshen were concealed. Our direct communication with Heaven was disconnected. This also explains why prophecy came to an end soon afterwards. All prophecy channeled to the Earth through the Ark. Once the Ark was taken off the Earth, the means to make contact was broken. Granted, other lower forms of contact were still possible, but these were with the Angels, and never with the Master directly.

Over the centuries even the lower forms of communication with the Angels has been lost in time to all but the chosen few. Like the Priests of old, those today who know the secrets of angelic communication guard well both their secrets and their identities. What they know is not for prying eyes or for curious fools. When the time comes and the period of exiles grinds to its end, the lines of communication will again be opened; first with the Angels, and eventually again directly to Heaven.

We should not concern ourselves about the mysteries to be revealed in the future. We have enough to consider and contemplate today. There are still many secrets within the Torah, within its words and letters that we can extract and use today. Long ago, our Sages revealed that the entire Torah is one holistic whole communiqué from G-d. In other words we say that the entire Torah is one long Name of G-d. Its original form is not broken up into words and sentences. Therefore when we come to study the Torah we are not limited to that framework of reading.



We have numerous ways of reading Torah in non-linear ways. We have special formulas for combining different combinations of letters into different forms. These then form what is commonly referred to as Holy Names. Holy, these combinations are, this is true. Yet, they are not really Names as we would use the term. These letter combinations are more like formulas. They are used for many things, one being the focus of the mind for the purpose of expanding consciousness. Specific sound combinations reverberated (chanted) in a special resonance have an effect upon brain chemistry allowing the scope of consciousness to expand to perceive greater realities. Indeed, the Kohen Gadol made use of one of these formulas as he approached the Ark to commune with G-d. What formula he used, we may never know.

When we say that the entire Torah is one long Name of G-d, we should rather say that the Torah is one long code. Unraveling the code and discovering its true potentials is what we call the study of the secrets of the Torah. In my opinion, it is a shame that this study is relegated exclusively into the hands of the non-scientifically trained religious. Their lack of scientific knowledge disables them from exploring certain avenues of exploration that can really tap into Torah's inner powers. Of course, secular scientists would have the same problem. Without the calibration acquired from living a Torah life-style, they would never achieve the necessary consciousness to know where and how to begin their research.

Let us not underestimate the power concealed in our Torah. Let me remind you that the proper term to refer to the origins of Torah is extraterrestrial. Do not be frightened of this word. Science and spirituality are two halves of the same whole. We must embrace them both to get the whole picture. We are the ones in the computer simulation. We must remember this, take off our blinders in order to wake up and see the true reality.

Like most other Torah faithful, I would love to see the restoration of prophecy and the return of the Ark to Jerusalem. However, I know what it will take to accomplish these monumental tasks. We need to approach Torah in the proper ways and extract its codes for the expansion of human consciousness. If we all got together and send out loud and strong messages to Heaven, sooner than later they would have no choice but to answer and restore communications. Indeed, I do believe that Heaven is waiting for our call. Who has the proper number to dial?