

# Parsha Q&A



## Parshas Terumah

For the week ending 4 Adar 5756  
23 & 24 February 1996

### Parsha Questions

1. Why in the first verse of the Parsha does the word *Terumah* appear 3 times?
2. The skin of which now-extinct animal was used in making the *Mishkan*?
3. From where did the Jewish People obtain the wood to build the *Mishkan*?
4. Describe two uses of: a) oil; b) spices; c) jewels.
5. Betzalel made the *Aron* out of three boxes, one inside of the other. Of what material were these boxes made?
6. What is the significance of the crown on top of the *Aron*?
7. The Torah is referred to as "testimony" (25:16). To what does the Torah testify?
8. What did the faces of the *Cherubim* on top of the *Aron* resemble?
9. How did Betzalel make the *Cherubim*?
10. What is the significance of the crown on top of the *Shulchan* (table)?
11. How was the *Menorah* made?
12. In which direction did the flames of the *Menorah* cast their light?
13. How did Moshe know the shape of the *Menorah*?
14. What designs were embroidered into the tapestries of the *Mishkan*?
15. What is meant by "standing wood" in verse 26:15?
16. What was the length of the *Mishkan*?
17. How wide was the interior of the *Mishkan*?
18. What was the height of the *Mizbe'ach* (Altar)?
19. What were the dimensions of the Courtyard of the *Mishkan*?
20. How were the *yeseidos* (copper pegs) used?

**Bonus**  
**Q:**

In the order of the Parsha, Moshe first commands the Bnei Yisrael to make the Ark and afterwards he commands about making the components (walls and curtains) of the *Mishkan* itself. However, the components of the *Mishkan* were built before the Ark. Why didn't Moshe command according to the order of construction?

### I Did Not Know That!

The *Menorah* had 6 side branches and a central stem, in total 7 flames. The 3 right flames symbolize intellectual ideals and the 3 on the left symbolize aspects of one's livelihood. All should be directed by the central light, the Torah.

Sforno

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Production Design: Lev Seltzer

## Recommended Reading List

### Ramban

- 25:1 The *Mishkan*, a "Portable Sinai"  
 25:10 Universal Torah Involvement  
 26:33 Making and Placing

### Ibn Ezra

- 25:3 The Need for Silver

### Ohr HaChaim HaKadosh

- 25:8 The *Shechina* Within Jewry

### Sefer Hachinuch

- 95 Our Need for a *Mishkan*  
 96 Utility and Form  
 97 Blessings and Benefit

## Answers to this Week's Questions

**All references are to the verses and Rashi's commentary, unless otherwise stated**

1. 25:2 - To allude to the three different types of *Terumah* offered.
2. 25:5 - The *Tachash*.
3. 25:5 - Yaakov foresaw through *Ruach Hakodesh* that the Jewish People would be commanded to build the *Mishkan*. He planted cedars in Egypt and commanded his children to cut them down and to take the wood with them when they left Egypt.
4. 25:6-7 - a) The oil was burned in the *Menorah* and used for anointing. b) The spices were a component of the anointing oil and of the incense. c) The jewels were used in the *Ephod* and the *Choshen*.
5. 25:11 - The outer and inner boxes were made of gold and the middle box was made of wood.
6. 25:11 - It symbolizes the crown of Torah.
7. 25:16 - It testifies that Hashem commanded us to keep His *mitzvos*.
8. 25:18 - The faces of children.
9. 25:18 - They were hammered out of a solid block of gold as part of the cover of the *Aron*.
10. 25:24 - It symbolizes the crown of royalty.
11. 25:31 - It was initially to be hammered from one block of gold, but afterwards Hashem told Moshe that it should be thrown into the fire and it 'made itself.'
12. 25:37 - Towards the middle flame.
13. 25:40 - Hashem showed Moshe a *Menorah* made out of fire.
14. 26:1 - On one side a lion and on the other side an eagle.
15. 26:15 - The wooden beams were to be placed upright and not to be placed one upon the other.
16. 26:16 - 30 *Amos* (cubits).
17. 26:23 - 10 *Amos*.
18. 27:1 - There are two opinions. Rabbi Yehuda said it was three *Amos* high. Rabbi Yosi said it was 10 *Amos* high.
19. 27:18 - One hundred *Amos* long by fifty *Amos* wide.
20. 27:19 - They were used to secure the curtains against the wind.

**Bonus**

A:

The reason for building the *Mishkan* was in order to house the Ark that contained the Tablets. The Ark with the Tablets was the primary aspect of the *Mishkan*.

*Ramban*

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