

Parshat ha'shavua - NASO

Why & Where Parshat Naso belongs in Sefer Vayikra

Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

Introduction - Sefer Bamidbar - What 'belongs' & what doesn't!

Chapter	Ongoing Narrative	Mitzvot l'dorot (Commandments)
**	<i>Preparing to leave Har Sinai</i>	
1->4	Organizing the camp, army etc.	
5		Laws of "asham" * "sotah"
6		Laws of "nazir" & birkat kohanim
7	Dedication of Mishkan by the Nsiim	
8	Ceremony for Leviim, replacing bchorim	
9	Pesach in the desert; instructions on how to travel following the 'anan'	[Pesach sheni/ reason for delay?]
10	Using the "chatzrotot" for travel signals; Travel begins on 20 Iyar; "va'yhi b'nsoa"	
**	<i>Failure of first generation</i>	
11	Sin of the "mitavim"; 70 elders appointed	
12	Sin of Miriam, talking against Moshe	
13-14	Sin of the spies; & the "maapilim"	
15		Laws re: korbanot, taking challa, Sanhedrin, shabbat, & tzizit
16-17	Korach's rebellion ; test of the 12 staffs	
18		Laws re: Compensation for shevet Levi
19		Laws re: 'para aduma' / "tumat meyt"
20	Moshe & Aharon's sin at Mei Meriva; Fortieth year/ journey around Har Seir	
21	War with Arad; sin of "nachash nchoshet" War with Sichon/ Conquer of Transjordan	
22-24	Story of Bilam & Balak	
25	Sin of Bnei Yisrael with 'bnot Moav'; revenge taken by Pinchas etc.	
**	<i>Preparing to Enter Canaan</i>	
26	Census, who will inherit the land	
27	Daughters of Tzlofchad request 'nachala'; Moshe is told to die, Yehoshua appointed	
28-29		Laws of Tmidim u'Musafim (holidays)
30		Laws re: annulling vows
31	War against Midyan	
32	Inheritance taken by Reuven, Gad & Menashe; & their promise to fight...	
33	Summary of Travel thru the desert	[Commandment to conquer the land?]
34	Borders of Eretz Cannan (to conquer)	
35	Cities of Levites & Cities of Refuge	
36	Bnot Tzlofchad - protecting inheritance	

I. Ramban's Intro to Sefer Bamidbar

... והספר הזה כולו במצות שעה שנצטוו בהם בעמדם במדבר, ובנסים הנעשים להם, לספר כל מעשה ה' אשר עשה עימהם להפליא. וספר כי החל לתת אויביהם לפנייהם לחרב, וצוה איך תחלק הארץ להם. ואין בספר הזה מצות נוהגות לדורות זולתי קצת מצות, ובענייני הקרבנות שהתחיל בהן בספר הכהנים - ולא נשלם ביאורן שם, והשלימן בספר הזה.

C. Chizkuni's commentary on Shmot 34:32

When Moshe Rabeinu descends Mount Sinai with the 2nd Luchot

וַיְהִי, בְּרִדְתַּת מֹשֶׁה מִהַר סִינַי, וַשְּׁנֵי לַחַת הַעֲדוֹת בְּיַד-מֹשֶׁה, בְּרִדְתּוֹ מִן-הָהָר... **לֹא וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים מֹשֶׁה,** וַיָּשָׁבוּ אֵלָיו אַהֲרֹן וְכָל-הַנְּשָׂאִים בְּעֵדָה; וַיְדַבֵּר מֹשֶׁה, אֱלֹהִים. **לֵב וְאַחֲרֵי-כֵן נִגְשׂוּ, כָּל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּצְוּם--אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה אֵתוֹ, בְּהַר סִינַי.**

(לב) אֵת כָּל אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר ה' אֵתוֹ בְּהַר סִינַי, כָּל הַמִּצְוֹת שֶׁנֶּאֱמָרוּ בְּאַרְבָּעִים יוֹם רִאשׁוֹנִים וּבְאַרְבָּעִים יוֹם אַחֲרוֹנִים וּכְלֵי הַמִּצְוֹת שֶׁנֶּצְטוּוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל נֶאֱמָרוּ מִנִּסְחָן שָׁבוּ יִצְאוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם עַד עֲשָׂרִים בְּאֵייר בְּשָׁנָה הַשְּׁנִיָּה, אֲבָל הַתּוֹרָה מִגְּלַה נִתְּנָה⁶¹. שְׁלֹפֵי

שָׁהִיָּה מֹשֶׁה שׁוֹמֵעַ הַמִּצְוֹת מִפִּי הַקַּב"ה הִיא כּוֹתֵב כָּל אַחַת וְאַחַת בְּמַגְלָתָהּ לְעִצְמָהּ, וְכֹשֶׁבֶא לִיפְטֹר מִן הָעוֹלָם סִדְרֵי סֵפֶר תּוֹרָה וְקִבֵּעַ בּוֹ הַפְּרָשִׁיּוֹת-עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְפִי הַסְּמוּכִין הָרְאוּיִן לָהֶם כְּמוֹ שֶׁדִּרְשׂוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ.

Moshe commanded the people everything that God commanded him on Har Sinai:

i.e. - All the Commandments that were told to him [by God] during **the first forty days, and the last forty days**. [Also] all the mitzvot were given [to Moshe] between the month of Nisan when Bnei Yisrael first left Egypt - until the 20th of Iyar in the second year [i.e. when they left Har Sinai - see Bamidbar 10:11] - However - the Torah was given [to Moshe] in individual scrolls - for whenever Moshe would hear a commandment from God, **he would record it in a separate scroll** - then [forty years later] when it was time for him to die - he organized the Sefer Torah - and set its "parshiot" - **based on the fitting juxtapositions** - as our have expounded.

II. Time line of events

Rosh chodesh Nisan – Year 2

Assembly of the Mishkan – Shmot chapter 40

The shchinah dwelling – Shmot 40 & Vayikra chapter 9

Birkat Kohanim for the first time – in Vayikra 9:21 & Bamid 6

The death of Nadav & Avinhu - Vayikra chapter 10

The Nsiim [princes] offer their inaugural gifts to the Mishkan
- Bamidbar chapter 7

Aharon lights the Menorah for the first time ! (that evening)

**Discussion : What happened when on that day
i.e. at what point did the Princes bring their gifts**

III. Birkat Kohanim – magical or logical

The Biblical source: - Bamidbar / Numbers 6:22-27

[part of the daily service of the Priests in the Temple]

- כב** וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה, אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר.
22 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying:
- כג** דַּבֵּר אֶל-אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל-בָּנָיו לֵאמֹר, **כֹּה תְבַרְכוּ אֶת-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:** אָמֹר, לְהֵם.
23 'Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying: On this wise ye **shall** bless the children of Israel; ye shall say unto them:
- כד** יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ.
24 The LORD shall bless thee, and keep thee;
- כה** יֵאָר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנְּךָ.
25 The LORD shall make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;
- כו** יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם.
26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
- כז** וְשָׂמוּ אֶת-שְׁמִי, עַל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְאָנִי, אֲבָרְכֶם.
27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Note how this blessing is similar to the “sim shalom” prayer:
 [short discussion on purpose of daily ‘shmon-esray’]

<p>וַיְדַבֵּר ה' אֶל מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר. דַּבֵּר אֶל אֶהֱרָן וְאֶל בְּנָיו לֵאמֹר:</p> <p>כֹּה תְבָרְכוּ אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲמֹר לָהֶם: בְּרֹכָה ה' וַיִּשְׁמְרֵךְ: יָאֵר ה' פְּנֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וַיִּחַנֵּךְ: יֵשָׁא ה' פְּנֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וַיִּשֶׂם לָךְ שְׁלוֹם: וְשָׂמוּ אֶת שְׁמֵי עַל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי אֲבָרְכֶם</p>	<p>שִׁים שְׁלוֹם טוֹבָה וּבְרָכָה, חַיִּים, חַן וְחֶסֶד, וְרַחֲמִים, עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ. בְּרַכְנוּ אֲבִינוּ, כָּלֵנוּ כְּאֶחָד בְּאוֹר פְּנִיךָ, כִּי בְּאוֹר פְּנִיךָ נִתַּתְּ לָנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, תּוֹרַת חַיִּים, וְאַהֲבַת חֶסֶד, וְצִדְקָה וּבְרָכָה וְרַחֲמִים, וְחַיִּים וְשְׁלוֹם. וְטוֹב יִהְיֶה בְּעֵינֶיךָ לְבָרְכָנוּ וּלְבָרֵךְ אֶת כָּל עַמָּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל שָׁעָה בְּשְׁלוֹמְךָ בְּרוּךְ... הַמְּבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשְׁלוֹם:</p>
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From Creation on Day One

- ג וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים, וַיְהִי אֹר; וַיְהִי-אֹר.
 3 And God said: 'Let there be light.' And there was light.
- ד וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הָאוֹר, כִּי-טוֹב; וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים, בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ.
 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

V. An alternate Biblical source for blessing: Devarim 28:1-10

א וְהָיָה, אִם-שָׁמוּעַ תִּשְׁמַע בְּקוֹל
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, לְשָׁמֹר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-כָּל-
מִצְוֹתָיו, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם--
וַיִּתְנֶנְךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, עָלֶיךָ, עַל-כֵּן--
גֹּיֵי הָאָרֶץ.

1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all the nations of the earth.

ב וּבָאוּ עָלֶיךָ כָּל-הַבְּרָכוֹת הָאֵלֶּה,
וְהִשְׁיִגְךָ: כִּי תִשְׁמַע, בְּקוֹל יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֶיךָ.

2 And all these blessings shall come upon thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

ג בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, בְּעִיר; וּבְרוּךְ אַתָּה,
בַּשָּׂדֶה.

3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

ד בָּרוּךְ פְּרִי-בִטְנֶךָ וּפְרִי אֲדָמָתְךָ,
וּפְרִי בְהֵמָתְךָ--שֹׁגֵר אֶלְפִיךָ, וְעִשְׂתָּרוֹת
צֹאנֶךָ.

4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the young of thy flock.

ה בָּרוּךְ טַנְאֶךָ, וּמִשְׁאֲרֹתֶיךָ.

5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy kneading-trough.

ו בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, בְּבֹאֶךָ; וּבְרוּךְ אַתָּה,
בְּצֵאתְךָ.

6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

ז יִתֵּן יְהוָה אֶת-אֹיְבֶיךָ הַקְּמִים עָלֶיךָ,
נֹגְפִים לְפָנֶיךָ: בְּדַרְךָ אֶחָד יֵצְאוּ
אֵלֶיךָ, וּבִשְׁבָעָה דְרָכִים יָנוּסוּ לְפָנֶיךָ.

7 The LORD will cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thee; they shall come out against thee one way, and shall flee before thee seven ways.

ח יֵצֵו יְהוָה אֶתְךָ, אֶת-הַבְּרָכָה,
בְּאֲסֻמְיָךָ, וּבְכָל מִשְׁלַח יָדְךָ; וּבִרְכָךָ--
בְּאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לָךְ.

8 The LORD will command the blessing with thee in thy barns, and in all that thou puttest thy hand unto; and He will bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

ט יְקִימֶךָ יְהוָה לְעַם קָדוֹשׁ, כְּאֲשֶׁר
נִשְׁבַּע-לָךְ: כִּי תִשְׁמֹר, אֶת-מִצְוֹת
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, וְהִלַּכְתָּ, בְּדַרְכָּיו.

9 The LORD will establish thee for a holy people unto Himself, as He hath sworn unto thee; if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in His ways.

י וְרָאוּ כָּל-עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, כִּי שֵׁם יְהוָה
נִקְרָא עָלֶיךָ; וַיִּרְאוּ, מִמֶּנְךָ.

10 And all the peoples of the earth shall see that the name of the LORD is called upon thee; and they shall be afraid of thee.

From the daily “shema” – Devarim 11:13-17

- יג** וְהָיָה, אִם-שָׁמַעַתְּ שְׁמֵעוּ אֶל-
מִצְוֹתַי, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה אֶתְכֶם,
הַיּוֹם--לְאַהֲבָה אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם,
וּלְעַבְדוֹ, בְּכָל-לְבַבְכֶם, וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁכֶם.
- יד** וְנָתַתִּי מָטָר-אֲרָצְכֶם בְּעֵתוֹ, יוֹרֵה
וּמְלֻקוֹשׁ; וְאָסַפְתָּ דֶגְנְךָ, וְתִירְשֶׁךָ
וַיִּצְהַרְךָ.
- טו** וְנָתַתִּי עֵשֶׂב בְּשָׂדֶךָ, לְבַהֲמֹתֶיךָ;
וְאָכַלְתָּ, וְשָׂבַעְתָּ.
- טז** הִשָּׁמְרוּ לְכֶם, פֶּן יִפְתֶּה לְבַבְכֶם;
וְסִרְתֶּם, וְעַבַדְתֶּם אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים,
וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתֶם, לָהֶם.
- יז** וְחָרָה אַף-יְהוָה בְּכֶם, וְעָצַר אֶת-
הַשָּׁמַיִם וְלֹא-יְהִי מָטָר, וְהִיאֲדָמָה,
לֹא תִתֵּן אֶת-יְבוּלָהּ; וְאָבַדְתֶּם
מְהֵרָה, מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ הַטֹּבָה, אֲשֶׁר
יְהוָה, נָתַן לְכֶם.
- 13** And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto My commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul,
- 14** that I will give the rain of your land in its season, the former rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.
- 15** And I will give grass in thy fields for thy cattle, and thou shalt eat and be satisfied.
- 16** Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;
- 17** and the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, so that there shall be no rain, and the ground shall not yield her fruit; and ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

VI. The blessing for the tribe of Levi – in Devarim 33: 10-11

To become teachers and educators for the Nation of Israel

- י** יוֹרוּ מִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ לְיַעֲקֹב, וְתוֹרֹתֶיךָ
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל; יִשְׂיִמוּ קְטֹרֶת בְּאַפֶּךָ,
וְכָלִיל עַל-מִזְבְּחֶךָ.
- יא** בָּרַךְ יְהוָה חֵילוֹ, וּפְעַל יָדָיו
תִּרְצֶה; מִחַץ מְתַנִּים קָמְיוֹ
וּמִשְׁנֵאָיו, מִן-יְקוּמוֹן.
- 10** They shall teach Jacob Thine ordinances, and Israel Thy law; they shall put incense before Thee, and whole burnt-offering upon Thine altar.
- 11** Bless, LORD, his substance, and accept the work of his hands; smite through the loins of them that rise up against him, and of them that hate him, that they rise not again.

VII. The morning Torah blessings - from our daily Prayers:

Torah Blessings (**All 3 blessings)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְעֲסֹק בְּדִבְרֵי תוֹרָה :

Blessed are You, Adonoy our God, King of the Universe, Who sanctified¹*The observance and fulfillment of His commandments makes a person holy.* us with His commandments and commanded us to be engrossed in the words of Torah.

וְהַעֲרַב נָא יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶת־דִּבְרֵי תוֹרָתְךָ בְּפִינוּ וּבְכִפֵּי עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְנִהְיֶה אֲנַחְנוּ וְצִאֲצָאֵינוּ וְצִאֲצָאֵי עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל כְּלָנוּ יוֹדְעֵי שְׁמֶךָ וְלוֹמְדֵי תוֹרָתְךָ לְשִׁמְחָה. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה הַמְּלַמֵּד תוֹרָה לְעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל .

Adonoy our God, please make the words of Your Torah pleasant in our mouths and in the mouths of Your people Israel. And may we and our descendants [and the descendants of our descendants] and the descendants of Your people the House of Israel, all know Your Name and be students of Your Torah for its own sake. Blessed are You, Adonoy Who teaches Torah to His people, Israel.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים וְנָתַן לָנוּ אֶת־תּוֹרָתוֹ: בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה :

Blessed are You, Adonoy our God, King of the Universe Who chose us from among all the Blessed are You, Adonoy, Giver of the Torah!

וְבִרְכָּךָ יְהוָה וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ: יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחֲנֹךְ: יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשָּׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם. ... שְׂמֹו אֶת שְׁמִי עַל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי אֲבָרְכֶם :

And they shall set **My Name** upon the Children of Israel, and I shall bless them.

אֱלֹו דְּבָרִים שְׂאִין לָהֶם שְׁעוֹר:

הַפָּאָה וְהַבְּכוּרִים וְהָרְאִיּוֹן וְגַמְלִלוֹת חֲסָדִים וְתִלְמוּד תּוֹרָה:

אֱלֹו דְּבָרִים שְׂאֵדָם אוֹכֵל פְּרוֹתֵיהֶם בְּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה וְהַקָּרָן קִנְיַת לְעוֹלָם הַבָּא,

וְאֵלוֹ הֵן כְּבוֹד אָב וְאֵם וְגַמְלִלוֹת חֲסָדִים... וְתִלְמוּד תּוֹרָה כְּנֻגַד כָּלָם :

These are precepts, the fruits of which man enjoys in this world, [while] the principal [reward] is preserved for him in the World-to-Come. They are: honoring father and mother, [performing] deeds of kindness, early attendance in the House of Study morning and evening, providing hospitality to guests, visiting the sick, participating in making a wedding, accompanying the dead [to the grave], concentrating on the meaning of prayers, making peace between fellow men and between husband and wife—and the study of Torah is equal to them all.