



DKJA

Tetzaveh

Exodus 27:20 - 30:10

This portion describes the manner in which priests were to be clothed when they performed their duties in the Sanctuary. They were ornately dressed and had a prescribed way in which they had to conduct themselves. The purpose of this was to create a solemn and formal mood of worship. It was understood from times of old that in order to worship, form as well as content had to be designed and followed. In Biblical times, the priests performed the devotional service with people as bystanders.

The Bible indicates that the priests were also in charge of religious tradition. This made them teachers of tradition as well as its preservers.

The priesthood was hereditary, passed on from father to son.

In the place of worship, the Ner Tamid has special importance. It burns in front of the Holy Ark to teach us that the Torah is a light, which shows us the way in which we should go.

In the darkest moments of our history, our people found warmth and light in the Torah. It gave them strength to withstand the persecutions and exiles to which they were subjected, and filled them with courage and hope to look forward to a better future.

Food for thought:

1. How do our rabbis today differ from the priests?
2. What symbol in the synagogue is most important to you?

Shabbat Shalom
Candle lighting time is 5:57 PM