

SICHA POEM

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Pekudei, Sicha 2

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Parshas Pekudai does begin,
With Moshe counting all the donations that came in,
And making an account of what the materials were used for,
Why did Moshe specifically do this? Let's explore.

Moshe didn't have to prove his honesty,
A Bas Kol came out from heaven and said that he was trustworthy,
Of using all the donations properly,
So why was an accounting necessary?

To get atonement for the community as a whole,
Was the Mishkan's goal.
Therefore the donations had to go out of the realm of personal property,
So that a person shouldn't say, "This is what I donated or this was made by me."

Since Moshe Rabeinu represented every Jew, because he was the Nasi,
Every donation has to be given to Moshe directly.
He then gave the materials to **בצלאל** and **אהליאב** who were in charge of construction,
He reclaimed it all for the community upon completion by counting every donation.

For this task, Moshe was the best fit,
Because he didn't participate in the sin of the golden calf one bit.
To stop the people he wasn't even present,
So he didn't need any personal atonement.

Another reason that Moshe had to be involved in every step of the way,
Was so that the Mishkan could be eternal and last to this very day.
Moshe is true and his Torah is true and will forever be found,
Like the parts of the Mishkan that weren't destroyed but are buried under the ground.

The Alter Rebbe gives a Chassidic explanation,
And says that the name of the Parsha, Pekudai, doesn't just mean a calculation,
But the root of the word Pekudai is used in Halacha to mean a bond for life,
Like the unity between a husband and wife.

Pekudai means two opposite things at the same time,
A person who feels like a number, feels very low and isn't fine,
While having a strong bond with a spouse is a real gift,
A relationship where essence is revealed, is the greatest lift.

This is exactly the Mishkan's power,
Taking opposites and bringing them together.
Materials like gold, silver and copper, that are so physical,
Could be elevated to create a home where Hashem can truly feel comfortable.
