

Notes: Shabbat – June 30, 2012

Start: 10 am

Order of Service:

Meet and Greet
Introduction (if new people)
Announcements
Open in Prayer for service
Liturgy – Sh'ma
Praise and Worship Songs
Message
Kaddash - Time of Prayer
Aaronic Blessing
Kiddush
Oneg

Introduction: Tzitzit

Num 15:37 Adonai said to Moshe,

Num 15:38 "Speak to the people of Isra'el, instructing them to make, through all their generations, tzitziyot on the corners of their garments, and to put with the tzitzit on each corner a blue thread.

Num 15:39 It is to be a tzitzit for you to look at and thereby remember all of Adonai's mitzvot and obey them, so that you won't go around wherever your own heart and eyes lead you to prostitute yourselves;

Num 15:40 but it will help you remember and obey all my mitzvot and be holy for your God.

Num 15:41 I am Adonai your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt in order to be your God. I am Adonai your God."

Also – Deuteronomy 22:12

Tzitzit – feminine of Tzit – a floral or a wing-like protection, a lock of hair, a tassel

Tallit – prayer shawl that tzitzit are attached

Traditions behind the prayer shawl:

- Tallit = robe with the sole purpose of affixing tzitzit
- Only four cornered garments are required to have tzitzit (rabbinic halakah)
- Duration not expressed in scripture:
 - halakah – to be worn during day hours
 - Women are exempt from the obligation to carry out these precepts that depend for their performance on a given time. Because wearing tzitzit is binding only during the day and not at night.
 - Other reasons – a male garment – Deuteronomy 22:5
 - Ashkenazi communities – unmarried men do not wear tallit because of the order of Deuteronomy 22:12 and 22:13 regarding marriage.

- The blue cord v. 38 – suspended during Talmudic times due to the scarcity of the blue dye that comes from the murex snail.
- What does this blue thread do? Connects us with the High Priest – Exodus 28:37
 - Adonai's chosen representative among the people.
 - Connects us to Him

Exo 28:37 Fasten it to the turban with a blue cord, on the front of the turban,

Presented to a child upon their Bar / Bat Mitzvah.

- A symbol of the covenant
- Transition from childhood to adulthood and being of a mature stature whereby they can comprehend Torah and thus be able to live according to it.

Tallit kaban – male undergarment - slide

Tallit gadol – large

Mat 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Mat 6:5 "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites, who love to pray standing in the synagogues and on street corners, so that people can see them. Yes! I tell you, they have their reward already!

Mat 6:6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Why do we wear it?

There have been many rulings as to who, how and where to wear the tzitzit.

The primary aspect of importance is why is it worn?

This act is personal:

- Compare hair offering of Nazir
- We are making a personal statement to Adonai.

Numbers 15:37 – 41 not an isolated passage that is just placed there for no reason

Go Back to Numbers 15:22 – 29 – unintentional sin

Numbers 15:30 – 31 – intentional sin

Numbers 15:32 – 36 – one who sinned

The “power of the tallit”

Mat 9:20 A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years approached him from behind and touched the tzitzit on his robe.

Mat 9:21 For she said to herself, "If I can only touch his robe, I will be healed."

Mat 9:22 Yeshua turned, saw her and said, "Courage, daughter! Your trust has healed you." And she was instantly healed.

What did this woman believe?

Why did she believe

Mal 4:1 (3:19) For the day is coming, burning like a furnace, when all the proud and evildoers will be stubble; the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says Adonai-Tzva'ot, "and leave them neither root nor branch.

Mal 4:2 (3:20) **But to you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will break out leaping, like calves released from the stall.**

Mal 4:3 (3:21) You will trample the wicked, they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I take action," says Adonai-Tzva'ot.

Mal 4:4 (3:22) "Remember the Torah of Moshe my servant, which I enjoined on him at Horev, laws and rulings for all Isra'el.

Mal 4:5 (3:23) Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.

Mal 4:6 (3:24) He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers; otherwise I will come and strike the land with complete destruction." *[Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.]*

I have heard teachings regarding the power of the tallit and how it can empower you.

It is not the garment itself that empowers the one who wears it, but it is the heart of the one who wears it that empowers the garment.

Jer 31:33 (31:32) "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

The power that we find in Adonai is in our obedience to His instructions which He is encouraging us to remember.

Today, as for centuries, wearing tzitzit has been ceremonial, ritualistic and one of identity.

What you are ultimately saying when you wear one is that you are in agreement with Adonai regarding His Torah, and by wearing it, you convey that you are adhering to His instruction for your life.