



## Teachings of Moshe on Tradition

Source: *The Jewish Book of Why*, Alfred Kolatch, 1981

**Q:** Why is the Book of Ruth read in the synagogue on Shavuot?<sup>1</sup>

**A:** Several reasons are given for the custom of reading the Book of Ruth on Shavuot:

1. The story of Ruth and Boaz takes place in the spring, at harvest time, which is when Shavuot falls.
2. Ruth was the ancestor of King David, and according to a tradition mentioned in the Talmud, David was born and died on Shavuot.
3. Since Ruth expressed her loyalty to the Tora by aligning herself with Judaism, it is proper to read the story of her life, on Shavuot, the holiday of the Tora.

In Exodus 23:16, the Israelites are commanded to observe the "Feast of the Harvest, the first fruits of your labors which thou sowest in the field." This festival is referred to again, in Exodus 34:22, as the Feast of Weeks, the time when the first "fruits" of the wheat crop were harvested. In the Book of Numbers (28:26), it is mentioned as the Feast of Weeks and the Festival of First Fruits (Chag Ha-bikurim). And

<sup>1</sup> Pronounced Shā-vōh-ott.

Deuteronomy 16:12 gives as the reason for its observance, "You shall remember that you were once slaves in Egypt."

According to the description of the holiday in the Mishna (Bikurim 3), the village people of Palestine would first assemble in the largest town of their district, bringing with them the first ripe fruits of their fields. They would then proceed on foot to the Temple in Jerusalem, where they would leave their offering and be welcomed with song by the Levites. The Bible does not connect Shavuot with the giving of the Tora on Mount Sinai.

**ANDREA of Chicago:** We celebrated the Easter season as a time of resurrection. We confessed sin. We sought the new life beginning. In the Bible there are several references to the holiday we call Shavuot or Pentecost, which is celebrated in May. It commemorates the receiving of the Ten Commandments of Moshe. Also at Easter, Jesus resurrects the body in 3 days and at Pentecost the Holy Spirit descends from the ascension of Jesus.

**MOTHER MARY:** This is the celebration of the resurrection flame celebrated at Easter and at Pentecost.



**Nancy of Oregon:** Ritual is a link. If I were to tell you that there is a heaven world, that there is an Adam & Eve story.

That you were cast out of heaven. You would not believe me unless you had faith. It is by faith that you knew of the Presence of the Archangels and that there is a flame upon the ark which is the altar at Church.



**MOSHE:** The resurrection can be explained in many ways. One way is to see matter— not as solid— but as chicken coop wiring with wide-open spaces.

Another is— in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was made flesh. This is the use of sound.

**MOTHER MARY:** What you are already doing in liturgy and at the altar, giving your decrees and rosary.

**JESUS CHRIST:** The flame on the altar is real. Yes, the flame is seen blazing in New Orleans even as it is in Chicago if this is what you are doing, celebrating the Eucharist or the communion with the saints.



**Nancy of Oregon:** This was described in both the Old Testament and as described as the unfed flame on Atlantis and at the time of the Rai of Suern. How you get to stepping into this other world is also you as a flame through rituals to the altar.

What Moshe is saying here is that you are obedient, however more. It is by a simple happenstance you know this because the language of this other world called ritual observance, arks of the covenant, altar flames and heaven, you do not have words on this other side for, to even speak about to someone as you normally talk about “this button on my coat fell off” that is something you see.

**JESUS CHRIST:** It is not only the piety. It is not only the liturgy. It is actually faith that there is what you would come to recognize as the resurrection and ascension.

**HOLY AIMEE:** To you, the main purpose is to develop a Christ awareness. But this part of the traditions of the Church, whether it is candles or hand washing, holiday celebrations, taking off your shoes on holy ground— all these are extremely important that you commemorate.

**MOTHER MARY:** You spend time at the altar, hours. Days of the week. You are not only imbued by the Light at the altar, you are connecting to Christ and God. You after many years suddenly find yourself into realms that have different conditions that are for your eternal life and the altar serves as a Path to eternity.

**MOSHE:** This is the meaning of this wrong teaching of the Jewish tradition to read the book of Ruth on Shavuot or Pentecost. They do not understand there is a flame on the altar. The work that I did in all the show of the details in the Ark of the Covenant fell on deaf ears that someone for Pentecost would designate it to a day of the Feast of Weeks or an agricultural holiday. Nothing could be further from the  
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Truth! There is a flame to even the Ten Commandments! A flame of peace! A flame of freedom! It is a flame of love! And these then constitute your path to eternal life.

Pharisee sects of the latter kind are known only from the last generation preceding the destruction of the Second Temple. The Pharisees, the later rabbinic Jews, had as their main tenet interpretation of the Oral Law to adapt the commands of the Torah to changing circumstances, to always be representing the religious majority.

**MOSHE:** What you in this division of the Pharisees and Sadducees see is that the one group always wanting to apply to modern ways what had been rules of order did permeate the traditions with nonsense.

And then it is necessary to give forth the Teachings again as to what is the work of which you are about in traversing these higher planes and altitudes where there are these flames!

You walk out of a Church service from the rituals that you do, even if you heard not scripture, yet the rituals themselves, and the faith that carried you in these moments, did bring about an imbuing of you with the flames of peace, thanksgiving of hope and qualities of eternity.



Another notable difference was that Sadducees only believed in the survival of the soul but not in bodily resurrection, as against the Pharisees.

**MOSHE:** This is not in order. It is sacrilegious.

**JESUS CHRIST:** You cannot decide as a rabbi priest that you will discount the resurrection!

**MOSHE:** To do so as you the rabbi do not understand it. You had best step down from your position and role and not misdirect those who seek the path to eternal life!