

Transforming Falsehood

Letters and Numbers of Torah – Terumah

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In this week's Torah portion, G-d commands the Jewish People to construct a *mishkan*, a sanctuary in which He will dwell on earth.

The Torah's instructions for the *Mishkan* are very specific.

The Torah tells us that each pillar (*keresh*) “shall be even at the bottom, and together shall they be even at its top...” (Exodus 26:24)

Rashi tells us that the word (תאמם), “even at the bottom,” is from the word *t'umim* (תאומים), meaning ‘twins.’

A question arises: why, in our passage, is this word spelled first with an *Alef*, but the second time, without the *Alef*, and with the addition of a *Yud*: תמי?