The Staff of Moshe

Question: Where did the staff that Moshe used during the Exodus account of the children of Israel come from?

**“The Hypothesis”**

After the fall of Adam and Eve, Elohim clothed them in skins. Skin represents “sacrifice” & “coverings”. The earthly sacrifice (Hebrew = Olah) before the Exodus account consisted of wood, fire, and an animal. Adam and Eve were “put out” of the garden [fully clothed]. Was Adam given a branch from the tree of life as a “remnant” or a remembrance of what it was like in the garden? I believe that Adam was the 1st earthly Melech-Tsadik and I believe he was given a branch from the tree of life to be used as a staff (and a witness) and to be passed down through the Melech-Tsadik priestly order. I believe this very “staff” was passed down through the successive generations of the Melech-Tsadik priestly order (Genesis 5) and eventually was passed down to Noah, then Shem, Eber, Isaac, and then to Jacob.

Jacob, before coming back to see his father Isaac, is worried about his encounter with his brother Esau along the way and prays to YHWH the following prayer:

Gen 32:10-11 “I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; **for with my staff** [H4731] I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, *and* the mother with the children.”

This staff was passed down to Joseph from Jacob:

Gen 47:29 And the time drew nigh that Israel must die: and he called his son Joseph, and said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt:

Gen 47:30 But I will lie with my fathers, and thou shalt carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burying place. And he said, I will do as thou hast said. (KJV)

Gen 47:31 “Swear unto me,” he said. Then Joseph swore to him, and Israel worshiped as he leaned on the **top of his staff**. (NIV)

The writer of Hebrews confirms the Genesis 47 account:

Hebrews 11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the **top of his staff**.

Information from the Book of Jasher…

According to the Book of Jasher, Ruel the Midianite (who earlier was an advisor to Pharaoh and later mentioned as Jethro, Moshe’s father-in-law), gave a recommendation to Pharaoh (which Pharaoh did not like) concerning the children of Israel and had to flee to Midian. Ruel left with the “Staff of Joseph”. Years later, when Moshe fled from the presence of Pharaoh, he also went to Midian and spent time with Ruel. Jasher Chapter 77 talks about how this “Staff” ended up in Ruel’s hand. According to Jasher, the staff passed down from Adam all the way to Noah to Shem to Isaac to Jacob to Joseph, then to Ruel and eventually to Moshe.

Jasher Chapter 79 talks about how Moshe, with the staff in hand, was at Mt.Horeb, when YHWH talked to him through the burning bush… later we read in Exodus 4 a conversation between Moshe and YHWH, when Moshe is asked to go back to Egypt to tell Pharaoh to let YHWH’s people go.

(Exo 4:1-5) And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What *is* that in thine hand? And he said, **A rod** [H4294]. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

(Exo 4:20) And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the **rod of God** in his hand.

Throughout the book of Exodus, YHWH used Moshe to perform plagues and miracles, many of which were through the staff of Elohim…

 (Exo 9:23) And Moses stretched forth his **rod** toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

(Exo 10:13) And Moses stretched forth his **rod** over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all *that* night; *and* when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.

(Exo 14:16) But lift thou up thy **rod**, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea.

(Exo 17:5) And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy **rod**, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

(Exo 17:6) Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt **smite the rock** (with the rod), and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

(Exo 17:9) And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the **rod of God** in mine hand.

So what about Aaron and his staff? Moshe was told from YHWH that HE would make him (Moshe) elohim and his brother Aaron would be a prophet (Exodus 7:1).

(Exo 7:9) When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy **rod**, and cast *it* before Pharaoh, *and* it shall become a serpent.

\*Was not this the same rod that YHWH commanded Moshe to throw down and that it would turn into a snake (Exodus 4)?

What about the following verses?

(Exo 7:14-15) And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh's heart *is* hardened, he refuseth to let the people go. Get thee unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goeth out unto the water; and thou shalt stand by the river's brink against he come; and **the rod which was turned to a serpent shalt thou take in thine hand**.

(Exo 7:17) Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I *am* the LORD: behold, I will smite **with the rod** that *is* in mine hand upon the waters which *are* in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.

(Exo 7:19-20) And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, **Take thy rod**, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and *that* there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in *vessels of* wood, and in *vessels of* stone. And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and **he lifted up the rod**, and smote the waters that *were* in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that *were* in the river were turned to blood.

(Exo 8:5) And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand **with thy rod** over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt.

(Exo 8:16-17) And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch **out thy rod**, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt. And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand **with his rod**, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

As we look at the above verses, in my opinion, the staff that Aaron is using is none other than the “staff of Moshe” or more importantly, the “Rod of Elohim”. The very Rod that was passed down all the way back from Adam after he and Eve were put out of the garden of eden.

What about “Aaron’s rod that budded”?

(Num 17:1-3) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and take of every one of them **a rod according to the house of *their* fathers**, of all their princes according to the house of their fathers twelve rods: write thou every man's name upon his rod. And thou shalt write **Aaron's name upon the rod of Levi**: for one rod *shall be* for the head of the house of their fathers.

(Num 17:8-11) And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the **rod of Aaron for the house of Levi** was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. And Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod. And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring **Aaron's rod** again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not. And Moses did *so:* as the LORD commanded him, so did he.

Both Moshe and Aaron were not only brothers but were descendants of Levi. I believe that this very staff/rod, the “Rod of Elohim” was the same rod that budded and produced “almonds.” Speaking of almonds, could it be that maybe the tree of life in the Garden of Eden was an almond tree? I believe it could be! It makes sense to me that the rod of the “House of Levi” budded. We read later that in the future Holy Temple, the Levites, the Sons of Zadok, will minister to YHWH and perform the Temple duties and services (Eze 43:19, 44:15).

Later, Moshe brings out the Rod from the Ark of the Covenant and is supposed to “speak” to the rock , that it may bring forth water for the people.

(Num 20:1-2) Then came the children of Israel, *even* the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

(Num 20:7-12) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **Take the rod**, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. **And Moses took the rod from before (the presence of) the LORD**, as he commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with **his rod** he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also.* And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

This is the last occurrence in the Torah where this rod/staff is mentioned. So where is the staff now? I believe it is hidden for a future use during the end of days. I believe we will see Moshe (truth) and Elijah (spirit) on the Temple Mount as the two witnesses prophesy (Revelation 11) for 2,260 days and we will again see Moshe with the “Rod of Elohim”…

This is ONLY a “hypothesis” and is NOT a salvation issue. Please email us with questions or comments~

Shalom

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Hebrew definitions for staff:

Strong’s # [H4731] **lqm**  (Maqqel) Rod, Staff – from an unused root word meaning apparently to germinate (Genesis 30:31)

Strong’s # [H4294]  **hjm** (Mattei) Staff, Branch, Tribe, Rod (Genesis 38:18). From Root word [H5186].

Strong’s # [H7626]  **jbv** (Shebet) Rod, Staff, Branch, Scepter, Tribe, Scion (Genesis 49:10).