

This Shabbat is also Rosh Hodesh and Parshat Shekalim.

The description of the building of the tabernacle finishes up and closes the book of Shemot.

Because women didn't join in with the sin of the golden calf – refusing to give up their jewelry – Hashem gave them Rosh Hodesh as their own special Chug.

In Megillah 22b it says that women don't work on Rosh Hodesh. Rashi says this applies to spinning, weaving and sewing, the activities they did for the sanctuary.

Hashem gave women a double blessing for not joining in the sin of the golden calf – in this world and in the world to come.

In this world, their own festival, Rosh Hodesh.

In the world to come, they would be renewed like the new moon is renewed.

In Berashit, the moon argues with Hashem saying that the sun and he can't both be rulers. Hashem then punishes the moon who asked for forgiveness. Hashem says you will come to your full size once a month and be accompanied by the stars.

Similarly, Eve was punished for the sin persuading Adam to eat from the tree, by having monthly periods. However, her periods stop once a month, like the moon reaches full brightness once a month, and she is accompanied by her children, like the moon and the stars.

In the world to come, the moon will be restored to her original brilliance and women will be restored to their original status.