

## DEBORAH MIRROR AND FRAME

CH #53

Judge, Prophetess, victorious leader of armies, author of a Song which is a universally acclaimed masterpiece – this is certainly an impressive list of accomplishments for anyone. But for a woman living about 1200 BCE, it is extraordinary.

To honor this divinely inspired woman, we must remember both her wisdom and her courage. She not only delivered judgment but also arbitrated disputes and directed the people in the right way to live. Inspiring me to fight against intolerable odds, she led her army to victory, and then sang praises to the Lord in magnificent verse.

This project on Deborah was inspired by several ideas. The design uses the palm tree under which Deborah sat when she was judging or giving advice. (Legend has it that she sat under the palm tree to avoid being alone in her home with a man.) In the background is Mt. Tabor from which Deborah and Barak attacked the Canaanites. Finally, we see the sun spoken of in the last lines of the Song of Deborah, which is the quotation surround the picture.

ואהביו כצאת השמש בגבורו

*V'ohavav k'tzayt hashemesh b'g'vurato*

“But they that love him be as the sun when he goes forth in his might.”

This design can be worked either in needlepoint, rug hooking or felt collage, depending upon the size and effect desired. Working it either as an oval or a diamond can vary the design. The center design may be omitted and the quotation worked in needlepoint and used to frame a mirror. Or, the center design can be painted directly on a mirror. We recommend, for this purpose, the use of Flo-Paque paint, available in a local artists' supply store. For information about where to find this paint in your area, contact Sam Flax, Inc., 425 Park Avenue, New York, NY. (212) 620-3060.

The alphabet used in this design may be changed if you desire. The background can be done in any kind of stitch, from mosaic to brick or Greek stitch.

The final variation on this theme would be to simply use the idea and pick your own favorite quotation in either Hebrew or English, or both. A favorite of mine that I think would be excellent to frame a mirror is Hillel's:

אם אין אני לי מי לי, וכשאני לעצמי מה אני

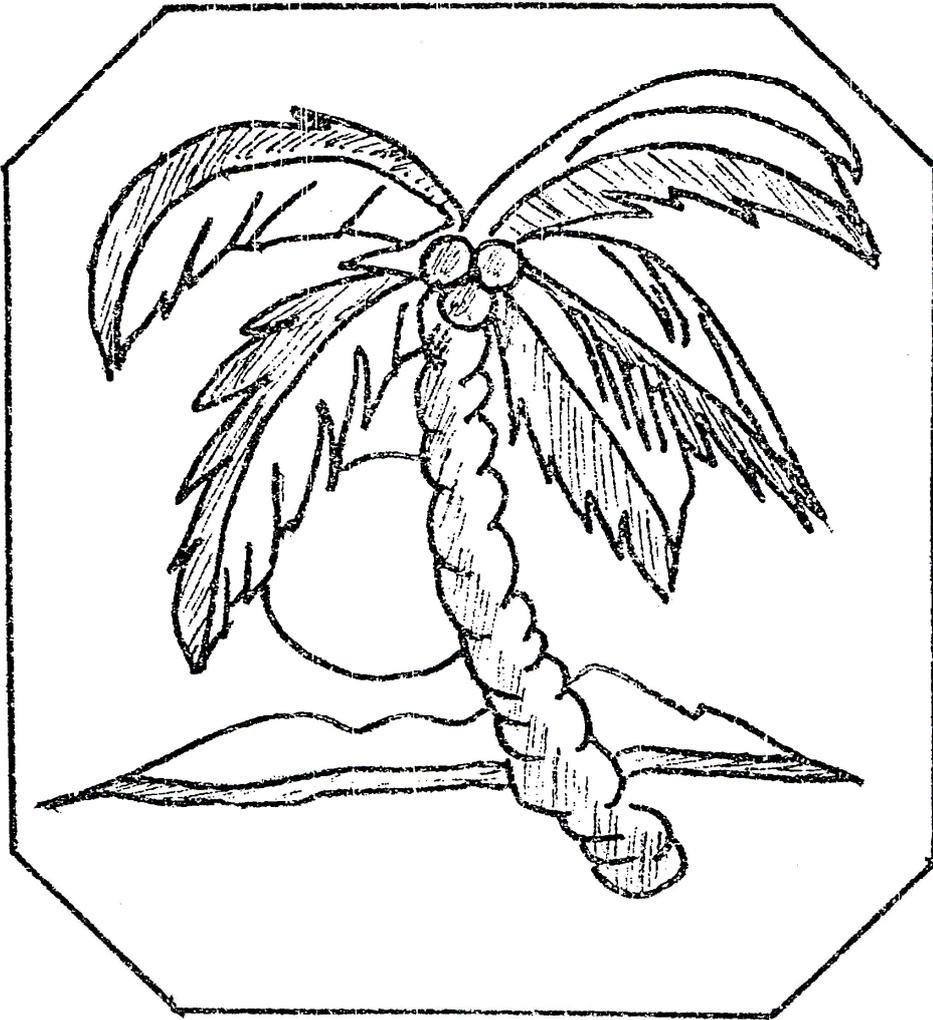
“If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I?”

Part of the fun of a handcrafted item is adding your own special touch that makes it your very own creation. We hope we have given you some ideas that will light your creative fires. Remember to sign your name or logo.

Elaine Schanzer  
Westchester Rockland Branch

וּאֶהְיֶה

ט א צ כ



ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י

ה ש צ ד

*But they that love Him,  
be as the sun when he  
goes forth in his might.*

*Judges Chapter V:31*

וְאֵת בְּנֵי

כַּמְנַת

הַשָּׁמַיִם

בְּבָרְהוֹתָיִךְ

וְאֵת בְּנֵי