

Beha'a lot'cha
"When you set up"

Torah: **Numbers 8:1 – 12:16**
Haftarah: **Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7**
Brit Chadasha: **John 19:31-37, Hebrews 3:1-6**

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TORAH:

Numbers 8

Dedication of the Levites

1 *Adonai* spoke to Moses saying,

2 "Speak to Aaron and say to him: When you erect the lamps, the seven lamps are to illuminate the area in front of the *menorah*."

3 Aaron did so. He erected the lamps facing forward so they illuminated the area in front of the *menorah*, just as *Adonai* had commanded Moses.

4 Now this is how the *menorah* was made: hammered gold from its base to its blossoms. Just as was the pattern that *Adonai* had shown to Moses, so he made the *menorah*.

5 Again *Adonai* spoke to Moses saying,

6 "Take the Levites from among *Bnei-Yisrael* and ceremonially cleanse them.

7 This is what you must do to them to make them clean: Sprinkle the purifying water on them, then have them shave their whole bodies and wash their clothes, thus purifying themselves.

8 “Then they are to take a young bull with its grain offering of fine flour mixed with oil, plus a second young bull for a sin offering.

9 Bring the Levites before the Tent of Meeting, and gather the whole community of *Bnei-Yisrael*.

10 Bring the Levites before *Adonai*, *Bnei-Yisrael* will lay their hands on the Levites,

11 and Aaron will present the Levites before *Adonai* as a wave offering from *Bnei-Yisrael*. Then they may go about the work of the service of *Adonai*.

12 “The Levites are to lay their hands on the heads of the bulls. Use one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering to *Adonai* to make atonement for the Levites.

13 Have the Levites stand before Aaron and his sons and present them as a wave offering to *Adonai*.

14 In this way you are to set apart the Levites from *Bnei-Yisrael* to be Mine.

15 After you have purified them and presented them as a wave offering, the Levites will come to do their work at the Tent of Meeting.

16 For they are the ones from among *Bnei-Yisrael* given to Me in place of all the first from the wombs of *Bnei-Yisrael*. I have taken them for Myself.

17 “For every firstborn among *Bnei-Yisrael* is Mine, whether human or animal. On the day I struck down the firstborn of the land of Egypt, I sanctified them for Myself.

18 So I am taking the Levites in place of the firstborn of *Bnei-Yisrael*,

19 and I am giving the Levites as a gift to Aaron and his sons from among *Bnei-Yisrael*, to do the work on behalf of *Bnei-Yisrael* in the Tent of Meeting, and to make atonement for them—so that there would be no plague among them for coming too close to the Sanctuary.”

20 So Moses, Aaron and the entire community of *Bnei-Yisrael* did so with the Levites. All that *Adonai* had commanded Moses regarding the Levites, so *Bnei-Yisrael* did to them.

21 The Levites also purified themselves from sin and washed their clothes. Aaron presented them as a wave offering before *Adonai*, and, he made atonement for them to purify them.

22 After that, the Levites came to do their tasks before Aaron and his sons in the Tent of Meeting, just as *Adonai* had commanded Moses concerning the Levites.

23 *Adonai* again spoke to Moses saying,

24 “This is for the Levites. Men 25 years old and upward are to present themselves for service to work in the Tent of Meeting.

25 But at the age of 50 he is to retire from his service and work no longer.

26 He may assist his brothers in the Tent of Meeting to do their duties, but he himself will no longer do the work. Thus, you are to assign to the Levites their responsibilities.”

Numbers 9

Second Month Passover

1 *Adonai* spoke to Moses in the Sinai wilderness in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt saying,

2 “*Bnei-Yisrael* is to observe Passover at its appointed time.

3 You are to celebrate it at its appointed time, at twilight on the fourteenth day of this month, with all its rules and regulations.”

4 So Moses told *Bnei-Yisrael* to observe Passover.

5 They celebrated Passover at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month in the Sinai wilderness. In accordance with all that *Adonai* commanded Moses, so *Bnei-Yisrael* did.

6 However, there were some men who could not celebrate Passover because of being defiled by a dead body. So they came to Moses and Aaron on that same day,

7 and these men said to him, “We have become unclean because of a dead man’s body. Why should we be kept from presenting the offering of *Adonai* at the appointed time with the rest of *Bnei-Yisrael*?”

8 Moses answered them, “Wait, and I will inquire what *Adonai* commands concerning you.”

9 Then *Adonai* spoke to Moses saying,

10 “Say to *Bnei-Yisrael* saying: If any man, whether you or your descendants, becomes unclean because of a dead body, or is away on a long journey, he may yet observe *Adonai*’s Passover.

11 They are to celebrate it at twilight on the fourteenth day of the second month. With *matzot* and bitter herbs they are to eat it.

12 They are not to leave any of it until morning, or break any bones. When they celebrate Passover they are to observe all its regulations.

13 “But the person who is clean and not away on a journey, yet neglects to celebrate Passover, that soul shall be cut off from his people because that person did not present *Adonai*’s offering at the appointed time. That man will bear his sin.

14 “If an outsider living among you would celebrate Passover to *Adonai* according to the requirement, so he should do. There will be for you the same regulation for the outsider and the native of the land.”

The Cloud as the Guide

15 On the day the Tabernacle was erected, the cloud covered the Tabernacle. By evening until morning, the cloud above the Tent of Testimony had an appearance like fire.

16 It was that way continually. The cloud covered it, and by night it appeared like fire.

17 Whenever the cloud lifted up from above the Tent, then *Bnei-Yisrael* would set out, and at the place where the cloud settled, there *Bnei-Yisrael* would encamp.

18 At the mouth of *Adonai*, *Bnei-Yisrael* would set out, and at the mouth of *Adonai* they would encamp. All the days that the cloud remained over the Tabernacle, they would remain in camp.

19 When the cloud would remain over the Tabernacle many days, *Bnei-Yisrael* would obey the command of *Adonai* and not set out.

20 At times the cloud stayed over the Tabernacle only a few days. At *Adonai's* word they would encamp, and at *Adonai's* word they would set out.

21 At times the cloud remained only from evening until morning. When the cloud would lift, they would set out. Whether by day or by night, when the cloud lifted, they would set out.

22 Whether for two days or a month or a year, while the cloud remained over the Tabernacle, *Bnei-Yisrael* remained camped and would not set out. But when it would lift, they would set out.

23 At *Adonai's* word they would encamp, and at the mouth of *Adonai* they set out. They obeyed *Adonai's* order by Moses's hand.

Numbers 10

Silver Trumpets for Assembly

1 *Adonai* spoke to Moses saying,

2“Make two trumpets of hammered silver for yourself. They are for summoning the community and having the camps set out.

3 Whenever both are sounded, the whole community is to gather toward you at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting.

4 But if only one is sounded, the princes—the heads of the tribes of Israel—are to gather toward you.

5 When you sound the trumpet the first time, the camp of those camped on the east is to set out.

6 When you sound the trumpet blast the second time, the camp of those camped on the south is to set out. Short blasts will be the signal for their moving out.

7 To gather the whole national community, you are to sound the sustained blasts, but not the short blasts.

8 The sons of Aaron, the *kohanim* will blow the trumpets. This is to be an eternal ordinance for you as well as for your generations to come.

9 Whenever you go to war in your own land against the enemy who is hostile to you, you are to sound short blasts of alarm. Then you will be remembered before *Adonai* your God and be delivered from your enemies.

10 Also at your days of rejoicing, feasts and new moons, you are to blow on the trumpets over your burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. They will then be a reminder for you before *Adonai* your God. I am *Adonai* your God!”

Journey From Sinai

11 On the twentieth day of the second month of the second year, the cloud lifted up from above the Tabernacle of the Testimony.

12 Then *Bnei-Yisrael* set out on their travels in the Sinai wilderness. The cloud came to rest in the wilderness of Paran.

13 So they set out the first time by the mouth of *Adonai* by Moses’s hand.

14 The standard of the camp of the sons of Judah set out first by their divisions. Over them was Nahshon son of Amminadab.

15 Over the division of the tribe of the sons of Issachar was Nethanel son of Zuar.

16 Over the division of the tribe of the sons of Zebulun was Eliab son of Helon.

17 Then the Tabernacle was disassembled, and the sons of Gershon and Merari, who were carrying it, set out.

18 The standard of the camp of Reuben then set out, by their divisions. Over his division was Elizur son of Shedeur.

19 Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai, was over the division of the tribe of the sons of Simeon.

20 Over the division of the tribe of the sons of Gad was Eliasaph son of Deuel.

21 Then the Kohathites set out, carrying the holy items. The Tabernacle was to be erected before their arrival.

22 The standard of the camp of the sons of Ephraim set out next, by their divisions. Over his division was Elishama son of Ammihud.

23 Over the division of the tribe of the sons of Manasseh was Gamaliel son of Pedahzur.

24 Over the division of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin was Abidan son of Gideoni.

25 The standard of the camp of the tribe of the sons of Dan, being the rear guard of all the camps, set out by their divisions. Over his division was Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai.

26 Pagiel son of Ocran, was over the division of the tribe of the sons of Asher.

27 Ahira son of Enan, was over the division of the tribe of the sons of Naphtali.

28 This is the order by which *Bnei-Yisrael*, by their divisions, set out.

29 Moses said to Hobab son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, "We are setting out to the place about which *Adonai* said, 'I will give it to you.' Come with us and we will do good to you, because *Adonai* has spoken goodness to Israel."

30 But he said to him, "I will not go, because I would rather go to my own country and to my own people."

31 But he said, "Do not leave us now, because you know where we should camp in the wilderness. You can be like eyes to us.

32 If you come with us, we will share with you whatever good *Adonai* gives to us."

33 So they advanced from the mountain of *Adonai*, a trip of three days, the Ark of the covenant of *Adonai* going ahead of them for those three days to seek out a resting place for them.

34 The cloud of *Adonai* was over them by day when they advanced from the camp.

35 Whenever the Ark would set out, Moses would say: "Arise, *Adonai*! May Your enemies be scattered! May those who hate You flee from before You!"

36 Then whenever it came to rest, he would say: "Return, *Adonai*, to the myriad thousands of Israel!"

Numbers 11

70 Elders to Share the Burden

1 The people were murmuring in the ears of *Adonai* about hardship, and when *Adonai* heard, His anger burned. The fire of *Adonai* blazed among them, ravaging the outskirts of the camp.

2 The people cried out to Moses, so Moses prayed to *Adonai* and the fire died out.

3 The name of that place was thus called Taberah because fire from *Adonai* had burned among them.

4 The grumblers among them began to have cravings, so *Bnei-Yisrael* began to wail repeatedly, saying, “If we could just eat some meat!

5 We remember the fish that we used to eat in Egypt, for free - the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic!

6 But now we have no appetite. We never see anything but this *manna* .”

7 Now the *manna* was similar to coriander seed and had an appearance like gum resin.

8 The people went about, gathered it up, and ground it in a hand mill or crushed it in a mortar. They cooked it in a pot or made it into cakes. It had a taste like something made with olive oil.

9 When the dew descended on the camp at night, the *manna* descended with it.

10 Moses heard the people wailing by their families, each man at the door to his tent. *Adonai*'s anger became very hot, and Moses was troubled.

11 So Moses asked *Adonai*, “Why have You brought trouble on Your servant? Haven't I found favor in Your eyes—that You laid the burden of all these people on me?

12 Did I conceive all these people, or did I give birth to them, that You should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom just as the nurse carries an infant’—to the land You promised to their fathers?

13 Where can I get meat for all these people? For they wail to me saying, ‘Give us meat to eat!’

14 I am not able to carry all these people by myself! The load is too heavy for me!

15 If this is how You are treating me, kill me now! If I have found favor in Your eyes, kill me please - don't let me see my own misery!”

16 *Adonai* said to Moses, “Bring me 70 of the elders of Israel whom you know to be elders of the people and their leaders. Take them to the Tent of Meeting, so they may stand with you there.

17 Then I will come down and speak with you there, and, I will take some of the *Ruach* that is on you and will place it on them. They will carry with you the burden of the people, so you will not be carrying it alone.”

18 “Now to the people say: Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because you will eat meat, for you wailed in *Adonai*’s ears saying, ‘If only we could eat meat! It was better for us in Egypt!’ Now *Adonai* will give you meat and you will eat!

19 You will eat - not for one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days,

20 but for an entire month - until it is coming out of your nostrils and it becomes loathsome to you! For you rejected *Adonai* who is among you, and you wailed to His face saying, ‘Why did we ever leave Egypt?’”

21 Moses then said, “600,000 foot soldiers -the people I am in the middle of---yet You say, ‘I am going to give them meat to eat for an entire month?’

22 If flocks and herds were slaughtered, would they have enough? Or if all the fish in the sea were caught, would they have enough?”

23 *Adonai* said to Moses, “Is *Adonai*’s arm too short? Now you will see whether My word will come true for you or not.”

Seventy Elders Prophesying

24 So Moses went out and told the people *Adonai*’s words. He gathered 70 of the elders of the people and had them stand around the Tent.

25 *Adonai* descended in the cloud and spoke with him. He took some of the *Ruach* that was on him and placed it on each of the 70 elders. It so happened that when the *Ruach* first rested on them, they prophesied—but never again.

26 Two men, however, had remained in the camp. The name of one was Eldad and the name of the other was Medad. The *Ruach* rested on them. They were among those listed, but they had not gone out to the Tent. So they prophesied in the camp.

27 A young man ran and told Moses and said, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!”

28 Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses since his youth, cried out and said, “Moses, my lord, stop them!”

29 But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous on my behalf? If only *Adonai* would make all the people prophets! If only *Adonai* would put the Spirit on all of them!”

30 Then Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Quails From the Sea

31 Now a wind went out from *Adonai* and drove quails from the sea. He brought them into the camp to about a day’s journey in any direction, about two cubits above the ground all around the camp.

32 The people went out all that day and all that night and all the following day and collected quail. No one gathered less than ten omers. They spread them out all around the camp.

33 Yet while the meat was between their teeth, before it was swallowed, *Adonai*’s anger burned against the people. So *Adonai* struck the people with a severe plague.

34 For that reason the name of that place was called Kibroth-hattaavah , because they buried the people who were craving.

35 From Kibroth-hattaavah the people journeyed to Hazeroth and stayed in Hazeroth.

Numbers 12

Miriam and Aaron Speak Against Moses

1 Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses on account of the Cushite woman he married, because he had married a Cushite woman.

2 They asked, “Has *Adonai* spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t He also spoken through us?” *Adonai* heard it.

3 Now the man Moses was very humble, more so than anyone on the face of the earth.

4 Immediately, *Adonai* said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, “The three of you, come out to the Tent of Meeting.” So the three came out.

5 *Adonai* descended in a column of cloud, stood at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and called to Aaron and Miriam. The two of them stepped forward.

6 “Hear now My words!” He said. “When there is a prophet of *Adonai*, I reveal Myself in a vision, I speak to him in a dream.

7 Not so with My servant Moses. In all My house, he is faithful.

8 I speak with him face to face, plainly and not in riddles. He even looks at the form of *Adonai*! Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?”

9 *Adonai*’s anger burned against them, and He left them.

10 When the cloud lifted up from above the Tent, behold, Miriam had *tza’arat*, like snow! As Aaron turned toward her, behold, she had *tza’arat*!

11 He said to Moses, “Please, my lord, don’t hold against us the sin we have committed so foolishly!

12 Don’t let her be like a stillborn baby, who comes from his mother’s womb with his flesh half-eaten away!”

13 So Moses cried to *Adonai* saying, “O God, heal her now!”

14 *Adonai* said to Moses, “If her father had but spit in her face, would she not be in shame for seven days? Let her be confined outside the camp for seven days. After that she may be brought back.”

15 So Miriam was restricted to outside the camp for seven days. The people did not move on until Miriam was brought back.

16 Afterward, the people left Hazeroth and encamped in the Wilderness of Paran.

HAFTARAH

Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7

14 “Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will live among you’—it is a declaration of *Adonai*.

15 ‘In that day many nations will join themselves to *Adonai* and they will be My people and I will dwell among you.’ Then you will know that *Adonai-Tzva’ot* has sent me to you.

16 *Adonai* will inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land and will once again choose Jerusalem.

17 Be silent before *Adonai*, all flesh, for He has aroused Himself from His holy dwelling.”

Zechariah 3

Joshua the Kohen Gadol

1 Then he showed me Joshua the *kohen gadol* standing before the angel of *Adonai* and the satan, standing at his right hand to accuse him.

2 *Adonai* said to the satan, ‘*Adonai* rebukes you, the satan. Indeed *Adonai*, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebukes you. Is not this man a brand plucked out of the fire?’

3 Now Joshua was wearing filthy garments and standing before the angel

4 who answered and spoke to those standing before him saying, ‘Remove the filthy garments from him.’ Then to Joshua he said, ‘See, I have removed your iniquity from you and will dress you with fine clothing.’

5 Then I said, ‘Place a clean turban on his head.’ So they put a pure turban on his head and clothed him with garments while the angel of *Adonai* stood by.

6 The angel of *Adonai* exhorted Joshua saying:

7 'Thus says *Adonai-Tzva'ot*, "If you will walk in My ways and keep My charge, then you will judge My House and watch over My courts and I will give you a place to walk among these standing here.

8 Listen well, Joshua *kohen gadol* , both you and your companions seated before you, because they are men who are a sign—behold, I will bring forth My servant the Branch.

9 For behold! The stone I have laid before Joshua is one stone with seven facets. On it I will engrave an inscription," declares *Adonai-Tzva'ot*, "that I will remove the iniquity of this land in one day.

10 In that day," declares *Adonai-Tzva'ot*, "every man will invite his neighbor to sit under the vine and under the fig tree.'"

Zechariah 4

Two Olive Trees and the Capstone

1 Then the angel who had been speaking with me returned and woke me—like a man who is wakened from his sleep.

2 He asked me, 'What do you see?' I replied, 'Behold, I see a solid gold *menorah* with its bowl at the top of it, and its seven lamps on it with seven pipes for the lamps that are on the top of it.

3 Also two olive trees are by it, one on the right side of the bowl and the other on the left side of it.'

4 Then I responded by saying to the angel speaking with me, 'What are these, my lord?'

5 The angel who spoke with me responded by asking me, 'You do not know what these are?' I replied, 'No, my lord.'

6 Then he responded to me by saying, 'This is the word of *Adonai* to Zerubbabel saying: "Not by might, nor by power, but by My *Ruach!*" says *Adonai-Tzva'ot*.

7 “What are you, great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become a plain. He will bring out the capstone with shouts of “Grace, grace” to it.”

BRIT CHADASHA

John 19:31-37

31 It was the Day of Preparation, and the next day was a festival Shabbat. So that the bodies should not remain on the execution stake during Shabbat, the Judean leaders asked Pilate to have the legs broken and to have the bodies taken away.

32 So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then the other who had been executed with *Yeshua*.

33 Now when they came to *Yeshua* and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.

34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

35 He who has seen it has testified, and his testimony is true. He knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe.

36 These things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, “Not a bone of His shall be broken.”

37 And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they have pierced.”

Hebrews 3:1-6

Yeshua Greater than Moses

1 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, partners in a heavenly calling, take notice of *Yeshua*—the Emissary and *Kohen Gadol* we affirm.

2 He was faithful to the One who appointed Him in His house—as was Moses also.

3 For He has been considered worthy of more glory than Moses, even as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

4 For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.

5 Now Moses surely was faithful in all God's house as a servant, for a witness of things to be spoken later.

6 But Messiah, as Son, is over God's house—and we are His house, if we hold firm to our boldness and what we are proud to hope.