

PINCHAS - PHINEHAS

Part Three

Numbers 25:10 to 29:40 1 Kings 18:46 to 19:21 Colossians 2:8 to 4:6; Matthew 26:1-30 John 2:13-22; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Cleaning The Camp

What the enemy intends for evil, God/*Elohim* purposes for good. God/*Elohim* calls the Israelites a royal priesthood and a holy Nation before Him. Yes, the camp was exposed to the Moabite's jealous and seducing spirits, but through it all, the camp was cleansed before entering the Promised Land (Exodus 19:5-6; 32:1-6; 1 Peter 2:9).

Today, many believers desire to visit the land of Israel at least once in their lifetime. Some would love to live in the land permanently. However, the rules of entering and staying in the land are still the same and have not changed since initially given to Abraham and his descendants, as God/*Elohim* is the same yesterday, today, and forever. God/*Elohim* desires His people have pure hearts and minds before Him and able to discern the difference between what is clean and holy versus what is not clean or holy. He also desires His people to keep active in His Word by celebrating His appointed days (Feasts Days, Sabbaths, and New Moon Festivals) throughout each generation. These holy ordinances are fundamental requirements for returning to the land, staying in the land, and walking as a disciple.

Jeremiah 31:35-36 "Thus says the LORD/Yahweh, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, and its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name): If those ordinances (of the sun, moon and stars) depart from before Me, says the LORD/Yahweh, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever."

At present, there are relatively few believers in the land. If God's/*Elohim* people walk according to His simple instructions, the land will not spew the people out, nor would the enemy constantly chaff at them. By observing His ordinances, His people would become a nation once again and all Israel would enjoy peace/*shalom* (Deuteronomy 28).

Jeremiah 33:20-26 "Thus says the LORD/Yahweh: 'If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that there will not be day and night in their season, then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levites, the priests, My ministers. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.' Moreover the word of the LORD/Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, 'Have you not considered what these people have spoken, saying, 'The two families which the LORD/Yahweh has chosen, He has also cast them off '? Thus they have despised My people, as if they should no more be a nation before them. Thus says the LORD/Yahweh: 'If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth, then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant, so that I will not take any of his descendants to be rulers over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will cause their captives to return, and will have mercy on them."

As we learned in the last study of *Balak*, the sin of Balaam is still present today. We are among the generation of the Children of Israel about to inherit the land called *Israel*, except many believers, are still confused. Not only with *support* for the land of Israel but also the acknowledgment of who they are as *part of Israel*.

The Heart Of Phinehas

In *Balak*, we examined Balaam's subtle ways of sorcery. We also saw how the remnant/*ekklesia* (the called out ones), upheld and walked in God's/*Elohim* truth. This week we see the heart of Phinehas whose name means *mouth of brass*. Brass is used in the prevention of disease and acts as a purifier.

We have not heard of Phinehas in Scripture up to this point. He was the son of Eleazar the High Priest and grandson of Aaron. After the Israelite men entered into indecent and perverse acts with the Moabites before Baal of Peor, an Israelite man brazenly brought one of the Moabite women right *into* the Israelite camp in broad daylight and engaged in sexual relations with her. When Phinehas saw the corruptness and how this man's actions profaned God's/*Elohim* Holy Name, he immediately took action killing both he and the woman before the whole assembly. Any delay in addressing this sin or applying righteousness would have infected and misled the people, causing many more deaths. Phinehas was highly blessed for his actions in safeguarding the camp and preserving the Word of God/*Elohim* (Numbers 25:6).

Numbers 25:10-13 "Then the LORD/Yahweh said to Moses, "Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel with my zeal. Behold, I give unto him my Covenant of peace: And he shall have it and his seed after him, the Covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God/Elohim, and made an atonement for the children of Israel."

The Hebrew sages say that approximately eighty High Priests/*Kohanim Gedolim* served during the First Temple times and three hundred during the time of the Second Temple. All were recorded as descendants of Phinehas.



Melchizedek And The Promised Seed

Galatians 3:7, 29 "Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And if you *are* Christ's/*Messiah*'s, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (John 2:14-17; Galatians 3:15-16).

In the loins (DNA) of Abraham, were generations of this promised seed. As part of God's/Elohim people, we were in the loins of Abraham hence part of this mystery and promise in the order of Melchizedek. What Melchizedek possessed, Phineas possessed, and his sons, the Sons of Zadok, possessed. Righteous behavior and corresponding moral action, according to Moses and the Prophets, reflect this order. This conduct comes through the Spirit of Yeshua, who is our King and High Priest. His Priesthood is a *spiritual lineage*, not a blood lineage and it is Yeshua's Priesthood we serve in today. As the seed of Phinehas was in the loins of Abraham, if we are of the seed of Abraham, we too have the potential of the heart of Phinehas within us (1 Peter 1:10-13).

John 8:56 "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My [Yeshua's] day, and he [Abraham] saw it and was glad."

The order of Melchizedek is found in those who walk in the Spirit of Messiah with full knowledge, understanding, and lifestyle of His principles (Moses). They are those who had no previous knowledge of Torah, cannot prove their Israelite lineage, and do not have a predecessor in office. This seed was *spiritually* imparted to them, as it was Abraham.

Before God/*Elohim* established the Aaronic/Levitical priesthood, the firstborn sons of each family from all the tribes of Israel, were called to be the priests. The order of Melchizedek is this priesthood. It is a heart *line*, not a physical *bloodline* like Aaron's priesthood. The Levitical priesthood introduced at Mount Sinai was to serve and undergird, as a prototype for redemption and restoration of the firstborn *until* the coming of the Messiah. In His earthly ministry, Yeshua re-instated the firstborn to its earlier order – the order of Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Hebrews 7:1; Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:6).

- 1 Peter 2:5, 9 "You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/Elohim through Jesus Christ/Yeshua Ha Mashiach... You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."
- **Romans 4:11,16** "And he [*Abraham*] received the sign of circumcision [Strong's G4061 *peritome*], as a seal of the righteousness of his faith while he was yet **uncircumcised**

[Strong's G203 *akrobustia*] that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they may not be circumcised [*akrobustia*]; that righteousness might be imputed to them also. Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by unmerited favor; to the end that the promise might be made certain to all the seed; not to that only which is of the Torah, but to those also who are of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all" (Galatians 3:7).

Galatians 3:28-29 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*. And if you are Messiah's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Definitions

Strong's G4061 *peritome* - one who is circumcised Strong's G 203 *akrobustia* - one who was circumcised Strong's G 564 *aperitome* - one who is uncircumcised

Peritome: The original New Testament translators did not fully understand that once you became a believer, walking in the Torah lifestyle, you were no longer called Jew or Greek/Gentile. A *peritome* is one who is a believer walking in the principles that were given at Mount Sinai (*the Gospel*), and who rightly understands and correctly teaches these Torah principles to others. The *peritome* has taken off the old man (the carnal nature that led to sin) and is producing fruit worthy of a Torah lifestyle called the *Fruit of the Spirit*: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. This fruit describes a circumcised or a *peritome* person in Scripture (Galatians 5:22-23).

Akrobustia: The *akrobustia* was one who had the knowledge of the Torah and the principles of God/*Elohim* but fraternized with carnal ways. This behavior resulted in their falling away into lawlessness. By acting as an uncircumcised, the *akrobustia* tossed away their circumcision. The term *akrobustia* was used in the New Testament/*Brit Chadasha* for the lost sheep of the House of Israel (Joseph), the Northern Kingdom, who had lost their parentage and identity as part of Israel and assimilated into the Nations (Gentiles). However, through repentance, the *akrobustia* began to *re*turn to a sanctified Torah lifestyle under God's/*Elohim* principles and once again started to walk in a circumcised heart.

Today, the *akrobustia* are returning from the valley of dry bones to the hearts of their fathers. The Spirit of Elijah (Yeshua) is being loosed on those who have the heart of the Messiah and desire to follow after the Torah (Moses *and* the Prophets/Yeshua's teaching and instruction). Through repentance and a willing heart, they are learning to walk in obedience to the directives in God's/*Elohim* word and embrace their Hebrew heritage in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob once again. The returnees are also the physical seed of Abraham – the restoration of the House of David/David's Covenant. An *akrobustia* is seen in the story of the returning prodigal son and with John the Baptist baptizing thousands *re*turning through repentance to God's/*Elohim* original Torah lifestyle as taught by Moses (Isaiah 40:3; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Malachi 4: 6; Luke 15:11-32; John 1:23; Romans 2:25-27, 3:30, 4:9-12; Galatians 3:8; Hebrews 8: 8-10).

Aperitome: An aperitome person was one not truly circumcised in their heart. They may see themselves as believers, but their lifestyle choices are far from having a surrendered heart or seeking after a reflective sanctified walk in Yeshua. The aperitome may be desirous of a sanctified life but only as far as it agrees with their preference and not necessarily with God's/Elohim principles. They may see themselves as Christians and nice people. They spiritualize their walk and belief in God/Elohim, and tend to see His word through allegorical terms but not necessarily through a *physical* application – especially not today. They hold this same attitude when it comes to God's/Elohim Sabbath and His Feast Days and only lean toward them if they do not interfere with their social schedule. Wisdom and discernment between clean and unclean, holy and unholy ways are partially grasped but rarely put into effect. They have a blending of other religious celebrations, which tend to override God's/Elohim Feast Days. The carnal nature may still be evident in their lives and even war against God's/Elohim nature such as unforgiveness, anger, jealousy, rage, immorality, manipulation, control, blasphemy, filthy language, and bitterness are just some of the underlying fruits produced by an uncircumcised heart. That is what Scripture calls an uncircumcised person or an unbeliever. In Scripture, we see the aperitome in the parable of the five unwise virgins who lacked oil in Matthew 25. There is no difference of witness between this person and a pagan (Colossians 3:8-9; James 2).

- Matthew 7:22-23 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness [you who continually rebel and walk outside My Torah principles]!""
- Matthew 22:2-14 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, see, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.' But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen [few choose]."
- Matthew 13:3-9 "Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth

of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

An Everlasting Priesthood

Numbers 25:12-13 "Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace [Marriage Covenant/the Davidic Covenant]: and he shall have it, and his seed after him, the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God/Elohim, and made an atonement for the children of Israel."

When the Children of Israel disobeyed the message (His teaching and instruction), the House of Israel (Joseph) were scattered into exile 135 years *before* the House of Judah. *Joseph* was taken *northeast* up into Assyria. *Judah's* exile was in Babylon. Later, a small remnant of the House of Judah (mostly Priests and Levites) returned to the Land, while the main body of exiles from the House of Judah remained in Babylon (see Ezra 2). Joseph or the House of Israel stayed hidden up north and eventually assimilated and continued to scatter throughout the Nations (2 Kings 17 and 25).

God/*Elohim* promised to bring His people back from the north (Isaiah 43:6; 49:12; Jeremiah 16:15). John the Baptist was a Levitical priest from the line of *Abijah* (1 Chronicles 24:10). He was anointed from birth to herald in the Messiah in the spirit of Elijah. Elijah was an Ephraimite, a Tishbite from the Northern Kingdom. John the Baptist chose not to walk in the grandeur of the priesthood or priestly function in the Temple, like his father before him but sought a humble existence ministering in the wilderness. He was a voice (trumpet) crying in the wilderness to those in the Nations - *the lost sheep*, also called *hidden ones*, from the House of Israel. He called for them to repent for their waywardness. Walking in God's/*Elohim* pathways announce and prepare the way for the Messiah (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80; 3:1-20).

Matthew 3:1 "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD/Yahweh; make His paths straight'" (Isaiah 40:1-5).

Today many believers are returning to the order of Melchizedek by walking in *Moses <u>and</u> the Prophets*. They had no previous background in the principles of Torah and are learning to consecrate their hearts to walk in rightness and holiness. They are true disciples of Yeshua proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel. The root word for *everlasting*, as in everlasting covenant, is the word *hidden*. Those who walk in the order of Melchizedek proclaim the way of the LORD/*Yahweh* in the wilderness, as they look for brethren who lay *hidden* and scattered throughout the nations. They are 'Joseph' coming home.

Isaiah 40:3 "Prepare the way of the LORD/Yahweh; make straight in the desert a highway for our God/Elohim. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of LORD/Yahweh shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of LORD/Yahweh has spoken."

Many believers are asking, seeking, and responding to questions like: "Who will take a stand and walk in His ways?" "Who will put aside old idols and pagan worship?" "Who will rejoice in His Feast Days?" "Who will walk in all the glory and pageantry of His courts and delight in His teaching and instruction?" "Who will declare this message in the assemblies of those who call themselves children of the Most High God/Elohim?" "Where are those who minister in His Holy Place?"

Hebrews 6:19-20 "This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus/Yeshua, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

The Sons of Zadok

C.R. Oliver from his book The Sons of Zadok

"I knew that theological seminaries taught how to minister to the people, but none seemed to teach anything about ministering to God. What characterizes the person who may minister to God? Ezekiel 44:14 was a pivotal verse, separating those who will minister to the people and declaring who will NOT minister to Him. 'Yet I will put them [the unholy clergy characterized in the previous verses in Ezekiel] in charge of the duties of the temple and all the work that is to be done in it."

"The previous verses define the duties of the defiled clergy. Ezekiel 44:10-14 says they were to be identified by a straying congregation. An unholy clergy would minister to an unholy congregation. The clergy were worshipping idols alongside the people. They stood before the people, taught them, lead them in worship, did the pulpit work, administered educational and social programs, directed activities related to the congregation, and looked after the physical plant but they were not to minister to god."

"Only the Sons of Zadok were to minister to God. Ezekiel 44:15 marks a dividing line between clergy and clergy. It is the summum bonum of discernment regarding the ministry. Once learned, it will comprise the criteria for all judgment regarding the clergy and their work in the church."

"But the priest the Levites, the Sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me,...they shall stand before me...They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge" (Ezekiel 44:15-16).

"What kind of ministry do you want – one that only ministers to people or one that ministers to God?" In the first situation, the minister faces the congregation, while in the latter situation, the minister is turned to God and the people are privileged to view. Ezekiel had observed the priests and Levites worshipping idols in their private quarters near the Temple. These were the very ones who were charged with the spiritual care of Israel. God's Spirit showed Ezekiel how things really were in the Temple on earth and how different it was compared to God's plan for the Temple. Ezekiel saw, not as common men would see, that every sacrifice seemed to be in order from a human view. Every law seemed to be kept. The Temple looked, from all appearances, to be alive and well. The people were being ministered to; the sin offerings and the peace offerings looked "in order." The scriptures were read and explained. The people were satisfied with their ministers (Revelation 22:11).

"God showed Ezekiel the clergymen's hearts. He revealed how they secretly worshiped idols and how they committed adultery physically and spiritually. Ezekiel was repulsed. His holy heart cried out for God to do something. God answered by saying that they were not to be removed from office, nor would lightening strike them dead. God intended to do nothing but allow them to continue. If the people were satisfied with idolatrous, adulterous leadership, then God would not intervene. One difference would be made. Those priests would not be able to minister to Him. Holiness was required for that office.

"The sons of Zadok, as they ministered to God through their sacrifices and their leadership, walked in holiness. Their prayers were mingled with their anointed, sweetsmelling savor at the altar of incense. Their holiness exuded from their lives as they offered sin and peace offerings. The people knew they were different."

"Ritual was not observed by the Sons of Zadok; they entered into the presence of the Lord during their duties. They taught the people the difference between the holy and the profane. They did not wear their holy garments used in service as they walked in the streets. They did not need notoriety as priests before the people. The people observed their different behavior. They were holy men doing holy things, and God blessed them. They walked differently, they talked differently; their lives reflected the holiness of the Lord. They took seriously, "Be ye holy as I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16). They took the opportunity to teach the people to discern between the unclean and the clean (Ezekiel 44:23).

Oliver continued,

"I turned my back to the students and entered into a dramatic scenario, posing as a priest offering prayer before the altar. I described the glory of God and how smoke filled the atmosphere, how their hearts were clean and pure, and how the Lord honored them with His presence. The people could see that the Sons of Zadok were different. Then, I turned to the students and asked them what was going to be the character of their ministry? They must choose. Would they be servants of the people only ministering to their needs? If so, they could live like every other professing minister. They could be

worldly and profane and still occupy high pulpits and be respected. They would still have a title. Higher education would propel them to higher degrees and still greater respect. If they lived just a nominal Christian life, they would still be appreciated and respected by the multitudes. They would be addressed as "Pastor," and their rank would be based on the size of their congregation. Committee and the wealth of the people would determine their salaries. The role of the clergy was clearly defined: Stay within the guidelines, and you will succeed. BUT – that group may not minister unto God."

"Only the Sons of Zadok [Righteousness; those who have entered into the order of Melchizedek through the Abrahamic, Mosaic and Davidic Covenant] could come before the Lord and minister unto Him. Those who walk in holiness, compromising no aspect of Word or walk, and who teach the people to be holy, qualify. To minister to God begins with clean hands and a pure heart. Its rewards are different; instead of accolades from men, the Sons of Zadok find accolade from the Lord. His presence insures that peace reigns and every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs. (Ezekiel 44:29). Peace will rest upon the congregates houses as they minister to them holiness and the way of the Lord."

(End of quote)

For more information on Priesthood and the Davidic Covenant, please refer to Emor (Leviticus) and Korach (Numbers) teachings at www.sheepfoldgleanings.com



The Bride of Yeshua – The Walk of A High Priest

Without the understanding of God's/*Elohim* principles or Covenants, even the Bride with the best intentions will lose her way. God/*Elohim* is calling His Bride to rise and follow Him *today*. His way (His Word) is clearly laid out before His people. Everything is finished and made ready. It is time for the Bride to rise to meet her Bridegroom (Jeremiah 31:35-36).

Song of Solomon 2:10-13 "My beloved spoke, and said to me: 'Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grapes give a good smell. Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away!"

The Census and Permanent Land Allotment

Numbers 26: 1-65 "Take a census of the whole Israelite community by families - all those twenty years old or more who are able to serve in the army of Israel. The land is to be allotted to them as an inheritance based on the number of names."

The smaller tribes of Israel inherited sections of land sufficient for their needs according to their numbers and the larger families according to their numbers. No tribe had too little or too much. All received what was appropriate, as all are equal in God's/*Elohim* sight.

Zelophehad's Daughters

Numbers 27:1–11

Numbers 27:1-4 "Then came the daughters of Zelophehad the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, from the families of Manasseh the son of Joseph; and these were the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. And they stood before Moses, before Eleazar the priest, and before the leaders and all the congregation, by the doorway of the tabernacle of meeting, saying: 'Our father died in the wilderness; but he was not in the company of those who gathered together against the LORD/Yahweh, in company with Korah, but he died in his own sin; and he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be removed from among his family because he had no son? Give us a possession among our father's brothers."'

The census and allotment went according to the male gender, as men were seen as leaders and heads of their families and tribes. The land passed from father to son with the provision that sons would support and care for their widowed mothers and unmarried sisters. However, a man named Zelophehad, from the tribe of Manasseh was among those rescued from Egypt and later died on the journey to the Promised Land. He had five daughters and no sons. Zelophehad was not involved in the sin of the golden calf but died with the first generation. As the daughters had no physical male to inherit through, they approached to Moses as to how to proceed in the inheritance allotment.

If the Torah seems silent on an issue that does not imply the law does not exist concerning that matter. The daughters duly took their case before Moses in an appropriate and respectful manner. Their approach and way before leadership brought great respect that was a credit to their father and heritage.

Moses responded likewise. He weighed the merit of their presentation before God/*Elohim*, who ruled in their favor. God's/*Elohim* government is the inheritance believers receive when they walk in that one law (also called the fullness of Torah). When His people follow His ways, the Bride of Yeshua receives an inheritance along with all of Israel regardless of whether they are male or female, or the race, color or tribe. If believers are one in Messiah and walk according to His ways, they too will have a heritage and birthright in the Commonwealth of Israel. Moses rightly represents the Law, which grants God's/*Elohim* people full access and rights to the inherited Land of Israel through their forefather *Abraham* and his decedents Isaac and Jacob (Exodus 12:49; Galatians 3:7-9, 29).

Joshua To Succeed Moses Numbers 27:12-23

The time had come in Moses' life where God/*Elohim* spoke of his last days. As Moses could not enter the Promised Land, he was able to see it from a high vantage point. Upon hearing the news that his days on earth were coming to an end, Moses had peace. Will we have the relationship with our Heavenly Father, trusting so deeply in His Faithfulness, that we would have comfort in

our last days? Moses humbly accepted the news of his impending death and continued to serve God/Elohim. He said, "Let the LORD/Yahweh, the God/Elohim of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, who may go out before them and go in before them, who may lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the LORD/Yahweh may not be like sheep which have no shepherd" (Numbers 27:15-17).

No one would be surprised at the choice of Joshua to succeed Moses; after all, Joshua was Moses' aide since his youth. He was with Moses in the Tent of Meeting. He escorted Moses on Mount Sinai when he received the Ten Commandments. He brought back a good report with the other eleven leaders when they spied the land. He was Moses' constant companion. Moses, however, did not *assume* Joshua would replace him as the leader. We also do not see Moses suggest to God/*Elohim* that Joshua would be a suitable candidate. In this way, Moses showed great leadership and trust in God/*Elohim*, as He alone knows the heart of man. The depth of humility in Moses is a gift to the body of believers today. Thus, Joshua succeeded Moses, chosen by God/*Elohim* alone (Numbers 11:28).

The Offerings Numbers 28:1-39:40

The list of offerings reveals the order and importance of the Feasts Days and gives believers a greater revelation and appreciation of them. In Numbers 28 we see God/*Elohim* describe the corresponding offerings for each day, Sabbaths, New Moon, and Feast Days. Each offering carries an anointing, as they are *holy unto God/Elohim*.

Are the offerings and Feast Days for Yeshua's people to be observed today? Yes. They are eternal and part of our Covenant in Yeshua. We read of our future (called *today* in Scripture) through the prophets. The Prophet Zechariah wrote a prophecy about the *Feast of Tabernacles* in the end-days.

Zechariah 14:16-21 "And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts, and to keep *the Feast of Tabernacles*. And it shall be *that* whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts, on them there will be no rain. If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they *shall have* no *rain*; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD/*Yahweh* strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the *Feast of Tabernacles*. This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be *engraved* on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts."

The Prophet Ezekiel also chronicled prophetic end-time details in Chapters 40-45. He writes of God's/*Elohim* people bringing the offerings for each day, including the honoring of His New Moon celebration; His Sabbaths, and all His Feast Days, as each is eternal, prophetic, and timeless thus honored as Holy.

Ezekiel 45:15-25 "These shall be for grain offerings, burnt offerings, and peace offerings, to make atonement for them," says the Lord GOD/Elohim. "All the people of the land shall give this offering for the prince in Israel. Then it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings, at the feasts, the New Moons, the Sabbaths, and at all the appointed seasons of the house of Israel. He shall prepare the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings to make atonement for the house of Israel." Thus says the Lord GOD/Elohim: "In the first month, on the first day of the month, you shall take a young bull without blemish and cleanse the sanctuary. The priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering and put it on the doorposts of the temple, on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the gateposts of the gate of the inner court. And so you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who has sinned unintentionally or in ignorance. Thus you shall make atonement for the temple. In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you shall observe the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten. And on that day the prince shall prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering. On the seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to the LORD/Yahweh, seven bulls and seven rams without blemish, daily for seven days, and a kid of the goats daily for a sin offering. And he shall prepare a grain offering of one ephah for each bull and one ephah for each ram, together with a hin of oil for each ephah. In the seventh month, on the fifteenth day of the month, at the feast, he shall do likewise for seven days, according to the sin offering, the burnt offering, the grain offering, and the oil."

(For more information on the Feast Days, please see study Emor (Leviticus) www.sheepfoldgleanings.com)

Isaiah 61:10-11 "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD/Yahweh, My soul shall be joyful in my God/Elohim; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord God/Elohim will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."

Shabbat Shalom

Julie Parker

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