

Triennial Parsha Reading for - 5/30/2009

Location: http://torahlawform.com/Documents/Triennial_40_02_Korah_2009_05_30_Normal.pdf

Tab	Section	Verse
1	Psalm	Psa Psa 115:1
2	Torah	Num 17:1-18:32
3	Brit	Heb 5:1-1
4	Gospel	Joh 12:1-19
5	History	2Ch 13:1-22

Psalm - Psa 115

¹ Not unto us, YHVH, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake. ² Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their Elohim? ³ But our Elohim is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. ⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. ⁵ They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: ⁶ They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: ⁷ They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. ⁸ They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them. ⁹ O Israel, trust thou in YHVH: he is their help and their shield. ¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in YHVH: he is their help and their shield. ¹¹ Ye that fear YHVH, trust in YHVH: he is their help and their shield. ¹² YHVH hath been mindful of us: he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron. ¹³ He will bless them that fear YHVH, both small and great. ¹⁴ YHVH shall increase you more and more, you and your children. ¹⁵ Ye are blessed of YHVH which made heaven and earth. ¹⁶ The heaven, even the heavens, are YHVH's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men. ¹⁷ The dead praise not YHVH, neither any that go down into silence. ¹⁸ But we will bless YHVH from this time forth and for evermore. Praise YHVH.

Torah - Num 17:1-18:32

¹ And YHVH spake unto Moses, saying, ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ And thou shalt lay them up in the tabernacle of the congregation before the testimony, where I will meet with you. ⁵ And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you. ⁶ And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, and every one of their princes gave him a rod apiece, for each prince one, according to their fathers' houses, even twelve rods: and the rod of Aaron was among their rods. ⁷ And Moses laid up the rods before YHVH in the tabernacle of witness. ⁸ 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. ⁹ And Moses brought out all the rods from before YHVH unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod. ¹⁰ And YHVH 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. ¹¹ And Moses did so: as YHVH commanded him, so did he. ¹² And the children of Israel spake unto Moses, saying,

Behold, we die, we perish, we all perish. ¹³ Whosoever cometh any thing near unto the tabernacle of YHVH shall die: shall we be consumed with dying? ¹ And YHVH said unto Aaron, Thou and thy sons and thy father's house with thee shall bear the iniquity of the sanctuary: and thou and thy sons with thee shall bear the iniquity of your priesthood. ² And thy brethren also of the tribe of Levi, the tribe of thy father, bring thou with thee, that they may be joined unto thee, and minister unto thee: but thou and thy sons with thee shall minister before the tabernacle of witness. ³ And they shall keep thy charge, and the charge of all the tabernacle: only they shall not come nigh the vessels of the sanctuary and the altar, that neither they, nor ye also, die. ⁴ And they shall be joined unto thee, and keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, for all the service of the tabernacle: and a stranger shall not come nigh unto you. ⁵ And ye shall keep the charge of the sanctuary, and the charge of the altar: that there be no wrath any more upon the children of Israel. ⁶ And I, behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel: to you they are given as a gift for YHVH, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. ⁷ Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for everything of the altar, and within the veil; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death. ⁸ And YHVH spake unto Aaron, Behold, I also have given thee the charge of mine heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel; unto thee have I given them by reason of the anointing, and to thy sons, by an ordinance for ever. ⁹ This shall be thine of the most holy things, reserved from the fire: every oblation of theirs, every meat offering of theirs, and every sin offering of theirs, and every trespass offering of theirs which they shall render unto me, shall be most holy for thee and for thy sons. ¹⁰ In the most holy place shalt thou eat it; every male shall eat it: it shall be holy unto thee. ¹¹ And this is thine; the heave offering of their gift, with all the wave offerings of the children of Israel: I have given them unto thee, and to thy sons and to thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: every one that is clean in thy house shall eat of it. ¹² All the best of the oil, and all the best of the wine, and of the wheat, the firstfruits of them which they shall offer unto YHVH, them have I given thee. ¹³ And whatsoever is first ripe in the land, which they shall bring unto YHVH, shall be thine; every one that is clean in thine house shall eat of it. ¹⁴ Every thing devoted in Israel shall be thine. ¹⁵ Every thing that openeth the matrix in all flesh, which they bring unto YHVH, whether it be of men or beasts, shall be thine: nevertheless the firstborn of man shalt thou surely redeem, and the firstling of unclean beasts shalt thou redeem. ¹⁶ And those that are to be redeemed from a month old shalt thou redeem, according to thine estimation, for the money of five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs. ¹⁷ But the firstling of a cow, or the firstling of a sheep, or the firstling of a goat, thou shalt not redeem; they are holy: thou shalt sprinkle their blood upon the altar, and shalt burn their fat for an offering made by fire, for a sweet savor unto YHVH. ¹⁸ And the flesh of them shall be thine, as the wave breast and as the right shoulder are thine. ¹⁹ All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer unto YHVH, have I given thee, and thy sons and thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of salt for ever before YHVH unto thee and to thy seed with thee. ²⁰ And YHVH spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel. ²¹ And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. ²² Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin, and die. ²³ But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance. ²⁴ But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto YHVH, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. ²⁵ And YHVH spake unto Moses, saying, ²⁶ Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for YHVH, even a tenth part of the tithe. ²⁷ And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the

fulness of the winepress. ²⁸ Thus ye also shall offer an heave offering unto YHVH of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof YHVH's heave offering to Aaron the priest. ²⁹ Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of YHVH, of all the best thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it. ³⁰ Therefore thou shalt say unto them, When ye have heaved the best thereof from it, then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor, and as the increase of the winepress. ³¹ And ye shall eat it in every place, ye and your households: for it is your reward for your service in the tabernacle of the congregation. ³² And ye shall bear no sin by reason of it, when ye have heaved from it the best of it: neither shall ye pollute the holy things of the children of Israel, lest ye die.

Mitzvot for this parsha

Verse(s)	Mitzvah Number	Category	Law
Num 18:17	371	The Firstborn	Not to redeem the firstling of a clean beast.
Num 18:23	397	Kohanim and Levites	That the Levite shall serve in the Sanctuary. See Levi.
Lev 27:30; Num 18:24	409	T'rumah, Tithes and Taxes	To set apart the tithe of the produce (one tenth of the produce after taking out t'rumah) for the Levites (affirmative) . See Levi.
Num 18:26	412	T'rumah, Tithes and Taxes	That the Levites shall set apart a tenth of the tithes, which they had received from the Israelites, and give it to the kohanim (called the t'rumah of the tithe) (CCI13). See Kohein, Levi.

Stand alone Aleph Tav's for this parsha

Bible Section	BCV	Nth Word
Torah	Num 17:3	
Torah	Num 17:4	
Torah	Num 18:5	
Torah	Num 18:15	
Torah	Num 18:29	

Brit - Heb 5:1-6:3

¹ For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to Elohim, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: ² Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. ³ And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. ⁴ And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of Elohim, as was Aaron. ⁵ So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. ⁶ As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. ⁷ Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; ⁸ Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; ¹⁰ Called of Elohim an high priest after the order of Melchisedec. ¹¹ Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. ¹² For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of Elohim; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. ¹³ For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. ^{6:1} Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward Elohim, ² Of the doctrine of

baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³ And this will we do, if Elohim permit.

Gospel - Joh 12:1-19

¹ Then Y'shua six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. ² There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. ³ Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Y'shua, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. ⁴ Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, ⁵ Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? ⁶ This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. ⁷ Then said Y'shua, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. ⁸ For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always. ⁹ Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Y'shua' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; ¹¹ Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Y'shua. ¹² On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Y'shua was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³ Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. ¹⁴ And Y'shua, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, ¹⁵ Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt. ¹⁶ These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Y'shua was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him. ¹⁷ The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record. ¹⁸ For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle. ¹⁹ The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him.

History - 2Ch 13:1-22

¹ Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam began Abijah to reign over Judah. ² He reigned three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Michaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam. ³ And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men: Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, being mighty men of valor. ⁴ And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel; ⁵ Ought ye not to know that YHVH Elohim of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt? ⁶ Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord. ⁷ And there are gathered unto him vain men, the children of Belial, and have strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tenderhearted, and could not withstand them. ⁸ And now ye think to withstand the kingdom of YHVH in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with your golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods. ⁹ Have ye not cast out the priests of YHVH, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner of the nations of other lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, the same may be a priest of them that are no gods. ¹⁰ But as for us, YHVH is our Elohim, and we have not forsaken him; and the priests, which minister unto YHVH, are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites wait upon their business: ¹¹ And they burn unto YHVH every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense: the shewbread also set they in order upon the pure table; and the candlestick of gold with the lamps thereof, to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of YHVH our Elohim; but ye have forsaken him. ¹² And,

behold, Elohim himself is with us for our captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against YHVH Elohim of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper. ¹³ But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them: so they were before Judah, and the ambushment was behind them. ¹⁴ And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind: and they cried unto YHVH, and the priests sounded with the trumpets. ¹⁵ Then the men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that Elohim smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. ¹⁶ And the children of Israel fled before Judah: and Elohim delivered them into their hand. ¹⁷ And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter: so there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men. ¹⁸ Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied upon YHVH Elohim of their fathers. ¹⁹ And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Bethel with the towns thereof, and Jeshanah with the towns thereof, and Ephraim with the towns thereof. ²⁰ Neither did Jeroboam recover strength again in the days of Abijah: and YHVH struck him, and he died. ²¹ But Abijah waxed mighty, and married fourteen wives, and begat twenty and two sons, and sixteen daughters. ²² And the rest of the acts of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the story of the prophet Iddo.

Commentary - Year 3 Sabbath 10

Numbers 17:1 - 18:24* - Ezekiel 44:15 - Psalm 108 - Hebrews 5:1 - 6:3

*Numbers 17:16 - 18:24 in Hebrew Bibles

<http://www.ahavta.org/Commentary%20Y-3/Y3-10.htm>

V'gach Meitam Mattah / Take from Them a Staff SCRIPTURES should be read first

Background

“Now, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the sons of Israel instead of every first-born, the first issue of the womb among the sons of Israel. So the Levites shall be Mine. For all the first-born are Mine; on the day that I struck down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the first-born in Israel, from man to beast. They shall be Mine; I am Yahweh” – Numbers 3:12-13.

Setting

More than two-hundred-fifty firstborn had just died before the assembly, for usurping the role of Levites (Numbers 16).

Numbers 17-18

Leaders of the twelve tribes were instructed to each bring a representative rod, to be placed in the Tabernacle before the Ark.

Aarons rod sprouted, blossomed, and produced almonds – all in one day! Thus Yahweh verified His Word concerning whom He had chosen to fulfill the specific office.

(V.5) God gives signs to verify His intentions, to lessen our evil speech. *“Thus I shall lessen from upon Myself the grumblings of the sons of Israel, who are grumbling against you (Moses).”* He did so at Sinai, He did so in the case of Aaron’s rod that budded, and He did so at the Jerusalem Pentecost following Yeshua’s ascension. In our maturing, we are to, *“by practice, have (our) senses trained to discern good and evil” – Hebrews 5:14.*

(V.12-13) *“Then the sons of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Behold, we perish, we are dying, we are all dying!’”* (1) *“We perish”* – part of Korah’s company had been swallowed up by the earth; (2) *“We are dying”* – the rest were consumed by fire; (3) *“We are all dying”* – 14,700 died in the plague before it could be stopped. *“Everyone who comes near, who comes near to the tabernacle of Yahweh, must die. Are we to perish completely?”* It seemed as if those who got closest to the Tabernacle kept being killed, in cycles: so they questioned: where would this end? It would end when the people got the picture – don’t put your own aspirations above God’s instruction

(V.18:1-6) God then reiterated His pattern for safety about the Tabernacle: Aaron and the Levites had the responsibility of guarding the Tabernacle against trespass by the people. The priests were responsible for guarding the Holy Things against trespass by the Levites: it would be sin for priests to allow Levites to participate in sacrificial services. Trespassing meant death.

(V.7-21) The priests’ service was called a ‘gift’ to the priests. They also received ‘gifts’ for their service.

A priests' due came from sacrificial offerings, that which was left after a portion was burned on the Altar. Since it came from the fire, it was considered God's portion, and so it was as if they were eating at God's table, and it had to be eaten within the Tabernacle Courtyard. Also, parts of peace offerings, thanksgiving offerings, and nazirite offerings were gifts to the priests (Leviticus 7:33-34). The first and best portions (*terumah*) of crops were gifts to the priests. The firstborn of kosher animals were likewise gifts, with all other firstborn requiring redemption.

(V.22-24) There are three tithes: the first tithe is for the Levites, the second is for the Feasts (Deuteronomy 14:22-27), and the third tithe is for the poor (Deuteronomy 26:12). Tithes are mentioned twice in this passage, explaining that the first tithes, given after the labor is performed on them, is in return for their labor in sacred service, and the crops themselves are to make up for the lack of apportioned land.

(V.25-32) Interestingly, the Day of Firstfruits is followed by the paragraph on how the Levites were to deal with the tithe.

Ezekiel 44

As for the Levites who led the people into idolatry, God said that they could not come near His holy things, but they would be guards at the Tabernacle, and slay the personal offerings of the people.

Today, it is common for all kinds of men to claim a presumed "right" to lead worship in the way that seems good to them. The worship that Yahweh established is often considered outmoded, and its pattern is not even generally recognized. We have "Jews" who falsely claim to be perpetuating God's order, and various so-called "Christians" who claim to have received authority to replace it. But, thousands of people died, in God's purpose to get the picture across to us! Must we be so stubborn, that we would die rather than accept God's good instruction?

Rabbinic Judaism is not following Moses: it has rejected the one whom Moses prefigured, and thus rejected the Torah. Its teaching is based upon personal worthiness, and "seeks his own glory". *"But when it was now the midst of the Feast (of Tabernacles) Yeshua went up into the Temple, and began to teach. The Jews therefore were marveling, saying, 'How has this man become learned, having never been educated?' Yeshua therefore answered them, and said, 'My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If any man is willing to do His will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from Myself. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. Did not Moses give you the Torah, and yet none of you carries out the Torah? Why do you seek to kill Me?'"* – John 7:14-19.

Traditional Christianity is not following Torah. It proclaims a redefined "New Covenant" that supposedly replaces the Torah.

Hebrews 5

We seem to be at a disadvantage, being in a time when there are no (Biblical) judges and everyone does what is right in his own eyes (see Deuteronomy 11:8). That which naturally seems right to us, as “decent humans”, is not the same as what God calls holiness to Him. That which intuitively seems true or proper to us as believers, is not necessarily “of the Holy Spirit”. We are required to grow – to mature – by learning and practicing obedience to Torah principles, thus “*training our senses to discern good and evil*” – Hebrews 5:14.

While, for today, we lack the prescribed system of leadership, we know the ultimate High Priest, Yeshua. He makes intercession for our sins, which we cannot do for ourselves; however, we are required to “*confess*” and seek forgiveness – 1 John 1:9. The plague of death will not be stopped by our saying “I believe”, while we go through life proving otherwise by ignoring God’s Word.

Aaron did not seek the honor of High Priest for himself (Hebrews 5:4). So likewise, Yeshua did not seek His own honor, but God said, “*Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*” (v.6), and that is the order of the firstborn, from before the Levites were taken as a substitute (Yeshua is not a Levite).

Yeshua understands our fears and weaknesses. He is a High Priest who has sympathy with us. If we really trust Him as our sin-bearer, we will learn to respect His Word – from “In the beginning” to “the Unveiling (Revelation) of Yeshua the Messiah”.

Psalm 108

(V.4) “*For Thy lovingkindness is great above the heavens; and Thy truth reaches to the skies.*”

(V.12-13) While the plain application of the Psalm concerns deliverance from earthly enemies, the spiritual application concerns sin. For sin, “*deliverance by man is in vain. Through God we shall do valiantly*”.

Ezekiel 44:20 - Incidental

(V.20) Concerning the Levites, “*Also they shall not shave their heads, yet they shall not let their locks grow long; they shall only trim the hair of their heads*”. This may relate to Paul’s statement, “*Does not even custom itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him?*” – 1 Corinthians 11:14.