

Numbers 18:1-32 **Yehowah Provided Inheritance for Priests and Levites**

Aaron and his sons bear the iniquity of the Priesthood – First message directly to Aaron

1 Then the LORD said to Aaron: "You and your sons and your father's house with you shall bear the iniquity related to the sanctuary, and you and your sons with you shall bear the iniquity associated with your priesthood.

The Levites attend to the needs of the Tabernacle, but they may not come near the articles of the Sanctuary lest they and the Priest die

2 Also bring with you your brethren of the tribe of Levi, the tribe of your father, that they may be joined with you and serve you while you and your sons are with you before the tabernacle of witness. **3** They shall attend to your needs and all the needs of the tabernacle; but they shall not come near the articles of the sanctuary and the altar, lest they die--they and you also. **4** They shall be joined with you and attend to the needs of the tabernacle of meeting, for all the work of the tabernacle; but an outsider shall not come near you.

The purpose: This provision is to prevent more wrath from coming on the Children of Israel

5 And you shall attend to the duties of the sanctuary and the duties of the altar, that there may be no more wrath on the children of Israel. **6** Behold, I Myself have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel; they are a gift to you, given by the LORD, to do the work of the tabernacle of meeting. **7** Therefore you and your sons with you shall attend to your priesthood for everything at the altar and behind the veil; and you shall serve. I give your priesthood to you as a gift for service, but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death."

Inheritance for the Priesthood

8 And the LORD spoke to Aaron: "Here, I Myself have also given you charge of My heave offerings, all the holy gifts of the children of Israel; I have given them as a portion to you and your sons, as an ordinance forever.

9 This shall be yours of the most holy things reserved from the fire: every offering of theirs, every grain offering and every sin offering and every trespass offering which they render to Me, shall be most holy for you and your sons. **10** In a most holy place you shall eat it; every male shall eat it. It shall be holy to you. **11** This also is yours: the heave offering of their gift, with all the wave offerings of the children of Israel; I have given them to you, and your sons and daughters with you, as an ordinance forever. Everyone who is clean in your house may eat it. **12** All the best of the oil, all the best of the new wine and the grain, their firstfruits which they offer to the LORD, I have given them to you. **13** Whatever first ripe fruit is in their land, which they bring to the LORD, shall be yours. Everyone who is clean in your house may eat it. **14** Every devoted thing in Israel shall be yours. **15** Everything that first opens the womb of all flesh, which they bring to the LORD, whether man or beast, shall be yours; nevertheless the firstborn of man you shall surely redeem, and the firstborn of unclean animals you shall redeem. **16** And those redeemed of the devoted things you shall redeem when one month old, according to your valuation, for five shekels of silver, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs. **17** But the firstborn of a cow, the firstborn of a sheep, or the firstborn of a goat you shall not redeem; they are holy. You shall sprinkle their blood on the altar, and burn their fat as an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD. **18** And their flesh shall be yours, just as the wave breast and the right thigh are yours. **19** All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer to the LORD, I have given to you and your sons and daughters with you as an ordinance forever; it is a covenant of salt forever before the

LORD with you and your descendants with you." ²⁰ Then the LORD said to Aaron: "You shall have no inheritance in their land, nor shall you have any portion among them; I am your portion and your inheritance among the children of Israel.

Inheritance for the Levites

²¹ "Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the tabernacle of meeting. ²² Hereafter the children of Israel shall not come near the tabernacle of meeting, lest they bear sin and die. ²³ But the Levites shall perform the work of the tabernacle of meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity; it shall be a statute forever, throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. ²⁴ For the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer up as a heave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites as an inheritance; therefore I have said to them, 'Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.' "

The Levites pay a tithe to Yehowah for the Priests

²⁵ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁶ "Speak thus to the Levites, and say to them: 'When you take from the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them as your inheritance, then you shall offer up a heave offering of it to the LORD, a tenth of the tithe. ²⁷ And your heave offering shall be reckoned to you as though it were the grain of the threshing floor and as the fullness of the winepress.

²⁸ Thus you shall also offer a heave offering to the LORD from all your tithes which you receive from the children of Israel, and you shall give the LORD's heave offering from it to Aaron the priest. ²⁹ Of all your gifts you shall offer up every heave offering due to the LORD, from all the best of them, the consecrated part of them.' ³⁰ "Therefore you shall say to them: 'When you have lifted up the best of it, then the rest shall be accounted to the Levites as the produce of the threshing floor and as the produce of the winepress. ³¹ You may eat it in any place, you and your households, for it is your reward for your work in the tabernacle of meeting. ³² And you shall bear no sin because of it, when you have lifted up the best of it. But you shall not profane the holy gifts of the children of Israel, lest you die.' " NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ This is the first message from Yehowah directly given to Aaron after Yehowah at the first commanded Aaron to go to Mount Horeb to meet Moses before the deliverance from Egyptian Bondage began. [Exodus 4:27, 6:18-20]
- ✧ Aaron is from the Levitical tribe of Kohath. [Exodus 6:18-20]
- ✧ Responsibility of the Priesthood is to bear the iniquity related to the Priesthood and the Sanctuary.
- ✧ Responsibility of the Levites is to tend to the needs of the Tabernacle and assist the Priests.
- ✧ The Levites are chosen by God from among the Children of Israel, and have been given to Aaron as a gift to do the work of the Tabernacle of Meeting.
- ✧ The Levites are not to come near the articles of the Sanctuary lest they and the Priest die.
- ✧ The purpose of this provision is that Aaron and his sons shall attend to the Priesthood at the Altar, the Sanctuary, and behind the Veil, that no more wrath may come upon the Children of Israel.
- ✧ The outsider who comes near shall be put to death.
- ✧ The Children of Israel shall no longer come near the Tabernacle of Meeting, lest they bear sin and die.

Inheritance for the Priesthood

- ✧ Yehowah said to Aaron:
 - ✧ I have given to Aaron and his sons an inheritance as an ordinance forever, the **Heave Offerings**, all **holy gifts** of the Children of Israel, **the Most Holy things reserved from the fire, every Grain Offering, Sin Offering, Trespass Offering**, shall be Most Holy for Aaron and his sons. Every male shall eat it in a holy place, it shall be Holy to you.
 - ✧ I have also given you the **Heave Offerings** and **Wave Offerings**, they are for you, your sons and daughters. Everyone who is clean in your house may eat it.
 - ✧ I have given you the **best of the oil**, of the **new wine**, of the **grain** and their **firstfruits** that they bring to the Lord. Whoever is clean in your house may eat it.
 - ✧ Whatever **first ripe fruit** in their land which they bring to Yehowah, shall be yours, whoever is clean in your house may eat it.
 - ✧ I have given you **every devoted thing** of the Children of Israel.
 - ✧ All the **firstborn of man of animal** shall be the Priest's.
 - ✧ The firstborn of **every man** or **unclean animal shall surely be redeemed**.
 - ✧ Any devoted thing that is redeemed, shall be redeemed when one month old, and the price of redemption is set by the Priest, at 5 shekels of Silver, according to the shekel of the Sanctuary, which is 20 gerahs.
 - ✧ The **firstborn of cattle, sheep, or goats shall not be redeemed**, they are holy. You shall sprinkle their blood on the Altar and burn their fat as an Offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to Yehowah. Their flesh is yours to eat just as the **Wave Breast** and **Right Thigh**. It is a **covenant of salt** forever before the Lord, with you and with your descendants with you.
- ✧ The Lord said to Aaron: You shall have no inheritance in their land nor shall you have any portion among them. **I am your portion and your inheritance** among the Children of Israel.

Inheritance for the Levites

- ✧ I have given the Tithe of the Children of Israel to the Levites as their inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the Tabernacle of Meeting.
- ✧ The Levites shall perform the work of the Tabernacle of Meeting and they shall bear their iniquity.
- ✧ It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, that among the Children of Israel the Levites shall have no inheritance, because Yehowah has given to the Levites as an inheritance the Tithes of the Children of Israel which they offer up as a heave offering to Yehowah.
- ✧ The Tithe may be eaten anywhere by you and your households, it is your reward for your work in the Tabernacle of Meeting. You shall bear no sin because of the Tithe.
- ✧ You shall not profane the holy gifts of the Children of Israel lest you die.

Levites pay a Tithe

- ✧ When the Levites receive the tithe from the Children of Israel which Yehowah has given them as their inheritance, then they are to offer up to Yehowah a tenth of the Tithe they received for the Priests.
- ✧ The Levites pay a tenth of what they receive to the Priests, just as the Children of Israel pay a tenth of what they receive to the Levites.
- ✧ As the Children of Israel give the tithe of the best of what they receive to the Levites, so the Levites give the tithe of the best of what they receive to the Priests.
- ✧ The rest is counted as the produce of the winepress and of the threshing floor, and may be eaten in any place, the Levites and their households may eat it, it is their reward for the work they do in the Tabernacle of Meeting.

- ✧ They shall bear no sin because of it when they have lifted up the best of it as a Wave Offering (Tithe) for the Priests.
- ✧ The Levites may not profane the holy gifts of the Children of Israel, lest they die.