

## Timeline of Truth: God Gives Laws for the Priests and the Levites (Numbers 18)

### I. Israel at Mount Sinai (1-10:10)

### II. Israel in the Wilderness (10:11-36:13)

1. The Israelites Move (10:11-36)
2. Israel Complains (11:1-35)
3. Aaron and Miriam Complain (12:1-16)
4. The Spies and their Reports (13:1-33)
5. The Nation is Punished (14:1-45)

6. Laws Concerning Offerings in the Land of Israel (15:1-31)
7. A Man Works on the Sabbath and Tassels on Garments (15:32-41)
8. Men Challenge Moses (16:1-43)
9. Aaron's Rod Buds (17:1-13)

<p><b>Numbers 18:1-6</b> Then the LORD said to Aaron: "You and your sons and your father's house with you shall bear the iniquity <i>related to</i> the sanctuary, and you and your sons with you shall bear the iniquity <i>associated with</i> your priesthood. <sup>2</sup> "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 <i>are</i> with you before the tabernacle of witness. <sup>3</sup> "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. <sup>4</sup> "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. <sup>5</sup> "And you shall attend to the duties of the sanctuary and the duties of the altar, that there <i>may</i> be no more wrath on the children of Israel. <sup>6</sup> "Behold, I Myself have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel; <i>they are</i> a gift to you, given by the LORD, to do the work of the tabernacle of meeting.</p>	<p><b>1. God _____ Who Will Serve in the Tabernacle</b> Why? Because others tried to usurp the priest's position</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The priests will _____ the iniquity of the tabernacle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The priest need to bear the iniquity that their sinfulness brings upon the tabernacle – i.e. they are responsible themselves for their own atonement</li> <li>• The priests alone were responsible for to make atonement for all the sins of the nation</li> <li>• This seems to emphasis that the priest have this unique role.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. The Levites shall _____ with the priests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They attend to the needs of the priests and of the tabernacle</li> <li>• Outsider – someone not of the tribe of Levi</li> <li>• God calls them a gift to the priests</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. The Levites shall not come _____ the priestly articles.</li> <li>d. This is to _____ the Israelites – lest they die</li> </ol>
<p><sup>7</sup> "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 <i>to you</i> as a gift for service, but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death." <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> "This shall be yours of the most holy things <i>reserved</i> from the fire: every offering of theirs, every grain offering and every sin offering and every trespass offering which they render to Me, <i>shall be</i> most holy for you and your sons. <sup>10</sup> "In a most holy <i>place</i> you shall eat it; every male shall eat it. It shall be holy to you. <sup>11</sup> "This also <i>is</i> 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. <sup>12</sup> "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. <sup>13</sup> "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. <sup>14</sup> "Every devoted thing in Israel shall be yours.</p>	<p><b>2. The _____ and _____ of the Priesthood</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The priest are the only ones who may _____ at the altar or behind the veil. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probably infers from the altar to behind the veil</li> <li>• God calls the priesthood a gift of service</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. The offerings are set aside(_____) for the priest's use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grain, sin, and trespass offerings are reserved for the priests</li> <li>• The heave and wave offerings, along with the oil, wine and first fruit offerings are for all who are clean within the family</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

<sup>15</sup> "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. <sup>16</sup> "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. <sup>17</sup> "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. <sup>18</sup> "And their flesh shall be yours, just as the wave breast and the right thigh are yours. <sup>19</sup> "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."

### 3. The Firstborn \_\_\_\_\_ to the Priest

- a. Some of the firstborn must be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The firstborn of man needs to be redeemed
  - The firstborn of unclean animals needs to be redeemed
  - They are to be redeemed at the age of one month
  - The redemption price is five shekels (Num 3:47)
- b. Some of the firstborn are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The firstborn of a cow, sheep or goat must be sacrificed
  - The priest receives the meat
  - Covenant of salt – Lev. 2:13

<sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> " 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. <sup>22</sup> "Hereafter the children of Israel shall not come near the tabernacle of meeting, lest they bear sin and die. <sup>23</sup> "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. <sup>24</sup> "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.' "

### 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Priests and Levites

- a. They do not get any \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God is the inheritance to the priest
  - Land – Ground
  - Portion - Territory
- b. The Levites inherit a \_\_\_\_\_ from the rest of Israel
  - Tithe – a tenth part
  - The Levites shall "bear their iniquity" – they will serve as helpers to the priest who are performing the atonement sacrifices
  - They will not have an inheritance of land as the rest of the tribes will.