

# Pearl Seeking

## TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Num. 4	Census and duties of the sons of Qehath, Gershon, and Merari
Tuesday:	Num. 5	Torah regarding impurities and defilement
Wednesday:	Num. 6	Nazirite vow and Aharon's blessing upon Yisra'el
Thursday:	Num. 7:1-47	Offerings for the dedication of the Dwelling Place - Days 1-6
Friday:	Num. 7:48-89	Offerings for the dedication of the Dwelling Place - Days 7-12

This week's Parsha Pearls lesson takes us to the newly raised-up Dwelling Place, to see how the leaders from each of the 12 tribes brought special offerings to provide for the service of Lewites for the Tent of Meeting. Now, let's read Num. 7.

## PARSHA POINTS

- When Mosheh finished raising up the Dwelling Place and had anointed it and set it apart, the 12 (**shtem esre**) leaders (**nasi**) of the tribes of Yisra'el drew near - 7:1-2
- They brought their offerings (**korban**) to the Dwelling Place, to present them before Yahweh (7:3):
  - 6 (**shesh**) covered wagons (one wagon presented by every 2 (**shtayim**) of the leaders)
  - 12 cattle (one bull presented by each leader)
- Yahweh told Mosheh to accept these offerings so they could be used by the Lewites for service in the Tent of Meeting - 7:4-5
- Mosheh took the wagons and the cattle and gave them to the Lewites according to their service (7:6-8):
  - For the sons of Gershon (under the supervision of Ithamar)
    - 2 wagons
    - 4 cattle
  - For the sons of Merari (under the supervision of Ithamar)
    - 4 wagons
    - 8 cattle
- The sons of Qehath did not receive any wagons or cattle as their service was for the set-apart objects which were to be carried on their shoulders - 7:9



- Each leader brought a dedication (**chanukah**) offering for the dedication of the altar, 1 leader from each tribe presented their offering their day - 7:10-11

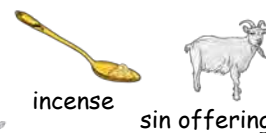
- 1<sup>st</sup> day - tribe of Yehudah - Nahshon, son of Amminadab (7:12-17)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day - tribe of Yissaskar - Nethane'l, son of Tsu'ar (7:18-23)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day - tribe of Zebulun - Eliyab, son of Helon (7:24-29)
- 4<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Re'uben - Elitsur, son of Shedey'ur (7:30-35)
- 5<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Shim'on - Shelumi'el, son of Tsurishaddai (7:36-41)
- 6<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Gad - Elyasaph, son of De'u'el (7:42-47)
- 7<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Ephrayim - Elishama, son of Ammihud (7:48-53)
- 8<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Menashsheh - Gamli'el, son of Pedahsur (7:54-59)
- 9<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Binyamin - Abidan, son of Gid'oni (7:60-65)
- 10<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Dan - Ahiezer, son of Ammishaddai (7:66-71)
- 11<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Asher - Pag'i'el, son of Okran (7:72-77)
- 12<sup>th</sup> day - tribe of Naphtali - Ahira, son of Enan (7:78-83)



- 1 (**achat**) silver dish (weight of 130 sheqels)
- 1 silver bowl (weight of 70 (**shivim**) sheqels)
  - both were according to the weight of the Set-apart Place
  - both were filled with fine flour mixed with oil (grain offering)
- 1 gold ladle (weight of 10 (**eser**) sheqels) filled with incense
- 1 young bull (burnt offering)
- 1 ram (burnt offering)
- 1 male lamb a year old (burnt offering)
- 1 male goat (sin offering)
- 2 (**shtayim**) cattle, 5 (**chamesh**) rams, 5 male goats, 5 male lambs a year old (peace offering)



grain offering



incense

sin offering



burnt offering



peace offering

- These are the total items that the leaders of Yisra'el brought for the dedication of the bronze altar (7:84-88):
  - 12 silver dishes (1,560 sheqels)
  - 12 silver bowls (840 sheqels)
    - 2,400 sheqels, according to the sheqel of the set-apart place
  - 12 gold ladles (120 sheqels)
  - 12 young bulls (burnt offering)
  - 12 rams (burnt offering)
  - 12 male lambs a year old (burnt offering)
  - 12 male goats (sin offering)
  - 24 (**esrim v'arba**) cattle, 60 (**shishim**) rams, 60 male goats, 60 male lambs a year old (peace offering)
- Yahweh spoke (**amar**) to Mosheh when he went into the Tent of Meeting; he heard the voice of Yahweh speaking to him from above the lid of atonement that was on the ark of the Witness, from between the 2 kerubim - 7:89

# DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Research the time frame between Exodus 40, when the Dwelling Place was raised up, and the events in Chapter 7.
- Note that the first offerings were from the entire tribe of Yisra'el's 12 leaders. Why do you think that the clan of Merari were given more wagons than the Gershonites? What job did they each perform?
- We know from parsha Nasso that the Qehathites' job was to carry the covered set-apart objects and all the furnishings of the Set-apart Place, after the sons of Aharon had covered them. Why do you think the Qehathites were told that they had to carry the set-apart furniture pieces on their shoulders instead of on wagons like the other 2 clans?
- Read 1 Chronicles 13 regarding the account of Uzza and discuss the infractions that were done with transporting the ark.
- Discuss the word 'chanukah' and its significance to the dedication/institution of the first tabernacle, as well as its significance centuries later, after the Syrians desecrated and defiled the Temple in Jerusalem.
- Review the 5 different offerings from Leviticus 1-7, and relate them to the required offerings of the tribal leaders at the dedication of the Tent of Meeting.
- Do you think there is any significance to the order of each tribe bringing their offering? Look back at Numbers 2.
- Discuss the fact that during the 12 days of dedication, at least one of the tribal offerings had to be brought on a Shabbat. Can you think of another story in the Scriptures where the tribes did something on a Sabbath day?
- When Yahweh spoke to Mosheh from the lid of atonement, where would Mosheh have been standing? As you research this, note that Christians and Jews have 2 different opinions on this thought. Would he have been inside the inner veil or in front of it? Where did Yahweh place Mosheh in Exodus 33:20-23? Who went into the Most Set-apart Place and on what day?

