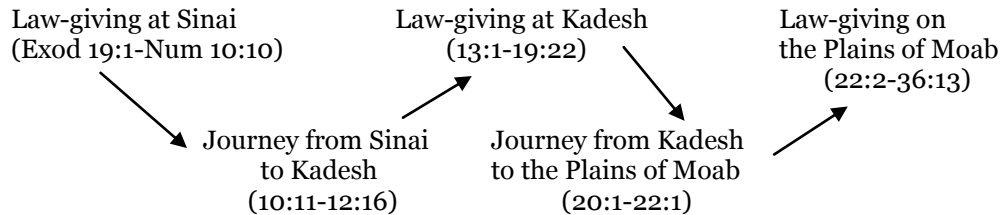


## Numbers 18

Lesson 18: Treasure the Gifts God Gives for Cleansing  
(The Levites are God's Gift to Bear Their Brothers' Guilt)

### A. Mapping the Big Picture

1. Theme – The Wilderness: Extreme Lessons that Count
2. Chronological Outline of Numbers
  - a. Num 1-10 ... 20 days ... 1446/5 BC
  - b. Num 11-25 ... 38 Years, 3 Months, 10 Days ...
  - c. Num 26-36 ... 5-6 Months ... 1406/5 BC
3. Geographic Outline of Numbers



4. Some Keys to the Book
  - a. “God is not a man, that he should lie,  
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.  
Has he said, and will he not do it?  
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?”  
Num 23:19 (ESV) / Emphasis: God's faithfulness
  - b. “And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,  
‘Because you did not believe in me,  
to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel,  
therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land  
that I have given them.’”  
Num 20:12 (ESV) / Emphasis: man's unfaithfulness

### B. Scouting Out Some Details in Num 16-17

Numbers 1 – Delegate -- and Take Stock of God's Blessing  
 Numbers 2 – Place What's Most Important in the Center – God!  
 Numbers 3 – Identify People who Love God's Holiness as Leaders  
 Numbers 4 – Count Capable Men – And Delegate Duties to Them  
 Numbers 5 – Keep the Camp Clean  
 Numbers 6 – A Vow of Dedication Demands More  
 Numbers 7 – Wise Leaders Dedicate Their People & Resources  
 Numbers 8 – Give Top Helpers a Bright, Clean Start  
 Numbers 9 – Watch the Clock of God's Commands  
 Numbers 10 – Clearly Signal What You're Doing  
 Numbers 11 – Complaining Can Be a Grave Offense  
 Numbers 12 – Handle Hostile Takeovers on Your Knees  
 Numbers 13 – Seek to Capture the Fruit God Promises  
 Numbers 14 – Delaying a Right Action is Deadly  
 Numbers 15 – Live Like You Love Your Lord  
 Numbers 16 – The Almighty Hates Mutiny  
 Numbers 17 – God Devastates Rebellion – but Honors Obedience

1. (18:1-7) Aaron's Line Bears the Israelites' Load of Iniquity
2. (18:8-20) Aaron's Line Receives . . . .
  - a. All the holy gifts (8-10)
  - b. Heave and wave offerings (11-13)
  - c. Every devoted thing (14)
  - d. Firstborn (15-18)
  - e. Heave offerings (19)
  - f. No land (20)

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3. (18:21-24) The Levites are Supported by Tithes

4. (18:25-32) The Levites are to Tithe

5. Some Correlation

### *Key Attitudes for Giving*

- a. 2 Cor 9:7
- b. Ps 51:17

### *Troubles with Tithing / Grips with Giving*

- c. Mal 1:7-8
- d. Gen 3:3, 5
- e. Mal 3:9-11

### *The NT Pattern*

- f. 1 Cor 16:1-4
- g. 1 Tim 5:17-18

### *Other Thoughts*

## C. Undertaking Application

1. A Word to the Wise, Who Do Memorize – See a verse to memorize?

(18:6, NAS95) “Behold, I Myself have taken your fellow Levites from among the sons of Israel; they are a gift to you, dedicated to the LORD, to perform the service for the tent of meeting.”

(18:14, NKJV) – “Every devoted thing in Israel shall be yours.”

(18:29, ESV) – “Out of all the gifts to you, you shall present every contribution due to the LORD; from each its best part is to be dedicated.”

2. Shiny Imprints & Digging for Gold – List a great truth you noticed.

3. Praying to the Lord for Wisdom – Write out a prayer.

4. Gearing Up for the Next Adventure (Num 19)

- a. (19:1-10) What are the purpose and placement of the red heifer?
- b. (19:11-19) What are some situations in which a dead body contaminates (defiles) living persons?
  - i. Vv. 11-13
  - ii. Vv. 14-16
  - iii. Vv. 17-19

- c. (19:20-22) What happens if someone defiled by a dead body refuses to be cleansed?

- d. Why might these practices have been so crucial in Israel's day?

## D. Further Insight