

Torah: B'midbar (Numbers) 25:10 – 30:1
Haftarah: Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 1:1-2:3
B'rit Hadashah: Mattityahu (Mathew) 10:5-23

	yr. 1 25:10-26:51	yr. 2 26:52-28:15	yr. 3 28:16-30:1
1	25:10 – 12	26:52-56	28:16-25
2	25:13 – 15	26:57-62	28:26-31
3	25:16 – 26:4	26:63-27:5	29:1-6
4	26:5 – 11	27:6-14	29:7-11
5	26:12 – 22	27:15-23	29:12-16
6	26:23 – 34	28:1-10	29:17-28
7	26:35 – 51	28:11-15	29:29-30-1

and HaShem spoke to Moses saying...
 to these the land must be divided as an
 inheritance / according to the number of
 names

*vayedaber ADONÁI el-Moshé lemór
 la'eleh tekhaléq ha'áretz be'nakhaláh
 be'mis'par shemot*

וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:
 לְאֵלֶּה תַחֲלֹק הָאָרֶץ בְּנִחְלָה
 בְּמִסְפַּר שְׁמוֹת:

Many topics in this portion: a commendation of Pinkhas for his actions in last week's portion; an order to defeat the Midianites; a census of each tribe; apportionment of the Land; special consideration for the inheritance for Zelophehad's daughters; Y'hoshua is appointed as Moshe's successor; offerings for each of the appointed times (moediym). These are broken up into appropriate sections that are read during each of the holidays. Traditionally it is one of the first pages examined when checking a Torah for accuracy because it is the most used page.

The Haftarah is the first of three Haftarahs of Admonition from the 17th of Tammuz, when the walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans to the 9th of Av when the Second Temple was destroyed. Yirmeyahu learns of the disaster coming to the people during the final days of the First Temple.

Year 1 Aliyah Highlights

- Nu. 26:52-56 Apportioning the inheritance:** Apportioning the inheritance of the land is to be based on two seemingly mutually exclusive methods (v. 54). **Lot:** *Decision making* - Eze. 21:20, Mic. 2:5; *Prevent disputes* – Pr. 16:33, 18:18; *Divide spoils* – Joel 4:3, Ps. 22:19, Pr. 14:1, Macc. 3:36; *Selection* – Judg. 20:9, 1Sa. 10:19-20, Nah. 3:10, Neh. 11:1, Le. 16:8; *Priestly Courses* – 1Ch. 24:5, 26:13-16; *Sequencing* – Neh. 10:35. Preceded by prayer, result determined by God. **Need:** Specifically, by population supervised by clan leaders (34:13, 16-29) and Y'hoshua (Josh. 17:14-18).
- Nu. 26:57-62** The Levitical clans do not have a share in the land, nor do they perform military service, as do the other tribes. By inference, they are allotted Tabernacle duties, and the 48 cities of refuge.
- Nu. 26:63-27:5** Postscript noting the wilderness deaths and only survivors, Kalev and Y'hoshua. The Daughters of Tz'lof'khad present their case, to preserve their father's name (27:4). It is the last of four cases in Torah that were not considered in the original legislation: The blasphemer (Le. 24:10-22), Passover exclusion (Nu. 9:6-14), and Shabbat violation (Nu. 15:32-36). The eight-step process: 1) identification of the affected individuals, 2) they come forward, 3) stand before the leadership, 4) state their case, which is 5) brought before HaShem by the leader (Moshe).
- Nu. 27:6-14** 6) HaShem gives a reply which is received by leadership, 7) proclaimed to all the people, 8) recorded and executed. The merit of these women is stated in connection with Kalev and Y'hoshua, in contrast to the "spies" who responded in fear and wished to return to Egypt rather than enter the land. They were praised for their sincerity by HaShem. The "laws of succession" are immediately followed by Hashem commanding Moshe to "see the land" that will be inherited before he dies.
- Nu. 27:15-23** Moshe initiates the succession discussion, recognizing that it is HaShem created and knows the spirit/breath (*ruakh* – רוּחַ) in humans (Nu. 16:22). His concern is for military leadership

both in action and in strategy/policy (2Sa. 5:2), so that they have a “shepherd” (*ro'eh* – רֹעֵה) HaShem selects Y'hoshua, a man “with a spirit” and a proven record (Nu. 11:17, 25, Ex. 17:9-13, Ex. 24:13, 32:17), including victory (Ex. 17:9-13, Nu. 14:6-10). Moshe is to literally lean on him (v. 18, 20)

6. Nu. 28:1-10 Daily/continual (*tamid* – תָּמִיד) offering ordered, including on Shabbat.

7. Nu. 28:11-15 New Moon offerings described.

Thought Focus

The art of leadership: One aspect of the challenge of leadership is timing. There is a time charge forward with total abandon, and a time to research and plan. In Nu. 27:17a, there are two clauses that seem to be repetitive. But the verbs in the second clause are in the causative form. Moshe is asking for, and HaShem appoints, a “spiritual” man – a military leader who not only leads his troops into battle, but who also strategizes and initiates protocols and policies to insure successful missions. Both require wisdom, experience, discipline and most importantly, the proper spirit.

The Good Shepherd: The imagery of Moshe as Yisra'el's shepherd (1Ki. 22:17, Eze 34:5) occurs in later texts (e.g. Is. 63:11, Ps. 77:21), here applied to Y'hoshua. The analogy will also be used of David (2Sa. 5:2 / 1Ch. 11:2, Eze. 34:23), forging the Messianic model (Ps. 23:1-4, John 10:11, 14, Heb. 13:20, 1Pe. 2:25, 5:4)

Daily Devotional questions for reflection and application

- (25:11) What does “zeal” mean? Is there anything for which you are zealous? (Zec 8:2, Mat 23:37, Tit 2:14, 3:9, Eph 2:10, 1Pe 3:13)
- (26:5) How are you like your earthly father? You heavenly Father? Do you have an inheritance from your (F)ather? (1Ch 17:13, Hos 6:1-3, Joh 8:18-19, 31-32, 44-47, Joh 10:30, Eph 3:14-19)
- (26:53) Are you satisfied with what God has allotted to you? Is it fair? (Gen 49:7 Jos 19:9, Gal 3:28, Col 3:11, 1Co 12:12-26, Rom 12:4-8)
- (27:7) Do the words you speak bear the fruit (acts) of righteousness and truth? (Mat 7:20-24, Phil 3:8-12, 1Pe 1:3-5, Act 5:34-39)
- (28:2) Over what do you “keep watch?” Has Someone been keeping watch over you? (1Ch 9:22, 23:28-32, 26:32, Act 2:23, 3:18, Rom 5:6, Mat 24:45-46, Gal 4:4-5)
- (28:19) What do you use to “remember” things (string around your finger, pictures, keepsakes, etc.)? What important remembrance do these items bring to mind? (Eze 45:23, Gen 18:7, Gen 22:13, Gen 30:40, Jos 4:2-7, Lev 26:1, Luk 22:19, 1Sa 7:12-13, 1Co 4:17)
- (29:12) The instructions of Torah were given in the wilderness, well before the people inhabited the land and built the Temple, well before they could implement many of them. How does this give you hope today? (Exo 19:6, Zec 14:9-16, 1Pe 1:1, 2:9, Rom 11:28-29, 1Co 4:11-13, 1Pe 4:12-13, 1Co 2:6-9, Dan 11:33-35, Psa 66:8-10)