

# 119

## MINISTRIES

*“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”*

### **Parashah Points: Bechukotai – Walk with God**

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Bechukotai, which is Hebrew for “In my statutes,” and it goes from Leviticus 26:3 to Leviticus 27:34

This Torah portion addresses blessings for obeying the Torah, curses for disobeying it, and vows.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to talk about walking with God.

This Torah Portion begins with a list of blessings that God said he would bestow upon Israel for her faithfulness to his commandments. And while many of these blessings are focused on material provision and security, the list culminates to God’s greatest blessing ever given to man: himself.

#### **Leviticus 26:11-12**

*I will make my dwelling among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.*

God dwelling with man in rich fellowship was the goal of creation. This was also the purpose of the tabernacle and later the temple in Jerusalem. This was the hope of the prophets during Babylonian exile (Ezekiel 37:27). And indeed, this is the promise to be fulfilled at the end of the age, when God dwells with his people in fullness in a type of restored Garden of Eden (Revelation 21:3-4).

Leviticus teaches us that God will make his dwelling among us and walk among us—this is listed as a blessing for obedience. While the blessings of Leviticus are national in scope and contextually tied to the land and tabernacle, that doesn’t mean they are irrelevant. The apostles believed this blessing of God’s presence had a broader application for believers today. Paul quotes Leviticus 26:12 in his second letter to the Corinthian church:

#### **2 Corinthians 6:16**

*What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as*

God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Paul specifically cites this blessing from Leviticus as one of the “promises” we have inherited as believers (2 Corinthians 7:1).

The New Testament teaches us that God has made his dwelling among believers in Messiah. This concept is repeated in Ephesians 2:22, which says that believers—Jews and Gentiles in Messiah—are “being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.”

1 Peter 2:5 says that we are “like living stones” who are “being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ [Messiah Yeshua].”

If we truly believe God made his dwelling among us as believers—like he made his dwelling among Israel and walked with them—then we have an imperative to walk according to God’s ways.

Israel’s calling to be a holy priesthood and to serve and obey God becomes our calling, too, when we join the people of God through Messiah. We are to keep his commandments and serve him with our whole heart. That’s how we relate to the holy God in our midst. As Paul puts it:

## **2 Corinthians 7:1**

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

*We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)*

**Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

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