

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: Beha’alotcha - Following the Cloud

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

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Beha’alotcha, which is Hebrew for “When you set up,” and it goes from Numbers 8:1 to Numbers 12:15.

This Torah portion discusses the consecration of the Levites, the Passover at Sinai, the laws concerning the silver trumpets, the Israelites departing from Sinai, the Israelites grumbling in the wilderness, and a story about Miriam and Aaron speaking against Moses because of his wife.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to talk about following the cloud of YHWH.

Numbers 9:22-23

Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out, but when it lifted they set out. At the command of the Lord [YHWH] they camped, and at the command of the Lord [YHWH] they set out. They kept the charge of the Lord [YHWH], at the command of the Lord [YHWH] by Moses.

Israel had been delivered from Egypt and they were on a journey to the Promised Land. During their journey, they were to follow the lead of YHWH and move forward only in accordance with his will.

So how did they know when it was time to move forward? The cloud that rested over the tabernacle determined when they would continue on their journey. When the cloud moved, they were to move. The movement of the cloud was announced by the blowing of two silver trumpets (Numbers 10:1-10).

The instructions concerning the silver trumpets are worth our attention:

- The priests were the ones who were commanded to blow the trumpets (10:8).
- The trumpets were used to call together the whole congregation of Israel and/or the leaders of

Israel; both trumpets were used to call all the people while only one trumpet was used to call the leaders (10:3-4).

- The trumpets were used as a signal for marching forward (10:5-7).
- The trumpets were used as an alarm for war when Israel reached Canaan (10:9).
- The trumpets were also used to announce the feast days and the beginning of each month (10:10).

So the leadership of Israel—the priests—had the responsibility of observing the movement of the cloud and announcing to the rest of Israel when they were to gather together and when they were to move forward on their journey.

Like the Israelites, we are also on a journey. While we've been delivered from our "Egypt"—our slavery to sin and death—we are not yet in the Promised Land. We are in the wilderness, and we must follow YHWH's lead through this journey of life, looking forward to the New Jerusalem to come.

We march forward, not according to our own plans, but according to the will of YHWH, which is by the leading of the Holy Spirit and the pattern expressed in his Torah. We gather together on the feast days to encourage each other and to commemorate the amazing things God has done for us. We also heed the guidance of our spiritual leaders that have been given to us to help maintain order and stability within our community.

The journey of life is difficult, but as we look forward to the eternal hope we have, we are strengthened to march forward in accordance with God's will.

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

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

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminaloTodo.net

TWITTER: [www.twitter.com/119Ministries#](https://twitter.com/119Ministries#)