

Number 8:1-12:16

Beha'alotecha | בהעלותך

“When you set up”

The Israelites set out after their long stay in the Sinai desert, but almost immediately there are problems, protests, and complaints. Moses suffers his deepest emotional crisis. He prays to God to die. God tells him to gather seventy elders who will help him with the burdens of leadership. In the last scene of the portion, Moses' own sister and brother speak against him. Miriam is punished. Moses, here described as the humblest of men, prays on her behalf. After a week's wait for Miriam to be healed, the people move on.

Clickable Resources:

BT: Beha'alotecha 2018-2019

BT: Beha'alotecha 2011-2012

Aleph-Beta: Beha'alotecha

119 Ministries: Beha'alotecha



9:15-23 & 11 / “Where are we going, and what’s for dinner?”

Verse 23 says that, “at Adonai’s order, they camped; and at Adonai’s order, they traveled — they did what Adonai had charged them to do through Moshe.” This is quite a significant praise of the Israelites. Think about it. The people had to live their lives ready to move the entire nation at a moment’s notice, sometimes moving and resting multiple times in a few days. They obediently followed the cloud to every new location, without much complaint about moving. However, regarding food and drink, they complained *often* (Exo. 15, 16, 17; Num. 11, 20) and faced the consequences for it.

- **Why the inconsistency in submission and trust?**
- **Why was the Israelites’ craving for meat (11:4-10, 18-20, 30-34) so wicked in God’s eyes?**
- **What are the parallels in our own lives—as a congregation and as individuals in it?**

10:1-10 / “Sound the trumpets!”

This passage discusses the two silver trumpets God commanded Moses to make. They were to serve four purposes. Identify them below:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Verse 8 states, “The sons of Aaron, the Cohanim, shall sound the trumpets, and it shall be for you an eternal decree for your generations.”

- **What are the silver trumpets in our own lives?**
- **What personal spiritual applications can we make of their four purposes?**

“Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.”

1 Corinthians 10:11-12