

Pinchas | פנחס

“mouth of brass” | Numbers 25:10–29:40

In Luke 14, Yeshua instructs the large crowds following Him that they need to count the cost to truly follow Him, saying that they have to be willing to turn away from family and all that they have.

Pinchas is read during “the Three Weeks,” a period of mourning from the 17th of Tammuz to the 9th of Av (this year July 16th to August 6th). These are days of disaster—linked to the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temples—and is a time to intentionally *mourn* the consequences of sin—namely, separation from God. Additionally, Zechariah tells us that these days in Tammuz and Av will eventually become days of *joy*.

The three weeks speak to mankind seeing our shortcomings; it is punishment and separation that force us to examine ourselves and admit to our lack, our inabilities, our desire to change.

We’re given a list of sacrifices for God’s appointed times. Imagine you are a pilgrim preparing to bring an offering to the God of the Universe at His Holy Temple. The Temple is a place of great sanctity where only the ritually clean may enter, and the offerings are held to strict standards.

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Community Questions:

- ▶ Apply Yeshua’s admonition to be “totally sold out” to this story of Pinchas, including what he does and the results.
- ▶ What did Pinchas have to lose in taking the action he did? Apply Pinchas’ name, “Mouth of Brass,” son of “God Helps” (Eleazar) to this question.
- ▶ The Messiah likens His own body to the Temple. Apply these details from the Three Weeks to the Messiah, including the destruction of the Temples and Zechariah’s prophecy.
- ▶ With this in mind, how can a parent (or anyone overseeing others) foster growth through a child’s inability to live up to the parents’ stated expectations?
- ▶ How should believers approach the idea of punishment?
- ▶ What you are likely to learn as you choose *your* offering and prepare yourself both mentally and physically to bring your offering?



Additional
Resources:

BT:
Pinchas
2019

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