



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Numbers 8:1-12:15
- John 8:12
- Matthew 5:14
- Philippians 4:11-12, 19-20
- 1 Corinthians 15:33
- Isaiah 11:1-2

DON'T LET YOUR

COMPLAINING DEFINE YOU!

- Complaining
- Bad Company
- True Freedom
- The Light Inside You
- Challenging Considerations

Let your light shine into the world like the six branches on the left and right of the Messiah on the lampstand of God. The work of the Holy Spirit is to bring about these six attributes of Christ in your life: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, and the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of Yahweh. But, is “resistance” your automatic response to the molding of your character by the Holy Spirit? Is your reflex reaction to complain when you don’t immediately get your own way? Do you quickly forget all that God has done for you and revert back to discontent and impatience the moment you face challenges? Join us as we

explore what it means to let Yahweh mold us into the light of a city set on a hill that cannot be hidden!

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and say to him, When you set up the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light in front of the lampstand." And Aaron did so: he set up its lamps in front of the lampstand, as the LORD commanded Moses. And this was the workmanship of the lampstand, hammered work of gold. From its base to its flowers, it was hammered work; according to the pattern that the LORD had shown Moses, so he made the lampstand. Numbers 8:1-4

And the people ***complained*** in the hearing of the LORD about their misfortunes, and when the LORD heard it, his anger was kindled, and the fire of the LORD burned among them and consumed some outlying parts of the camp. Numbers 11:1

And the mixed multitude in their midst lusted with great lust. And the sons of Israel also turned and wept, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and

the garlic. But now our soul is dried away; there is nothing at all besides this manna before our eyes. Numbers 11:4-6

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

Then Jesus spoke again to them, saying, ***I am the Light of the world.*** He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14

Not that I speak according to ***need***, for I ***have learned to be content in whatever state I am. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound. In everything and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.*** Philippians 4:11-12

But my God shall supply all your ***need*** according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God and our Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. Philippians 4:19-20

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This portion is jam-packed, telling the story of the consecration of the Levites, the first Passover in the wilderness, the silver trumpets, the cloud of glory, the departure from Sinai, the grumbling in the wilderness, the first Sanhedrin and the punishment of Miriam.
2. This week's Torah Portion begins in Numbers chapter 8 with God speaking to Moses.
3. Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and say to him, When you set up the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light in front of the lampstand." Numbers 8:1
4. Yahweh gave specific instructions as to how Aaron was to set up the lampstand inside of the Tent of Meeting.
5. And Aaron did so: he set up its lamps in front of the lampstand, as the LORD commanded Moses. Numbers 8:3
6. The instructions as to the materials and pattern of assembly had been given to Moses in the Book of Exodus.
7. Then, the Levites were to become ceremonially clean.
8. Thus you shall do to them to ***cleanse them***: sprinkle the water of purification upon them, and let them go with a razor over all their body, and wash their clothes and cleanse themselves.
Numbers 8:7

9. A laborious Consecration Ceremony was to be carried out in the presence of the LORD, and the Israelites were to lay hands on them.
10. Yahweh exchanges the firstborn of Israel for the Levites.
11. For all the firstborn among the people of Israel are mine, both of man and of beast. On the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I consecrated them for myself, and I have taken the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the people of Israel. Numbers 8:17-18
12. Chapter 8 can be summarized by Lamps and Levites,
13. Chapter 9 can be summarized by Passover and Presence.
14. The remaining Chapters in this Portion provide insight into other behavioral patterns we display as well.

COMPLAINING

DON'T LET YOUR COMPLAINING DEFINE YOU!

A. Bad Company

- (1) Earlier we read how the mixed multitude "lusted" and then the sons of Israel "Turned and Wept".
- (2) Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33 ESV

- (3) Yeshua's desire for His children is that they shine their light into the world. This is evident by His exhortation of "WE" being a "city on hill that cannot be hidden"
- (4) Instead of the sons of Israel pointing out to the mixed multitude the error of their ways, they chimed in as well. Don't we fall prey to the same behavior at times?

B. True Freedom

- (1) One can hardly say that the desires of the people to ask for other provisions was wrong.
- (2) However, what was wrong was their obvious misconception that which they previously had in Egypt was somehow "**FREE**".
- (3) They lived life in slavery to the Egyptian Pharaoh! ***How is that FREE?***

C. The Light Inside You

- (1) So, how are we to understand what this "light of the world" inside of us looks like; is there a practical application for every believer or is it just esoteric in nature?
- (2) Isaiah 11 provides a picture of the attributes of Messiah
- (3) There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and

understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. Isaiah 11:1-2

- (4) Are you seeing the picture?
- (5) The lampstand inside the Tent of Meeting had seven candles in total.
- (6) The Stump coming out of Jesse is representative of Messiah.
- (7) The Six Attributes provide a prophetic picture of His attributes.
- (8) The lampstand Moses was told by God to have Aaron hammer out of gold had seven branches. Is this a coincidence? Highly doubtful!
- (9) Being that we believe we have been Born Again, and that we have been told by Yeshua that we are the light of the world, shouldn't we, by the same Spirit that descended on Messiah and also took residence in us, guide us to achieving those same attributes as well?

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. Would it not make sense that in order to be the light of the world Yeshua commands us to be that we should be seeking to develop into believers who carry themselves as such?

2. Should our complaining be one of disgust in the likeness of those in our earlier reading, or should not our complaining be against ourselves for thinking we deserve more *stuff*?
3. Which of the attributes that describe the Messiah, who was to come, do you resist the most, as His Spirit brings them to fruition in you?
4. What in this world do you find yourself looking at which causes you to believe you are in lack?
5. What do you have in your life today which you believe to be free, but instead it is costing you more than you know?

Seeking His Kingdom!

Manny Fernandez