Shabbat Korach 2 Tammuz 5781/12 June 2021

TORAH PORTION

Numbers 18:20-32

(20) And Adonai said to Aaron: You shall, however, have no territorial share among them or own any portion in their midst; I am your portion and your share among the Israelites. (21) And to the Levites I hereby give all the tithes in Israel as their share in return for the services that they perform, the services of the Tent of Meeting. (22) Henceforth, Israelites shall not trespass on the Tent of Meeting, and thus incur guilt and die: (23) only Levites shall perform the services of the Tent of Meeting; others would incur guilt. It is the law for all time throughout the ages. But they shall have no territorial share among the Israelites; (24) for it is the tithes set aside by the Israelites as a gift to Adonai that I give to the Levites as their share. Therefore I have said concerning them: They shall have no territorial share among the Israelites. (25) Adonai spoke to Moses, saying:

במדבר יייח:כי-לייב (כ) וַיּאמֶר יִהנָוֹה אֱל־אַהַרוֹן בָּאַרְצָם ׁ לָא תִנְחָל וַחֵּלֵק לא־יִהְיֵה לְדָּ בָּתוֹכֶם אַנִי חֵלִקְדְּ וְנַחֲלֶתִּדְּ בִּתְוֹדְ בָּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֱל: {ס} (כא) וְלְבָנֵי לַוֹּי הָנֵה נַתַתִּי כַּל־מֵעשׁר בִּיִשְׁרָאֵל לנחלה חלף עבדתם אשריהם עבדים את עבדת אהל מועד: (כב) ולא־יִקרבוּ עוד בּנֵי יִשְׁרָאֵל אֱל־אָהֵל מוֹעָד לָשֵּאת חָטָא לַמִוּת: (כג) וְעַבַּד הַלֶּוֹי הוא אַת־עַבדַת אָהֶל מועָד והם ישאו עונם חקת עולם לָדַרְתֵּיכֶּם וּבָתוֹדְ בָּנֵי יִשְׁרָאֵל לָא יָנְחַלָּוּ נַחַלָּה: (כד) כִּי אֶת־מַעשֵר בַּנִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשָּׁר יַרֵימוּ לֵיהֹוָה תַּרוּמָה נָתַתִּי לַלְוַיָּם לְנַחַלָּה עַל־כֵּן אמרתי להם בתוד בני ישראל לא ינחלוּ נחלה: {פ} (כה) וַיִדְבֵּר יְהוָה אֵל־משָה

(26) Speak to the Levites and say to them: When you receive from the Israelites their tithes, which I have assigned to you as your share, you shall set aside from them one-tenth of the tithe as a gift to Adonai. (27) This shall be accounted to you as your gift. As with the new grain from the threshing floor or the flow from the vat, (28) so shall you on your part set aside a gift for Adonai from all the tithes that you receive from the Israelites; and from them you shall bring the gift for Adonai to Aaron the priest. (29) You shall set aside all gifts due to Adonai from everything that is donated to you, from each thing its best portion, the part thereof that is to be consecrated. (30) Say to them further: When you have removed the best part from it, you Levites may consider it the same as the yield of threshing floor or vat. (31) You and your households may eat it anywhere, for it is your recompense for your services in the Tent of Meeting. (32) You will incur no guilt through it, once you have removed the best part from it; but you must not profane the sacred donations of the Israelites, lest you die.

לֵאמְר: (כו) וְאֵל־הַלְוִיָּם תִּדַבֵּר וָאָמַרָתָּ אֵלֶהֶם בֶּייתָקחוּ מֵאֵת בָּנִי־יִשְרַאֵּל אָת־הַמַּעַשָּׁר אַשָּׁר נתתי לכם מאתם בנחלתכם וַהַרִמֹתָם מִמֵּנוּ תִּרוּמַת יִהוָה מַעֲשֵׂר מִן־הַמַּעֲשֵׂר: (כז) וְנֶחְשֵׁב לָכֶם תִּרוּמַתְכֵּם כַּדָּגָן מִן־הַגְּרֵן וְכַמְלֵאָה מִן־הַיָּקֵב: (כח) בֵּן תָּרָימוּ גַם־אַתֵּם תִּרוּמֵת יִחֹנָה מְכַּל מַעִשְרְתֵיבֶם אֲשֵר תִּקְחוֹוּ ַמְאָת בָּגֵי יִשְׂרָאָל וּנִתַתֵּם מִמֵּנוּ אָת־תִּרוּמֵת יִהנַה לְאַהַרְן הַכּהֵן: (כט) מִכּל מַתּנְתֵיבֶם תָּרָימוּ אָת בָּל־תְּרוּמַת יְהוָוֶה מִכָּּל־חֶלְבוּוֹ אֱת־ מַקַדָּשִׁו מִמֵּנוֹ: (ל) וְאַמַרַתַּ אַלָהָם בַּהַרִימְכֶם אֶת־חֶלְבּוֹ מִמֶּׁנּוּ וְנֶחְשַׁבֹּ לַלְוֹיִם כִּתִבוּאָת גְּרָן וְכִתְבוּאָת וַאֱכַלִתֵּם אֹתוֹ בִּכָל־ מָלָוֹם אַתָּם וּבֵיתִכֵם כִּי־שָׁכֵר הוּאֹ לָכֶּם חֵלֶף עֲבְדַתְכֶם בְּאָהֶל מוֹעֵד: (לב) וִלְא־תִשִּאוּ עָלָיוֹ חֵׁטָא בַּהַרֵימִבֶם אֵת־חֵלבִּוֹ מִמֵּנוּ וְאֵת־ קַדְשֵׁי בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל לְא תִחַלְּלִוּ וִלְא תמותו: {פ}

HAFTARAH PORTION – Ezekiel 45:1-9

When you allot the land as an inheritance, you are to present to God a portion of the land as a sacred district, 25,000 cubits long and 20,000 cubits wide; the entire area will be holy. Of this, a section 500 cubits square is to be for the sanctuary, with 50 cubits around it for open land. In the sacred district, measure off a section 25,000 cubits long and 10,000 cubits wide. In it will be the sanctuary, the most holy place. It will be the sacred portion of the land for the priests, who minister in the sanctuary and who draw near to minister before God. It will be a place for their houses as well as a holy place for the sanctuary. An area 25,000 cubits long and 10,000 cubits wide will belong to the Levites, who serve in the temple, as their possession for towns to live in.

You are to give the city as its property an area 5,000 cubits wide and 25,000 cubits long, adjoining the sacred portion; it will belong to all Israel.

The head of the tribe will have the land bordering each side of the area formed by the sacred district and the property of the city. It will extend westward from the west side and eastward from the east side, running lengthwise from the western to the eastern border parallel to one of the tribal portions. This land will be his possession in Israel. And my tribal heads will no longer oppress my people but will allow the people of Israel to possess the land according to their tribes.

This is what the Sovereign God says: You have gone far enough, leaders of Israel! Give up your violence and oppression and do what is just and right. Stop dispossessing my people, declares the Sovereign God.