

Notes: June 6, 2015

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: When Our Well Runs Dry

In this week's Parashah Numbers 11 conveys a time of struggle and challenge for Moshe.

Yet Adonai was with him and heard him

When the people were complaining in verse 1, Moshe interceded and Adonai responded.

When the people were complaining about what they were eating and wanted meat, Moshe interceded and Adonai responded, but not in a way the people likely expected...

Num 11:18 "Tell the people, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you will eat meat; because you cried in the ears of Adonai, "If only we had meat to eat! We had the good life in Egypt!" All right, Adonai is going to give you meat, and you will eat it.

Num 11:19 You won't eat it just one day, or two days, or five, or ten, or twenty days,

Num 11:20 but a whole month! — until it comes out of your nose and you hate it! — because you have rejected Adonai, who is here with you, and distressed him with your crying and asking, "Why did we ever leave Egypt?" ' "

Their complaining got them what they asked for, but was it what they intended.

Was there complaint more about variety or lack of something?

It doesn't say the manna stopped but it is implied here that they would only eat meat for the next 30 days.

Num 11:30 Moshe and the leaders of Isra'el went back into the camp;

Num 11:31 and Adonai sent out a wind which brought quails from across the sea and let them fall near the camp, about a day's trip away on each side of the camp and all around it, covering the ground to a depth of three feet.

Num 11:32 The people stayed up all that day, all night and all the next day gathering the quails — the person gathering the least collected ten heaps; then they spread them out for themselves all around the camp.

Num 11:33 But while the meat was still in their mouth, before they had chewed it up, the anger of Adonai flared up against the people, and Adonai struck the people with a terrible plague.

These times are challenging for Moshe. So much so, that He conveys the following to Adonai, just prior to Adonai's response regarding the people's food supply.

Num 11:11 Moshe asked Adonai, "Why are you treating your servant so badly? Why haven't I found favor in your sight, so that you put the burden of this entire people on me?"

Num 11:12 Did I conceive this people? Was I their father, so that you tell me, 'Carry them in your arms, like a nurse carrying a baby, to the land you swore to their ancestors?'

Num 11:13 Where am I going to get meat to give to this entire people? — because they keep bothering me with their crying and saying, 'Give us meat to eat!'

Num 11:14 I can't carry this entire people by myself alone — it's too much for me!

Num 11:15 If you are going to treat me this way, then just kill me outright! — please, if you have any mercy toward me! — and don't let me go on being this miserable!"

These are the words of a person who is overwhelmed.

Overwhelmed with the responsibility of leadership, of being the “go to” person for everything.

This is a person who has the Spirit of Adonai residing upon him...

Num 11:17 I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the Spirit which rests on you and put it on them. Then they will carry the burden of the people along with you, so that you won't carry it yourself alone.

Its interesting when you see this verse in KJV, Spirit is in lower case, not capitalized.

The Spirit that rests upon you?

What Spirit would that be?

Interestingly, Genesis 1:2 clearly identifies the Spirit of Adonai is capitalized...

Gen 1:2 The earth was unformed and void, darkness was on the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God hovered over the surface of the water.

Yet, in Numbers 11:17 it is presented in lower case. Yet when we look at the context of the entire passage, you will see that it is unmistakable as to whose Spirit is being conveyed.

Num 11:16 Adonai said to Moshe, "Bring me seventy of the leaders of Isra'el, people you recognize as leaders of the people and officers of theirs. Bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them stand there with you.

Num 11:17 I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the Spirit which rests on you and put it on them. Then they will carry the burden of the people along with you, so that you won't carry it yourself alone.

Adonai is taking some of the Spirit that rests upon Him and will give it to the 70, in order for this burden to be shared.

You could call this an anointing of the leadership by the one who has all authority to place whom He chooses into a position of leadership.

To anoint means to ceremonially confer divine or holy office upon (a priest or monarch) by smearing or rubbing with oil.

Yet there is no oil mentioned here.

However, throughout Scripture, oil used to anoint is a representation of the Ruach ha Kodesh...

David was anointed King through Shmuel's pouring of oil upon him...

1Sa 16:11 Are all your sons here?" Sh'mu'el asked Yishai. He replied, "There is still the youngest; he's out there tending the sheep." Sh'mu'el said to Yishai, "Send and bring him back, because we won't sit down to eat until he gets here."

1Sa 16:12 He sent and brought him in. With ruddy cheeks, red hair and bright eyes, he was a good-looking fellow. Adonai said, "Stand up and anoint him; he's the one."

1Sa 16:13 Sh'mu'el took the horn of oil and anointed him there in his brothers' presence. From that day on, the Spirit of Adonai would fall upon David with power. So Sh'mu'el set out and went to Ramah.

Likewise, Yeshua, reading Isaiah 61 in the synagogue confirms this connection...

Luk 4:16 Now when he went to Natzeret, where he had been brought up, on Shabbat he went to the synagogue as usual. He stood up to read,

Luk 4:17 and he was given the scroll of the prophet Yesha`yahu. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,

Luk 4:18 "The Spirit of Adonai is upon me; therefore he has anointed me to announce Good News to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim freedom for the imprisoned and renewed sight for the blind, to release those who have been crushed,

Luk 4:19 to proclaim a year of the favor of Adonai."

Luk 4:20 After closing the scroll and returning it to the shammash, he sat down; and the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him.

Luk 4:21 He started to speak to them: "Today, as you heard it read, this passage of the Tanakh was fulfilled!"

So, getting back to Numbers 11, how do we know this to be the Spirit of Adonai if some translations don't emphasize this?

In this case, all we need to do is read further for our answer...

Num 11:25 Adonai came down in the cloud, spoke to him, took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy leaders. When the Spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied — then but not afterwards.

Num 11:26 There were two men who stayed in the camp, one named Eldad and the other Medad, and the Spirit came to rest on them. They were among those listed to go out to the tent, but they hadn't done so, and they prophesied in the camp.

What was concern for one was encouragement for another.

Num 11:27 A young man ran and told Moshe, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!"

Num 11:28 Y'hoshua, the son of Nun, who from his youth up had been Moshe's assistant, answered, "My lord, Moshe, stop them!"

Yet Moshe's response was quite different.

Num 11:29 But Moshe replied, "Are you so zealous to protect me? I wish all of Adonai's people were prophets! I wish Adonai would put his Spirit on all of them!"

Different, but not unusual or unique.

Sha'ul coming along much later offered the same mindset as Moshe when it came to expressing and sharing what Adonai has given...

Act 26:29 Sha'ul replied, "Whether it takes a short time or a long time, I wish to God that not only you, but also everyone hearing me today, might become just like me except for these chains!"

1Co 14:1 Pursue love! However, keep on eagerly seeking the things of the Spirit; and especially seek to be able to prophesy.

1Co 14:2 For someone speaking in a tongue is not speaking to people but to God, because no one can understand, since he is uttering mysteries in the power of the Spirit.

1Co 14:3 But someone prophesying is speaking to people, edifying, encouraging and comforting them.

1Co 14:4 A person speaking in a tongue does edify himself, but a person prophesying edifies the congregation.

1Co 14:5 I wish you would all speak in tongues, but even more I wish you would all prophesy. The person who prophesies is greater than the person who speaks in tongues, unless someone gives an interpretation, so that the congregation can be edified.

According to Sha'ul's understanding of prophecy, Eldad and Medad were edifying the people who were there.

I remember Paul Wilbur's words from Messiah conference two years ago...

"I will fill you up, so I can pour you out"

Oil is not meant to remain in its bottle of flask, but is to be poured out and used. In this same manner what Adonai has poured into us through His Ruach is to be poured out. It is to be shared, it is to be transmitted to others.

To be honest, today, I feel like over the last several weeks I have poured out everything given to me. I had a concept for a message, yet upon doing further research, I came up dry, because it wasn't what I had understood it to be. So, at 6:30 am, I was completely tapped dry.

Yet I felt led to go to this week's Parashah. When I finally got to Numbers 11, there Adonai directed me with what you have heard.

We may be anointed as believers, yet that anointing can dry up, or become stale, to where we must continue to hunger for more. Moshe asked and Adonai responded.

Moshe had the Spirit of Adonai upon Him, yet he ran dry and became overwhelmed.

Whose to say the same thing can't happen to us? Even when the Ruach ha Kodesh resides within us.

We must continue to seek and pursue our Lord and Messiah.

Our relationship should be active and ongoing, not passive and stagnate.