

## ~LOT 1 (428)

[Hebrew, *goh-ral'*, Greek, *kle'ros*]

### .. Uses

#### .. In The Time Of The Apostles

- The casting of **lots** is an ancient custom for deciding a question at issue. The method used was to cast pebbles or small bits or tablets of wood or of stone into the gathered folds of a garment, the lap, or into a vase, and then to shake them.

- The one whose **lot** fell out or was drawn out was the one chosen. The **lot**, like the oath, implied a prayer with it. Prayer was either expressed or implied, and Yehowah's intervention was sought and anticipated. **Lot**, Hebrew, *goh-ral'*, is used literally and figuratively with the thought of **share** or **portion**.

- And the lot of the tribe of the sons of Judah by their families came to be to the boundary of Edom, the wilderness of Zin, to the Negeb at its southern end. (**Joshua 15:1**)

- Yehowah is the portion of my allotted share and of my cup. You are holding fast my lot.

- Yehowah is the portion of my allotted share and of my cup. You are holding fast my lot. (**Psalms 16:5**)

- For the scepter of wickedness will not keep resting upon the **lot** of the righteous ones, in order, that the righteous ones may not thrust out their hand upon any wrongdoing. (**Psalms 125:3**)

- With the smooth stones of the torrent valley was your portion. They, they were your **lot**. Moreover, to them you poured out a drink offering, you offered up a gift. For these things shall I comfort myself? (**Isaiah 57:6**)

- This is your **lot**, your measured portion from me, is the utterance of Yehowah, because you have forgotten me and you keep putting your trust in falsehood. (**Jeremiah 13:25**)

### .. Uses

- Into the lap the **lot** is cast down, but every decision by it is from

Yehowah. (**Proverbs 16:33**)

- Says; Into the **lap** the **lot** is cast down, but every decision by it is from Yehowah. In Israel the proper use of a **lot** was to end a controversy:
- The **lot** puts even contentions to rest, and it separates even the mighty from one another. (**Proverbs 18:18**)
- It was not used for sport, play, or gambling. There were no bets, wagers, or stakes no losses or winnings. It was not done to enrich the temple or the priests, nor was it done for charity. Contrariwise, the Roman soldiers did have selfish gain in mind when, as foretold at;
- They apportion my garments among themselves, and upon my **clothing** they cast **lots**. (**Psalms 22:18**)
- They cast **lots** for Jesus garments.
- When they had impaled him they distributed his outer garments by casting **lots**. (**Matthew 27:35**)
- The first mention in the Bible of drawing **lots** is in connection with selecting the goats for Yehowah and for Azazel on Atonement Day.
- And he must take the two goats and make them stand before Yehowah at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (**Leviticus 16:7**)
- And Aaron must draw **lots** over the two goats, the one lot for Yehowah and the other lot for Azazel. (**Leviticus 16:8**)
- And Aaron must present the goat over which the **lot** came up for Yehowah, and he must make it a sin offering. (**Leviticus 16:9**)
- But the goat over which the **lot** came up for Azazel should be stood alive before Yehowah to make atonement for it, so as to send it away for Azazel into the wilderness. (**Leviticus 16:10**)
- In Jesus time this was performed at Herod's temple by the High Priest's drawing from a receptacle two **lots** that were made, it is said; of boxwood or of gold. The **lots**, respectively marked, **For Yehowah** and **For Azazel**, were then placed on the heads of the goats.

- **Lot's** were drawn to determine the order of service at the temple for the 24 divisions of the priesthood.
- Further, they distributed them by **lots**, these along with those, for there had to be chiefs of the holy place and chiefs of the true God from the sons of Eleazar and from the sons of Ithamar. (**1 Chronicles 24:5**)
- Then Shemaiah the son of Nethanel the secretary of the Levites wrote them down before the king and the princes and Zadok the priest and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar and the heads of the fathers of the priests and of the Levites, one paternal house being picked out for Eleazar and one being picked out for Ithamar. (**1 Chronicles 24:6**)
- And the **lot** proceeded to come out, the first for Jehoiarib, for Jedaiah the second. (**1 Chronicles 24:7**)
- For Harim the third, for Seorim the fourth. (**1 Chronicles 24:8**)
- For Malchijah the fifth, for Mijamin the sixth. (**1 Chronicles 24:9**)
- For Hakkoz the seventh, for Abijah the eighth. (**1 Chronicles 24:10**)
- For Jeshua the ninth, for Shecaniah the tenth. (**1 Chronicles 24:11**)
- For Eliashib the eleventh, for Jakim the twelfth. (**1 Chronicles 24:12**)
- For Huppah the thirteenth, for Jeshebeab the fourteenth. (**1 Chronicles 24:13**)
- For Bilgah the fifteenth, for Immer the sixteenth. (**1 Chronicles 24:14**)
- For Hezir the seventeenth, for Happizzzez the eighteenth. (**1 Chronicles 24:15**)
- For Pethahiah the nineteenth, for Jehezkel the twentieth. (**1 Chronicles 24:16**)
- For Jachin the twenty-first, for Gamul the twenty-second. (**1**

### **Chronicles 24:17)**

- For Delaiah the twenty-third, for Maaziah the twenty-fourth. (**1 Chronicles 24:18**)
- Here the secretary of the Levites wrote the names of the heads of the paternal houses, and they were evidently picked out in succession. Also, in this manner the Levites were **allotted** to temple service as singers, gatekeepers, treasurers, and so forth.
- And they themselves also proceeded to cast **lots** exactly as their brothers the sons of Aaron did before David the king and Zadok and Ahimelech and the heads of the paternal houses of the priests and of the Levites. As respects paternal houses, the head one was exactly as his younger brother. (**1 Chronicles 24:31**)
- Now as he was acting as priest in the assignment of his division before God. (**Luke 1:8**)
- According to the solemn practice of the priestly office it became his turn to offer incense when he entered into the sanctuary of Yehowah. (**Luke 1:9**)
- After the return from exile, **lots** were used to arrange for the supplying of wood for temple service and to designate who should move into Jerusalem.
- Also, the **lots** we cast concerning the supply of the wood that the priests, the Levites and the people should bring to the house of our God, by the house of our forefathers, at the appointed times, year by year, to burn upon the altar of Yehowah our God, according to what is written in the Law. (**Nehemiah 10:34**)
- Now the princes of the people had their dwelling in Jerusalem, but as for the rest of the people, they cast **lots** to bring in one out of every ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and the nine other parts in the other cities. (**Nehemiah 11:1**)
- Although **lots** are not mentioned directly in connection with the Urim and Thummim placed by Moses in the breastpiece worn by the High Priest.
- After that he put the robe upon him and girded him with the sash and **clothed** him with the sleeveless coat and put the ephod upon

him and girded him with the girdle of the ephod and bound it closely to him with it. (**Leviticus 8:7**)

- Next he placed the breastpiece upon him and put in the breastpiece the **Urim and the Thummim**. (**Leviticus 8:8**)
- Then he placed the turban upon his head and placed upon the turban at the forefront of it the shining plate of gold, the holy sign of dedication, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Leviticus 8:9**)
- And it is not known just what the **Urim and Thummim** were, nevertheless, they were used to settle a problem in a manner similar to two **lots**. The Urim and Thummim seem to be connected with the casting of **lots** at;
- And Saul proceeded to say to Yehowah; O God of Israel, do give Thummim! Then Jonathan and Saul were taken, and the people themselves went out. (**1 Samuel 14:41**)
- Saul now said; Cast lots to decide between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan got to be taken. (**1 Samuel 14:42**)
- They are sometimes spoken of as sacred **lots**. When a question important to the nation arose, upon which a decision could not be made, the High Priest would stand before Yehowah and receive Yehowah's decision by means of these sacred **lots**.
- Yehowah commanded that the division of the Promised Land among the 12 tribes be performed by casting **lots**.
- Only by the **lot** should the land be apportioned. According to the names of the tribes of their fathers they should get an inheritance. (**Numbers 26:55**)
- By the determination of the **lot** ones inheritance should be apportioned between the many and the few. (**Numbers 26:56**)
- The book of Joshua gives a detailed discussion of this, the word **lot(s)** occurring more than 20 times in (**Joshua Chapters 14-21**). **Lot's** were drawn before Yehowah at the tent of meeting in Shiloh and under the supervision of Joshua and High Priest Eleazar.
- So they presented themselves before Eleazar the priest and

Joshua the son of Nun and the chieftains, saying; Yehowah it was who commanded Moses to give us an inheritance in the midst of our brothers. Accordingly he gave them, at the order of Yehowah, an inheritance in the midst of the brothers of their father. (**Joshua 17:4**)

- As for you people, you will map out the land into seven shares, and you must bring them here to me, and I must cast **lots** here for you before Yehowah our God. (**Joshua 18:6**)
- So the men got up that they might go, and Joshua proceeded to command those who were going to map out the land, saying; Go and walk about in the land and map it out and return to me, and here is where I shall draw **lots** for you before Yehowah in Shiloh. (**Joshua 18:8**)
- The Levite cities were also selected by **lot**.
- Thus the sons of Israel gave the Levites these cities and their pasture grounds by **lot**, just as Yehowah had commanded by means of Moses. (**Joshua 21:8**)
- Yehowah obviously caused the **lot** to fall in harmony with his previous prophecy regarding the general location of the tribes. (**Genesis Chapter 49**)
- **Lot's** were used to point out offenders. In Jonah's case the mariners cast **lots** to find out on whose account the storm had come upon them.
- And they began to say to one another; Come, and let us cast **lots**, that we may know on whose account we have this calamity. And they kept casting **lots**, and finally the lot fell upon Jonah. (**Jonah 1:7**)
- So they said to him; Do tell us, please, on whose account it is that we are having this calamity? What is your work, and from where do you come? What is your country, and from which people are you? (**Jonah 1:8**)
- By the use of **lots**, Jonathan was pointed out as the one breaking Saul's foolish oath.
- And Saul proceeded to say to Yehowah; O God of Israel, do give

Thummim! Then Jonathan and Saul were taken, and the people themselves went out. (1 Samuel 14:41)

- Saul now said; Cast **lots** to decide between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan got to be taken. (1 Samuel 14:42)
- **Lot's** were used by the enemies of Israel in dividing war booty and captives.
- And for my people they kept casting **lots**, and they would give the male child for a prostitute, and the female child they sold for wine, that they might drink. (Joel 3:3)
- In the day when you stood off on the side, in the day when strangers took his military force into captivity and when outright foreigners entered his gate and over Jerusalem they cast **lots**, you also were like one of them. (Obadiah 1:11)
- Haman had **Pur**, that is, the **Lot** cast as a form of divination to determine the auspicious day for the extermination of the Jews throughout the Persian Empire.
- In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, someone cast **Pur**, that is, the **Lot**, before Haman from day to day and from month to month, to the twelfth, that is, the month Adar. (Esther 3:7)
- The plural is *pu-rim'*, from which the **Festival of Purim**, also called the **Festival of Lots**, gets its name.
- For Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the one showing hostility to all the Jews, had himself schemed against the Jews to destroy them, and he had had **Pur**, that is, the **Lot**, cast, to disquiet them and destroy them. (Esther 9:24)
- But when Esther came in before the king he said with the written document; Let his bad scheme that he has schemed against the Jews come back upon his own head, and they hanged him and his sons upon the stake. (Esther 9:25)
- That is why they called these days Purim, by the name of the **Pur**. That is why, according to all the words of this letter and what they had seen as to this and what had come upon them. (Esther 9:26)

## · In The Time Of The Apostles

- **Lot's** were used by the disciples of Jesus, along with their prayer, to determine who would fill the place of Judas Iscariot as one of the 12 who had witnessed Jesus activities and his resurrection, Matthias was chosen.
- It is therefore necessary that of the men that assembled with us during all the time in which the Lord Jesus went in and out among us. (**Acts of Apostles 1:21**)
- Starting with his baptism by John and until the day he was received up from us, one of these men should become a witness with us of his resurrection. (**Acts of Apostles 1:22**)
- So they put up two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. (**Acts of Apostles 1:23**)
- And they prayed and said; You, O Yehowah, who know the hearts of all, designate which one of these two men you have chosen. (**Acts of Apostles 1:24**)
- To take the place of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas deviated to go to his own place. (**Acts of Apostles 1:25**)
- So they cast **lots** over them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was reckoned along with the eleven apostles. (**Acts of Apostles 1:26**)
- The **Greek** word here is *kle'ros* and is related to the word *kle-ro-no-mi'a*, inheritance. *Kle'ros* is used at;
- Thanking the Father who rendered you suitable for your participation in the inheritance of the holy ones in the light. (**Colossians 1:12**)
- Neither as lording it over those who are God's inheritance, but becoming examples to the flock. (**1 Peter 5:3**)
- In regard to the inheritance, or **allotment**, that God has given to Christians.

- But we do not read of **Lots** being used after Pentecost **33 C.E.** for selecting overseers and their assistants or to decide matters of importance.
- Selection of overseers and their assistants was to be based on the evidence of the fruitage of the Holy Spirit in their lives (**1 Timothy Chapter 3**)(**Titus Chapter 1**), while other decisions were based on the fulfillment of prophecy, angelic guidance, the principles of God's Word and Jesus teachings, and the direction of Holy Spirit.
- But during the night Yehowah's angel opened the doors of the prison, brought them out and said. (**Acts of Apostles 5:19**)
- Be on your way, and, having taken a stand in the temple, keep on speaking to the people all the sayings about this life. (**Acts of Apostles 5:20**)
- After hearing this, they entered into the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the High Priest and those with him arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin and all the assembly of older men of the sons of Israel, and they sent out to the jail to have them brought. (**Acts of Apostles 5:21**)
- As they were publicly ministering to Yehowah and fasting, the Holy Spirit said; Of all persons set Barnabas and Saul apart for me for the work to which I have called them. (**Acts of Apostles 13:2**)
- Then they fasted and prayed and laid their hands upon them and let them go. (**Acts of Apostles 13:3**)
- Moreover, they appointed older men for them in each congregation and, offering prayer with fastings, they committed them to Yehowah in whom they had become believers. (**Acts of Apostles 14:23**)
- And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written. (**Acts of Apostles 15:15**)
- After these things I shall return and rebuild the booth of David that is fallen down, and I shall rebuild its ruins and erect it again. (**Acts of Apostles 15:16**)
- In order, that those who remain of the men may earnestly seek

**Yehowah, together with people of all the nations, people who are called by my name, says Yehowah, who is doing these things. (Acts of Apostles 15:17)**

- **Known from of old. (Acts of Apostles 15:18)**
- **Hence my decision is not to trouble those from the nations who are turning to God. (Acts of Apostles 15:19)**
- **For the Holy Spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you, except these necessary things. (Acts of Apostles 15:28)**
- **The apostle Paul states; All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for setting things straight.**
- **All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)**