



The Levites were chosen by God for the purpose of entrusting to them the care and administration of holy things. They were to preserve the law of Jehovah in all its integrity and purity, to see that the requirements were duly complied with, to dispense justice in accordance with its enactments, and to transmit it to posterity. They served from 25 to 50 years of ages except for the high priest who served until his death.

Aaron was High Priest, and his sons, Eleazer and Ithamar, would succeed him. The Aaronites' duties were to perform the sacrificial services and to provide supervision of all duties assigned to the Levites.

The Kohathites' duty was to have charge of the Ark, the table of the bread of the Presence, the lamp stands, the altars of burnt offering and of incense, the sacred vessels used in the service, and the veil. They numbered 8,600 men with 2,700 qualified for active service.

The Gershonites' duty was to have charge of curtains, the tent (above the planks), the coverings and the hanging for the door of the Tabernacle, the hangings of the court and the court entrance, their cords and instruments of service, also the work of taking down and setting these up. They numbered 7,500 men with 2,630 qualified for active service.

The Merarites' duty was to have charge of the frames, bars, pillars and sockets of the Tabernacle; also the pillars of the court, their sockets, pegs, cords and tools pertaining thereto. Owing to the heavy nature of the materials they had to carry, four wagons and the eight oxen were assigned to them. They traveled ahead of the Kohathites so that they could set up first. They numbered 6,200 with 2,630 qualified for service.

See Numbers 3 and 4.

➤ **Schedule of Offerings.** The offerings prescribed by the Mosaic ritual were presented on a regular schedule—some daily, some on the Sabbath, and some during the various festivals.

Daily (Num. 28:3-8). The daily sacrifice was offered morning and evening, each consisting of a yearling lamb, for a burnt offering; a tenth ephah of flour, for a grain offering; and one-fourth hin of wine, for a drink offering.

Sabbath (Num. 28:9-10; Lev. 24:8). The daily offerings (see above); and two yearling lambs, for a burnt offering; two one-tenth ephahs of flour, mingled with oil, for a grain offering; one-half hin of wine, for a drink offering; twelve loaves of the bread of the Presence.

New Moon (Num. 28:11-15). The daily offerings; and two young bulls, one ram, seven lambs, for a burnt offering; flour mingled with oil, three one-tenth ephahs for each bull, two one-tenth ephahs for the ram, and one-tenth an ephah for each lamb; drink offering.

Rosh Hashanah
Feast of Trumpets, or Seventh New Moon (Num. 29:1-6). The daily and new moon offerings; and one bull, one ram, seven yearling lambs, for a burnt offering; flour mingled with oil; three one-tenth ephahs for the bull, two one-tenth ephahs for the ram, one-tenth an ephah for each lamb, for a grain offering; one kid of the goats, for a sin offering; drink offerings.

Passover (Ex. 12:1-7). The daily offerings; and a kid (lamb or goat, Ex. 12:5) was selected on the 10th of Abib, slain on the 14th, and its blood sprinkled on the doorposts and lintels.

Unleavened Bread (Num. 28:17-24). The daily offerings; and one goat, for a sin offering; two young bulls, one ram, and seven yearling lambs, burnt offering; flour mingled with oil, three one-tenth ephahs for each bull, two one-tenth ephahs for the ram, one-tenth an ephah for each lamb, grain offering. The above offerings were for each day of the feast (15th to 21st Abib). On the second day of the feast (16th Abib) the first sheaf of the new harvest (barley) was offered by waving, not burning. With this sheaf was offered a male yearling lamb, for a burnt offering; two one-tenth ephahs of flour and oil, for a grain offering; one-fourth hin of wine, for a drink offering.

Pentecost (Feast of Weeks) (Num. 28:26-37)

Lev. 23:16-20). The daily offerings; and a kid of the goats for a sin offering; two young bulls, one ram, seven yearling lambs, for a burnt offering; three one-tenth ephahs of flour and oil for each bull, two one-tenth ephahs for the ram, one-tenth an ephah for each lamb, grain offering; one-half hin of wine for the bull, one-third hin of wine for the ram, one-fourth hin of wine for each lamb, drink offering. After the above was presented, the new grain offering of two wave loaves, made of two one-tenth ephahs of wheat flour, baked with leaven, was offered. With these were offered seven yearling lambs, one young bull, and two rams, for a burnt offering, with the prescribed grain and drink offerings; a male goat, for a sin offering; two yearling lambs for a peace offering.

Yom Kippur

Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:3; Num. 29:7-11). The daily offerings; and a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering, for the priesthood; two goats for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering, for the people; followed by one young bull, one ram, seven lambs, for a burnt offering; flour mingled with oil, three one-tenth ephahs for a bull, two one-tenth ephahs for a ram, and one-tenth an ephah for each lamb, grain offering; one-half hin of wine for a bull, one-third hin of wine for a ram, and one-quarter hin of wine for each lamb, drink offering.

Feast of Booths (Tabernacles) (Num. 29:13-38). The daily offerings; and bulls, rams, lambs, and goats according to a prescribed schedule (see table 29).

DAY	Bulls	Rams	Lambs	Goats ¹
First	13	2	14	1
Second	12	2	14	1
Third	11	2	14	1
Fourth	10	2	14	1
Fifth	9	2	14	1
Sixth	8	2	14	1
Seventh	7	2	14	1
Total for the seven days	70	14	98	7
Eighth	1	1	7	1

1. The sin offering

The bulls, rams, and lambs together made the burnt offerings, whereas the ram was for a sin offering. Each bull, ram, and lamb was accompanied by its prescribed grain and drink offerings.

Grain Offering. The grain offering consisted of three one-tenth ephahs of flour for a bull, two one-tenth ephahs for a ram, one-tenth an ephah for a lamb; the flour in each case was to be mingled with oil.

Drink Offering. The drink offering consisted of one-half hin of wine for a bullock, one-third hin of wine for a ram, one-fourth hin of wine for a

The Jewish Calendar

The Jews used two kinds of calendars:

Civil Calendar—official calendar of kings, childbirth, and contracts.

Sacred Calendar—from which festivals were computed.

NAMES OF MONTHS	CORRESPONDS WITH	NO. OF DAYS	MONTH OF SACRED YEAR
TISHRI	Sept.—Oct.	30 days	7th
HESHVAN	Oct.—Nov.	29 or 30	8th
CHISLEV	Nov.—Dec.	29 or 30	9th
TEBETH	Dec.—Jan.	29	10th
SHEBAT	Jan.—Feb.	30	11th
ADAR	Feb.—Mar.	29 or 30	12th
NISAN	Mar.—Apr.	30	1st
IYAR	Apr.—May	29	2nd
SIVAN	May—June	30	3rd
TAMMUZ	June—July	29	4th
AB	July—Aug.	30	5th
*ELUL	Aug.—Sept.	29	6th

*Hebrew months were alternately 30 and 29 days long. Their year, shorter than ours, had 354 days. Therefore, about every three years (7 times in 19 years) an extra 29-day month, VEADAR, was added between ADAR and NISAN.

Jewish Feasts

Feast of	Month on Jewish Calendar	Day	Corresponding Month	References
Passover	Nisan	14	Mar.—Apr.	Ex. 12:1-14; Matt. 26:17-20
*Unleavened Bread	Nisan	15-21	Mar.—Apr.	Ex. 12:15-20
Firstfruits	Nisan or Sivan	16 6	Mar.—Apr. May—June	Lev. 23:9-14; Num. 28:26
*Pentecost (Harvest or Weeks)	Sivan	6 (50 days after barley harvest)	May—June	Deut. 16:9-12; Acts 2:1
Trumpets, <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	Tishri	1, 2	Sept.—Oct.	Num. 29:1-6
Day of Atonement, <i>Yom Kippur</i>	Tishri	10	Sept.—Oct.	Lev. 23:26-32; Heb. 9:7
*Tabernacles (Booths or Ingathering)	Tishri	15-22	Sept.—Oct.	Neh. 8:13-18; John 7:2
Dedication (Lights), <i>Hanukkah</i>	Chislev	25 (8 days)	Nov.—Dec.	John 10:22
Purim (Lots)	Adar	14, 15	Feb.—Mar.	Esth. 9:18-32

*The three major feasts for which all males of Israel were required to travel to the Temple in Jerusalem (Ex. 23:14-19).