

For those who do not know, the Portion name comes from the first word or words of the portion in Torah. This week the Torah Portion name is Mattot and is translated as "Tribes."

Shabbat Message:

Praise waits for You, O God, in Zion: and to You shall the vow be performed. O You that hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come. Iniquities prevail against me: our transgressions, You shall purge them away. Blessed [the one] You choose, and cause to approach that he may dwell in Your courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your Holy Temple. Terrible things in righteousness will You answer us, O God of our salvation: the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off the sea: which by His strength sets fast the mountains; girded with power: which stills the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people. They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at Your tokens: You make the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice. You visit the earth, and water it: You greatly enrich it with the river of God, is full of water: You prepare them corn, when You have so provided for it. You water the ridges thereof abundantly: You settle the furrows thereof: You make it soft with showers: You bless the springing thereof. You crown the year with Your goodness; and Your paths drop fatness. They drop on the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing. (Ps. 65) Selah.

In Judah God known: His Name great in Israel. In Salem also is His Tabernacle, and His dwelling place in Zion. There broke He the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah. You more glorious excellent than the mountains of prey. The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands. At Your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep. You, You, to be feared: and who may stand in Your sight when once You are angry? You did cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still, when God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah. Surely the wrath of man shall praise You: the remainder of wrath shall You restrain. Vow, and pay to the YHVH your God: let all that be round about Him bring presents to Him that ought to be feared. He shall cut off the spirit of princes: terrible to the kings of the earth. (Ps. 76)

Keep your foot when you go to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with your mouth, and let not your heart be hasty to utter things before God: for God in heaven, and you upon earth:

therefore let your words be few. For a dream comes through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice by multitude of words. When you vow a vow to God, defer not to pay it; for no pleasure in fools: pay that which you have vowed. Better that you should not vow, than that you should vow and not pay. Suffer not your mouth to cause your flesh to sin; neither say you before the angel, that it an error: wherefore should God be angry at your voice, and destroy the work of your hands? For in the multitude of dreams and many words also vanities: but fear you God. (Ecc. 5:1-7) Vow. A promise made, to do or give something to God. It can also mean a commitment/promise to another person. A vow is not to be taken lightly, especially a vow made to God. *A snare to the man who devours holy, and after vows to make enquiry.* (Pv. 20:25) *Again, you have heard that it has been said by them of old time, You shall not forswear yourself, but shall perform to the Lord your oaths: Let your yea be yea, and your nay be nay.* (Matt. 5:33,37) If you vow to God, fulfill your vow. Fear Him Who has life and death in His hand. Keep your commitments to Him. He keeps His commitment to you. Selah.