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Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Consecration of the Levites 8:5-22
 - Terms of service
 - Served from age 25 to 50
 - After 50 they could serve as keeping guard but could perform none of the other service.

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- The Passover celebrated for the second time.
 - The Passover was to be an annual observance on the fourteenth day of the first month.
 - The laws revealing how a person would become unclean come into play since an unclean person could not engage in any of the observances. This promoted an inquiry by some who were unclean because of contact with a dead body.
 - Moses went to the LORD for instruction and the command was that a person who was unclean at the time of the Passover or who was away on a long journey could observe it a month later just as it was observed in the first month.
 - A stern warning is given that any person who was ceremonially clean and physically present must observe the Passover at the regular time.
 - People who were not Israelites but living among them may keep the Passover if they choose to do so.

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- The pillar of cloud and fire over the Tabernacle
 - The movement of the pillar of cloud or fire signaled that the camp was to move.
 - The Israelites would camp at the place where the pillar of cloud or fire stopped and remain there until it moved again.

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• The Silver Trumpets

- Rapid communication to such a large crowd would be difficult. The trumpet blast of prearranged signals addressed this issue. Note that before these trumpets were made the sound of a trumpet came from the Sinai on the day God called the people together to give the Ten Commands. (compare Revelation 1:10)
 - Both trumpets blown called the whole congregation to assemble
 - One trumpet blown summoned the chiefs of the people

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• The Silver Trumpets

- Rapid communication to such a large crowd would be difficult. The trumpet blast of prearranged signals addressed this issue.
 - An “alarm” was blown to signal for the camps to move out. (Alarm is a short blast, or a series of short blasts 10:7)
 - The first “alarm” Judah’s group camped on the east set out.
 - The second “alarm” Reuben’s group camped on the south set out.
 - These would then be followed by the Levites carrying the tabernacle.
 - Ephraim’s group followed
 - Dan’s group went last and acted as the rear guard.
 - Blowing the trumpets was the duty of the priests.

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Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Silver Trumpets
 - Rapid communication to such a large crowd would be difficult. The trumpet blast of prearranged signals addressed this issue.
 - Other times the trumpets were blown
 - When they went to war Joshua 6:5, 20 (Most common examples in the Old Testament)
 - At the appointed feasts Leviticus 25:9
 - To signal the beginning of a month Psalm 81:3
 - At burnt and peace offering

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Trumpets are connected with the end times.

- ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Matthew 24:31 (ESV)
- ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:52 (ESV)
- ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 (ESV)

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Trumpets are connected with the end times.

- ⁷ but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets. Revelation 10:7 (ESV)
- ¹⁵ Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." Revelation 11:15 (ESV)