

Managers of Temple

Ref: *Sefer Avodah, Hilchot Klei Hamikdash* , Chapter 7

Management of Temple was through 15 officers.

Each has one portfolio and many men under him to do the work.

TIME SUPERVISOR

Just before dawn, before the sacrifices, he would announce that Priests, Levites and Israelites (*maamad*) should go to their duties.

NEILAT SHEARIM (LOCKING OF GATES)

He would instruct the trumpets to be sounded at the opening of the Gates of the *Har Habayit* and *Azarah* at dawn and then to supervise the locking at sunset.

SHOMRIM (GUARDS) – ISH HAR HABAYIT

He would walk around at night to check if the guards were awake.

MESHORERIM (SINGERS)

- Singers would be chosen to stand on the *duchan*.
- He would command when the trumpets should be sounded for the sacrifices. Never less than 21 blasts each day. (7 times tekiah, teruah, tekiah)
 - [3 Opening of gates. Different supervisor]
 - 9 *Tamid* sacrifice of morning
 - 9 *Tamid* sacrifice of afternoon
 - 9 For *Musaf* if *Musaf* brought
 - 6 Friday additions:
 - ◊ 3 to cease work 1¼ hours before sunset
 - ◊ 3 just before sunset
 - 3 on Festivals to announce opening of the Lower Gate (Gate to Women's Courtyard)
 - 3 On Festivals to announce opening of Upper Gate (Gate of *Nicanor*)
 - 3 On *Sukot* to announce filling of water vessel
 - 3 While Water Libations takes place

TZILTZAL (CYMBAL)

This supervisor would arrange all the musicians.

PEYASOT (LOTTERIES)

4 Lotteries every day to allocate work to the Priests.

🕒 Reminder:

Organisation of Priests – ie Fixed Daily Service. Ref: *Sefer Avodah, Hilchot Temidin Umusafin*, Chapter 4 and 5.
Pack on Priests



KINIM (PAIRS OF DOVES)

The supervisor would arrange the doves from the Temple treasury and sell them to people who needed them for sacrifices.

If some birds were found to be unacceptable, he would have to replace them at his expense because the Temple is always given the upper hand.

CHOTAMOT (SEALS)

The supervisor would receive money for the *Nesachim* (wine libations) and he would give seals (according to the number of sacrifices purchased) with one of the following notes.

- *Egel* (calf) i.e. bull offering needed $\frac{1}{2}$ *hin* wine & 3 *esron* flour & $\frac{1}{2}$ *hin* oil.
- *Zachar* (male) i.e. male ram needed $\frac{1}{3}$ *hin* wine & 2 *esron* flour & $\frac{1}{3}$ *hin* oil.
- *Gdi* (kid) i.e. ewe needed $\frac{1}{4}$ *hin* wine & 1 *issaron* flour & $\frac{1}{4}$ *hin* oil.
- *Chotei* (sinner) i.e. wealthy person with *tzaraat* i.e. 3 animals & $\frac{3}{4}$ *hin* of wine & 3 *esronim* flour & $\frac{3}{4}$ *hin* of oil.

Reminder:

Nesachim. Ref: *Sefer Avodah, Hilchot Maaseh Hakorbanot*, Chapter 2.



NESACHIM (WINE LIBATIONS)

He establishes price of wine and flour.

He then supplies the wine libations according to the number of seals he receives.

CHOLIM (SICK)

Priests because of their life style would often get digestive problems. Therefore, there was an officer to deal with this.

MAYIM (WATER)

There was an officer in charge of digging to find wells and maintaining.

LECHEM HAPANIM (SHOWBREAD PREPARATION)

KETORET (INCENSE PREPARATION)

PAROCHET (CURTAINS PREPARATION)

There were **13** curtains in the Second Temple.

Every year, the two curtains between *Kodesh* and *Kodesh Hakodashim* were remade.

Procedure of immersing curtains in *mikveh* if they became impure.

Reminder:

Pack on Purification
Pack on Impurity of Clothes



BIGDEI KEHUNAH (PRIESTLY GARMENTS)

He oversaw the dressings of Priests and High Priest i.e. their preparation and weaving.

He had a Chamber next to the gate of *Nicanor*.

 **Reminder:**

Pack on *Bet Habechirah*

