

Numbers 13-25

Wandering in the Wilderness

Proverbs 3:5-6



Overview

- 13 Report of the spies
- 14 Reaction & judgment
- 15 Offerings
- 16 Rebellion of Korah
- 17 Aaron's Priesthood Validated



Overview

- 18 Duties and Support of the Levites
- 19 Red Heifer Sacrifice
- 20 Sin of Moses
- 21 The Bronze Serpent
- 22-25 Balak and Balaam



Chap 13 Report of the spies.



...it certainly does flow with milk
and honey and this is its fruit...

13:27



13:30-33

- Vs 30 Caleb: “We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we shall surely overcome it.”
- Vs 31-33 Other spies: “we are not able to go up against the people for they are too strong for us... we saw men of *great* size the Nephilim.”
- Are you facing giants in your life? We need to face them realistically, but remember God in the picture.



Chap. 14 Reaction & Judgment of the people.

When the people heard the majority report they grumbled against Moses.

14:11 “And the Lord said to Moses, ‘How long will this people spurn Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the signs which I have performed in their midst?’”



Moses intercedes for his people 14:14-19

God pardons them, but there are consequences.
14:20-35

“My servant Caleb, because he has had a different spirit
and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land...”
14:24

*** Following God wholeheartedly brings great reward.**



Numbers 15 - Offerings

Instructions concerning offerings, “when you enter the land” vs 1-21

God makes a distinction between:
unintentional sins (vs 22-29)

& defiant sins (30-36) for which there was no offering.

* We shouldn't think we can willfully sin and get away with it.



Numbers 16 - Rebellion of Korah

- Korah's Rebellion vs 1-15
- The Judgment vs 16-40
- Moses & Aaron blamed vs 41-50
- Result: 14,700 dead



Numbers 17 - Aaron's Priesthood Validated



"The proof is in the budding!"

Numbers 18 Duties and Support of Levites

Care of the sanctuary vs 1-7

Support of the priests vs 8-32



Numbers 19 - The Red Heifer



Provided ritual cleansing
for those who had
touched a corpse

The Jews regard the ashes of the Red Heifer as the greatest in cleansing power.

Numbers 19 - The Red Heifer

Hebrews 9:13-14 “For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”



Numbers 20 – The sin of Moses

- “Take the rod...and speak to the rock before their eyes... Vs 8
- Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with the rod...”



1 Corinthians 10:4 “and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.”



Christ was struck once with death.

“For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are (being) sanctified.” Hebrews 10:14

Why was Moses judged?

- Moses spoiled the type of Christ.
- Moses misrepresented God's character.



Numbers 21 - The bronze serpent



“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life.” John 3:14,15



Parallels to Christ and His work

Israel

- Bitten by serpents
- God provides a way
- The healing symbol lifted up
- Anyone bitten may look
- Simply looking gives life (By faith, not by effort)
- Healing was immediate
- Only one remedy

All of us

- Bitten by sin
- God provides a way
- The Healing Savior lifted up
- Any sinner may look
- Simply looking gives life (By faith, not by works)
- Salvation is immediate
- Only one way



Numbers 22-25 Balaam & Balak

- Was Balaam a true prophet of God?
- He had a knowledge of God.
- He sought God's instruction (22:8,19)
- He said he would speak only what God told him (vv. 18, 38)



But:

- God can speak even through a donkey!
- Balaam used divination (22:7) and sorcery (24:1)
- Balaam counseled Israel to trespass against the Lord.
(31:16)



- “Forsaking the right way they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam... who loved the wages of unrighteousness.” 2 Pet 2:15
- He was rebuked for his transgression 2 Pet 2:16
- He was mad! 2 Pet 2:16
- He put a stumbling block before Israel. Rev 2:14



Numbers 25 The Last Rebellion of the Wilderness Generation

Israel played the harlot with the daughters of Moab and worshipped Baal.

Phineas took a stand against sin and the plague was checked.



Lessons from Phinehas - Chap. 25

God said of him, “he was jealous with My jealousy among them”
vs 11

God rewarded him & his family with perpetual priesthood.
Vs 12,13

“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless...” Philippians 1:9,10



1 Corinthians 10:6-11

“... these things happened as examples for us, that we should not crave evil things, as they also craved...Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”



*As we journey through the wilderness of this world,
we need to walk by faith,
trusting Him each step of the way.*

