



Study Outline

Main Point: After receiving the Law of God at Mount Sinai, the people respond with obedience. However, as they journey to the land of promise an attitude of unbelief rises up among the people leading to a total rebellion against the plan of God. Because the people chose not to enter the promise land, the Israelites are banished to wander the wilderness for the next 40 years. The results of this wondering were a combination of rooting out the generation of unbelief, while raising up a new generation of faith. Numbers closes 39 years after it opens with the rebirth of His people ready to accept their inheritance. Ultimately Numbers provides a picture of God's process of restoration.

1. Response of Obedience: Numbers 1-10

- a. People on a Mission Numbers 1-4
 - Soldiers Numbered / Tribes Organized / Expectations Clarified
- b. People with a Vision Numbers 5-9:14
 - People of Purity, Presence of God, Remembering Passover
- c. People on the Move Numbers 9:15-10:36

2. Rise of Unbelief: Numbers 11-14:38

- a. People Question God's Provisions Numbers 11
- b. People Criticize God's Man Numbers 12
- c. People Rebel Against God's Plan Numbers 13-14:38

3. Results of the Wilderness: Numbers 14:39-25

- a. Uprooting Unbelief
 - Death of the Rebellious Numbers 14:39-45
 - Death of the Critical Numbers 16
 - Death of the Disobedient Numbers 20
 - Death to the Idolatrous Numbers 22-25
- b. Planting Seeds of Faith
 - Lessons about Sacrifices Numbers 15
 - Lessons about Authority Numbers 17-18
 - Lessons about Purity Numbers 19
 - Lessons about Victory Numbers 21

4. Rebirth of the People: Numbers 26

- a. New Generation & New Leader Numbers 26 & 27:12-23
- b. Renewed Commitment to the Law Numbers 27-30, 33-36
- c. Renewed Focus on the Mission & Calling Numbers 31-32

Important Verse....

"If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into the land, and give it to us.... only do not rebel against the Lord...." - Numbers 14: 8-9



Day 1: Cloud & Fire....

Numbers 9: 15-23 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Why do you think God chose a “cloud by day” and a “pillar of fire by night” to represent His presence (2). What lessons can you learn from this story when it comes to discovering God’s will for your life? (3). What is God’s will for your life and where is He currently leading you?

Day 2: Faithless Spies....

Numbers 13: 17-14: 10 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Though there were giants and big obstacles in the land, what element did they leave out of their report? (2). Ultimately “unbelief” questions what aspect of the nature of God? (3). With the Lord we can “do all things”.... what impossible task is God asking you to step out in faith to conquer?

Day 3: Our Best Efforts....

Numbers 14: 26-45 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Unbelief robs us from the promises of God, in what ways have you seen unbelief rip you off in your own spiritual life? (2). What can you learn from the consequences of unbelief? (3). What does this story teach you concerning our best efforts apart from the power of God?

Day 4: Ground Breaking Experience....

Numbers 16: 1-40 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Why do you think God places authority figures in our lives? (2). Does God care about how we treat His authorities? (3). When we question or rebel against the authority in our lives what are typically the results?

Day 5: Bronze Serpent....

Numbers 21: 4-9 // THINKING POINTS: (1). If you look at this story as an allegory of salvation, what do the fiery serpents & the bronze serpent represents? (2). What do you learn about the ultimate consequences of sin? (3). What does this teach you in regards to the saving dynamics of faith and it's healing effects?

Day 6: The Old-English Donkey....

Numbers 22: 22-40 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Balaam was acting in direct obedience to God.... does God take rebellion seriously? (2). What do you learn about the nature of the physical & spiritual worlds from this story? (3). Sometimes we kick against the voice of concern just like Balaam, who are these “voices” in your life?

DEVOTIONS

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