



ROAD TO EMMAUS

The Harmony of the Old and New Testament NUMBERS

Luke 24:27 "Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures."

Course Text: Numbers

| <u>Lesson</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Lesson 1 | Numbers in Numbers |
| Lesson 2 | A Prayer Analyzed |
| Lesson 3 | Spies |
| Lesson 4 | The Rebellion of Korah |
| Lesson 5 | The Bronze Snake |
| Lesson 6 | Balaam |
| Lesson 7 | God's Promise |
| Lesson 8 | Praying the Scripture & Conclusion |

Introduction to Numbers: Romans 11:22 "Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness..." pretty much sums up the message of Numbers. The first 19 chapters of Numbers talk about the experiences of the first generation and the rest talk about the new generation who actually enter the Promised Land. A lot of the material in Numbers is repeated in Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy. In this course we are going to focus most on the parts not mentioned in the other books as well as the rebellions of the Israelites and the initial battles as they approached the Promised Land.



Suggested methodology for this course:

1. Allow time for greetings and fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the text aloud from the Bible one question at a time.
5. Answer and briefly discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. Repeat 4 & 5 for all questions except the "Think & Pray" questions.
6. On the "Think & Pray" questions everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This gives the Holy Spirit a time to speak, so don't rush it.** The class leader should watch for the pencils and pens to quit moving. Others can look at the "For Further Thought" questions while waiting for everyone to finish.
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer, when provided, are just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about an hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let a lesson take more than one meeting, or break into two groups. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought"

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Lesson 1 – Numbers in Numbers

There is a reason the book is called Numbers. Let's start by looking at that.

(1A) In Matthew 10:1-6 how many sons did Jacob have? _____

(1B) In Luke 6:12-16 how many disciples did Jesus select? _____

(1C) In Genesis 46:27 how many people from the house of Jacob came to Egypt? _____

(1D) In Luke 10:1 how many did Jesus appoint to go before him? _____

(1E) In Numbers 2:32 how many men were there? _____

(1F) In Numbers 26:51 how many men were there? _____

(1G) Between Num 2:32 and Num 26:51 how much had the population of God's people changed?

(1H) In Acts 1:15 how many believers gathered? _____

(1I) According to Acts 2:41 how many new believers were added? _____

(1L) According to Acts 4:4 how many believing men were there? _____

(1M) In Acts 21:11-20 how many had come to believe? _____

(1N) Between Acts 1:15 and Acts 4:4 how much had the population of God's people changed?

(1O) During their time in the wilderness the number of God's people decreased slightly but in Acts they increased dramatically. So what? (Hints: Acts 2:47 & Acts 21:19)

Think & Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 1 – Numbers in Numbers

- (1A) In Genesis Genesis 42:29-32 how many sons did Jacob have? 12
- (1B) In Matthew 10:1-6 how many disciples did Jesus select? 12
- (1C) In Genesis 46:27 how many people from the house of Jacob came to Egypt? 70
- (1D) In Luke 10:1 how many did Jesus appoint to go before him? 70
- (1E) In Numbers 2:32 how many men were there? 603,550 (See also Ex 38:26, Nm 1:46)
- (1F) In Numbers 26:51 how many men were there? 601,730
- (1G) Between Num 2:32 and Num 26:51 how much had the population of God's people changed?
It decreased by 1,820 or less than 1/3 of 1 percent in 40 years
- (1H) In Acts 1:15 how many believers gathered? 120
- (1I) According to Acts 2:41 how many new believers were added? About 3,000
- (1L) According to Acts 4:4 how many believing men were there? About 5,000 (See also Acts 5:14)
- (1M) In Acts 21:11-20 how many had come to believe? Thousands Ac 21:20
- (1N) Between Acts 1:15 and Acts 4:4 how much had the population of God's people changed?
It increased by approximately 4,880 or about 4,000% in a few months
- (1O) In the 10 generations (approximately 400 years) since arriving in Egypt, God's people had increased by about 250% per generation. You would normally expect that trend to continue but during the generation in the wilderness they decreased slightly. It demonstrates that God is in control of everything, which is very comforting to those who trust Him, but should be terrifying to those who don't trust Him. Numbers and Acts shows us that God's sovereignty does not change with time. He was, is and will be in control of the numbers.

For further thought:

- [1p] What do hints from question 1O above, Acts 2:47 and Acts 21:19, tell us about growing the church?
- [1q] The increase between Genesis 46:27 and Numbers 2:32 means that each family averaged almost five children during the 10 generations in Egypt. That means a childless couple would have to be offset by a couple having ten children and for each family which had only one child there would have to be a family with nine, children and so on. Is this reasonable?
- [1r] When was the last time you stopped, took a moment, and took a census of your life. Have you done an accounting of where you are, where you have been and where you are going? Do you think this is something that a Christian should do? Why or why not?
- [1s] These people knew who their ancestors were all the way back to Adam. (See Chronicles 1:1-7:40.) We need to know this because tracking the ancestry of Jesus Christ demonstrates God's power through time. How many of your ancestors can you name? Does this matter? Why or why not?

My further thoughts:

- [1p] His sovereignty has not changed. He is also in charge of how much the church grows or does not grow. If you want your church to grow, pray.
- [1q] Yes, people used to have a lot more children than they do now.

Lesson 2 – A Prayer Analyzed

Please read Numbers 6:24-26 and answer the questions below:

(2A) Who is praying? _____

(2B) Who besides God is listening? _____

(2C) What is being requested? _____

(2D) How does the person praying try to convince God to answer?

(2E) What is the place, posture (kneeling, bowing, or what) and mode (silent, out loud, written) of the prayer? _____

(2F) What results, if any, are reported to the prayer? _____

(2G) How can we apply this to our own prayer life?

Think & Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 2 – A Prayer Analyzed

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace."

- (2A) Who is praying? Aaron and his descendants Nm 6:23
(2B) Who besides God is listening? Sons of Israel Nm 6:23
(2C) What is being requested? The Lord's blessing, being kept (guarded), God's shining face, God's grace, God's countenance, and peace for the sons of Israel The countenance is what your face reveals about your inner thoughts and feelings. (See also Ps 89:15, Pv 15:13)
(2D) How does the person praying try to convince God to answer? God has already promised to answer Nm 6:27
(2E) What is the place, not mentioned posture (kneeling, bowing, or what) not mentioned and mode (silent, out loud, written) of the prayer? Aloud - "You shall say to them..." Nm 6:23
(2F) What results, if any, are reported to the prayer? None are reported, but they are promised Nm 6:27
(2G) How can we apply this to our own prayer life?
Since we can count on God to keep his promises, we can confidently pray for anything we find in the Bible that He has promised. There is nothing wrong with using the exact words of prayers that are in the Bible like this one, the Lord's Prayer, and others.

For further thought:

Use the questions t-z below to analyze each of these prayers found in Numbers.

[2h] Numbers 10:35-36

[2i] Numbers 11:11-15

[2j] Numbers 12:13

[2k] Numbers 14:13-19

[2L] Numbers 16:15 & 22

[2m] Numbers 21:7b

[2n] Numbers 27:15-17

- (t) Who is praying?
(u) Who besides God is listening?
(v) What is being requested?
(w) How does the person praying try to convince God to answer?
(x) What is the place, posture and mode of the prayer?
(y) What results, if any, are reported to the prayer?
(z) How can we apply this to our own prayer life?

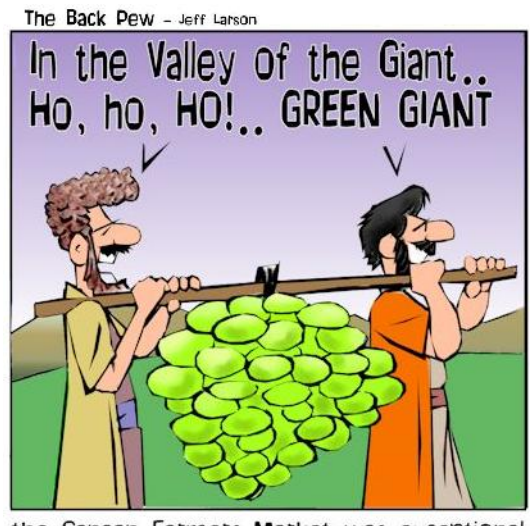
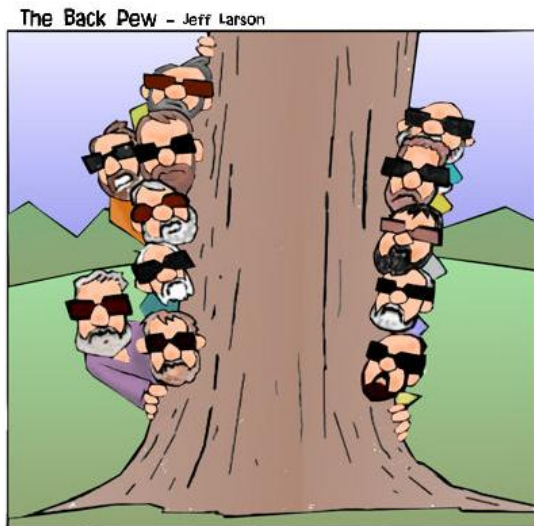
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Lesson 3 – Spies

On the brink of entering the Promised Land and beginning to live in the rewarding life God was offering them, the chosen people rebelled, and snatched defeat from the jaws of victory.

Read Numbers 13:1-33 and answer these five questions:

- (3A) How many spies were sent? _____
- (3B) How many men did it take to carry a cluster of grape, some figs and pomegranates? _____
- (3C) How long were they spying? _____
- (3D) Which of the spies spoke in favor of going up to the land? _____
- (3E) Why did the other spies think attacking was a bad idea? _____



Read Luke 9:1-6 and answer these two questions:

- (3F) How many apostles did Jesus send? _____
- (3G) What were they to do when someone did not receive them? _____

Read Numbers 14:1-25 and answer these three questions:

- (3H) Which spies spoke in favor of going up to the land? _____
- (3I) What was the Lord's initial response to the rebellion of the people? _____

(3J) Who prayed for the people? _____

(3K) Who prayed for the people in Luke 23:34? _____

(3L) In Hebrews 3:7 – 4:13 the writer of Hebrews uses Psalm 95 to make a point. Psalm 95 is talking about Numbers chapters 13 & 14, specifically Numbers 14:23 in my opinion. What is Hebrews talking about?

Think & Pray _____

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 3 – Spies

- (3A) How many spies were sent? Twelve Nm 13:1-16. You can count them or just realize from verse 2 that one was sent from each tribe.
- (3B) How many men did it take to carry a single cluster of grapes along with some figs and pomegranates? Two Nm 13:23
- (3C) How long were they spying? Forty days Nm 13:25
- (3D) Which of the spies spoke in favor of going up to the land? Caleb Nm 13:30
- (3E) Why did the other spies think attacking was a bad idea? Strong people, living in fortified cities of great size, plus there were sons of Anak (giants) there Nm 13:28, 32-33
- (3F) How many apostles did Jesus send? Twelve Lk 9:1-2 They went to the same place as the 12 spies.
- (3G) What were they to do when someone did not receive them? Shake the dust off their feet Lk 9:5
- (3H) Which spies spoke in favor of going up to the land? Caleb and Joshua Nm 14:6-9
- (3I) What was the Lord's initial response to the rebellion of the people?
He said He was going to destroy them and start over with Moses. Nm 14:11-12
- (3J) Who prayed for the people? Moses Nm 14:13-19 (See also James 5:16)
- (3K) Who prayed for the people in Luke 23:34? Jesus
- (3L) Some people take Hebrews to be saying that we better behave ourselves and not rebel against God or He is not going to let us in Heaven. I agree, but I also think it means if we have our hope in Jesus, He will pray for us when we fail. (See Hebrews 3:6 and Hebrews 4:14-16. We should always look at the context.) If we insist on going to Hell, we will have to stomp on the cross to get there.

For further thought:

- [3m] After refusing to obey God, God told them what consequences they had brought on themselves. In Numbers 14:39-45, they tried to escape the consequences by doing what God had told them in the first place, but it did not work. What does this tell us about the importance of timely obedience in our own lives?
- [3n] Caleb and Joshua were under a lot of pressure to conform to their peers point of view. They did not yield. Can you think of a time when you came under this kind of pressure? How did you do?
- [3o] Have you ever been in the position of traveling in a foreign country and having to find your own way about. What does that tell you about what these spies faced on their scouting trip?
- [3p] Have you ever felt urged or led to do something risky for God? Did you step forward into it, or did you decide to remain cautiously out of it? Or something in between? How did it turn out? What would you do differently now and why?

Lesson 4 – The Rebellion of Korah (Context Num 16:1-35)

The Israelites did a lot of complaining and some rebelling during the forty years in the wilderness. This is just one example of a rebellion.

(4A) In Numbers 16:1-3 what does it tell us about the social and political standing of these rebels as they began the rebellion? _____

(4B) In Numbers 16:4-7 how did Moses react when he heard their rebuke of him? _____

(4C) In Numbers 16:23-35 what happened to the rebels? _____

(4D) In Numbers 26:10-11 what happened to Korah's children when Korah rebelled? _____

(4E) Look at the subheadings of these Psalms until you notice a pattern. (Ps 42:1, Ps 44:1, Ps 45:1, Ps 46:1, Ps 47:1, Ps 48:1, Ps 49:1, Ps 84:1, Ps 85:1, Ps 87:1, Ps 88:1) What is the same about all these Psalms? _____

(4F) The rebellion of Korah is mentioned in Jude 1:8-16. What does this tell us about the men who rebelled with Korah? How does this apply to the church today?

Think & Pray _____

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and so God is done talking with Korah.
NU 16:31-32

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 4 – The Rebellion of Korah (Context Num 16:1-35)

(4A) In Numbers 16:1-3 what does it tell us about the social and political standing of these rebels as they began the rebellion? 250 chosen leaders, men of renown, of the tribe of Levi

(4B) In Numbers 16:4-7 how did Moses react when he heard their rebuke of him?

He fell on his face and set it up so that the Lord could settle it the next morning

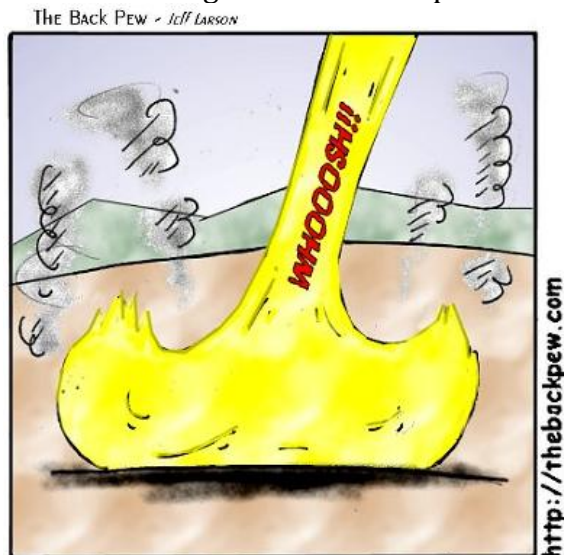
(4C) In Numbers 16:23-35 what happened to the rebels?

Most were swallowed by the earth, & the 250 leaders were consumed by fire from the Lord.

(4D) In Numbers 26:10-11 what happened to Korah's children when Korah rebelled? Nothing

(4E) Look at the subheadings of these Psalms until you notice a pattern. (Ps 42:1, Ps 44:1, Ps 45:1, Ps 46:1, Ps 47:1, Ps 48:1, Ps 49:1, Ps 84:1, Ps 85:1, Ps 87:1, Ps 88:1) What is the same about all these Psalms? They are Psalms of the Sons of Korah (See Ezekiel 18:1-32)

(4F) These were trusted men of Moses' own tribe, who shared leadership with him. Even so, they were focused on themselves and not on God. If you remember in Numbers chapters 1 to 4, God is the one who selected them for leadership. Similarly, it was Jesus Who called Judas to be an apostle. Judas betrayed Him to crucifixion, but where would we be without the crucifixion? God turns everything and everyone to His purpose. (Rom 8:28) God had a reason for these men to be in the position they were in. He used them to separate the sheep from the goats, and purify His chosen people in a way that demonstrated His power. (Rom 9:14-24) As our churches go through times of trouble, we should not be discouraged. There is no panic in heaven, only plans.



Fire came down from the Lord and destroyed 250 men who presented the incense. **Numbers 16:35**

For further thought:

[4g] What does what happened to Korah's children and Ezekiel 18:1-32 tell us about the nature of God?

[4h] What do Romans 8:28 and Romans 9:14-24 have to do with Korah's rebellion?

[4i] Have you ever been in an earthquake? How about some other catastrophic event? What impact did it have on you to live through it? What does that tell you about the people who survived after the rebels were swallowed up by the earth?

[4j] How does the leadership in your church handle conflict? Do you think that is best, or do you have some suggestions for improvement? What is the Biblical basis for your point of view?

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Lesson 5 – The Bronze Snake

As I said before, the Israelites did a lot of complaining and some rebelling during the forty years in the wilderness. This is one more example of a rebellion, but they seem to be beginning to learn their lesson.

Read Numbers 21:4-9 and answer the following six questions:

(5A) Why did the people become impatient? _____

(5B) What were their specific complaints? _____

(5C) Who sent fiery serpents to punish the people? _____

(5D) How did the people respond to being punished? _____

(5E) What did God tell Moses to do? _____

(5F) What happened when people who had been bitten looked at the image? _____

Please read John 3:1-21 and answer these five questions:

(5G) What is necessary to see the Kingdom of God? _____

(5H) What is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God? _____

(5I) What is the same about the serpent in the wilderness and the Son of Man? _____

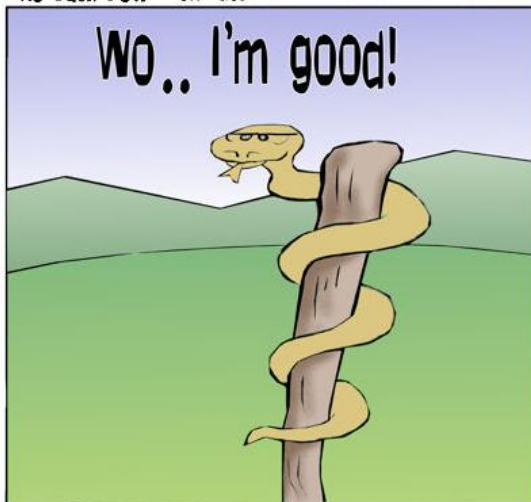
(5J) Why did God send His son? _____

(5K) Who hates the light? _____

(5L) Jesus alludes to a story in Numbers in John 3:14 just two verses before the John 3:16, the verse we are all so fond of quoting. Why did Jesus point to that particular story? Why do we hear so much of John 3:16 and so little of John 3:14? What has Numbers 21:4-9 to do with John 3:1-21?

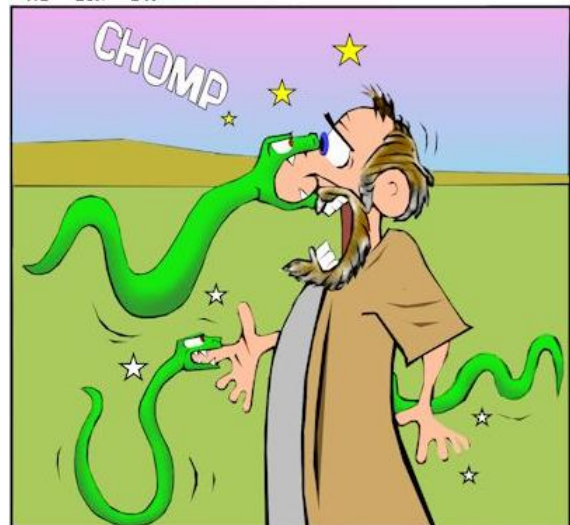
Think & Pray _____

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THE FIRST SNAKE HANDLER'S CHURCH OF THE WILDERNESS? NOT!
The Lord said to Moses, make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Anyone who looks at it will live!
Numbers 21:8

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



The complaining Jews were literally **SNAKE BIT**. **Nu 21:6**.. and the first Snake Handler Church of the Old Testament is inspired.

Lesson 5 – The Bronze Snake

- (5A) Why did the people become impatient? "because of the journey" Nm 21:4
- (5B) What were their specific complaints? They did not like the food Nm 21:5 God was providing for them, but they thought they deserved better.
- (5C) Who sent fiery serpents to punish the people? The Lord Nm 21:6
- (5D) How did the people respond to being punished?
They repented and asked Moses to pray for them Nm 21:7
- (5E) What did God tell Moses to do? God told Moses to make an image of a serpent and put it on a tall pole so people could see it. Nm 21:8 This seems bizarre, but Jesus tells us how it makes sense.
- (5F) What happened when people who had been bitten looked at the image? They lived Nm 21:9
- (5G) What is necessary to see the Kingdom of God? You must be born again. Jn 3:3
- (5H) What is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God? You must be born of water and the Spirit Jn 3:5
- (5I) What is the same about the serpent in the wilderness and the Son of Man?
They must both be lifted up to give life to people Jn 3:14
- (5J) Why did God send His son? Love Jn 3:16
- (5K) Who hates the light? Those who do evil Jn 3:20

(5L) Jesus does not explicitly explain why He chose this story from Numbers as a illustration of His coming crucifixion. There are similarities, but also differences. Of course, no symbol can agree in all particulars or else it ceases being a symbol and becomes the thing itself. Both He and the bronze serpent would be lifted up for all to see, but the serpent was evil and Jesus was good. However, Colossians 2:14 tells us that it was sin that was nailed to the cross. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." That is what sin looks like in its raw form -- an innocent man being tortured to death. We were bitten by sin and dying, we looked at Jesus Christ on the cross and understood the cost of our salvation.

For further thought:

- [5m] In Numbers 21:7 the people repented of their sinfulness and begged Moses to intercede for them with God. Some would say that since Jesus referred to this Numbers story in John 3:14 that what He was trying to get across is that we need to repent of our sins and ask Him to intercede with the Father to forgive our sins. What do you think about this idea and why?
- [5n] Read 2 Kings 18:4. What does this add to our understanding of this passage in Numbers?
- [5o] The fiery serpents were in response to the rebellion and grumbling of the Israelites. Do you grumble and complain about your church leadership? How does God deal with you when you do that?
- [5p] Who are you most like in these stories? Moses, the Israelites, Nicodemus, Jesus, or the serpents? Of course, we all want to be like Jesus, but are we?
- [5q] Are you content with your circumstances or do you think you deserve better? You may be thinking there is a third choice here. You may think that it is possible to be discontented without believing you deserve better. How could that be possible? (Philippians 4:11)

Lesson 6 – Balaam (Context: Numbers 22, 23, 24 & 31)

Starting in the south the chosen people began a series of battles to enter the land. After some victories King Balak of Moab fears the Israelites and tries to hire Balaam to curse them. Balaam seeks God's will and refuses at first even to meet the King. Finally God gives him permission to go see the King but only if Balaam speaks God's words and not others. On the way to see the King God shows Balaam how easy it would be to destroy him, if he disobeys. King Balak tries to get Balaam to curse the Israelites three times, but each time Balak blesses them instead. We find out later in Numbers 31:16, that although Balaam did not curse the Israelites, he gave advice on how they might be tricked into bring a curse on themselves. In the end Balaam is killed by the Israelites. (Numbers 31:8)

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



"Ok .. ENOUGH! Whacking me on the head is not helping. Where I once saw ONE angel in my path.. now I see TWO!" Numbers 22:21-35

Read Numbers 22:22-35 and answer these four questions:

- (6A) What did the angel have in his hand? _____
- (6B) What did the donkey do that saved Balaam's life? _____
- (6C) What argument did the donkey make that Balaam should have known what was going on?

- (6D) How was Balaam able to finally see the angel?. _____

Read Numbers 24:1-14 and answer these four questions:

- (6E) What came upon Balaam that he might speak the words of God? _____
- (6F) What did Balaam say happens to those who bless God's people? _____
- (6G) What did Balaam say happens to those who curse God's people? _____
- (6H) How many times did Balaam bless the Chosen people? _____

(6I) Balaam was not a part of the Chosen People. We find out in Numbers 31:16 that he was not even a righteous man. How is it that he was a prophet who spoke for God? (Hints: John 11:47-53)

Think & Pray _____

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 6 – Balaam (Context: Numbers 22, 23, 24 & 31)

- (6A) What did the angel have in his hand? A drawn sword Nm 22:23&31
- (6B) What did the donkey do that saved Balaam's life? Avoided the angel Nm 22:23, 25 & 27
- (6C) What argument did the donkey make that Balaam should have known what was going on?
The donkey had never acted that way before Nm 22:30
- (6D) How was Balaam able to finally see the angel? The Lord opened his eyes Nm 22:31
- (6E) What came upon Balaam that he might speak the words of God? The Spirit of God Nm 24:2
- (6F) What did Balaam say happens to those who bless God's people?
They would be blessed Nm 24:9
- (6G) What did Balaam say happens to those who curse God's people?
They would be cursed Nm 24:9
- (6H) How many times did Balaam bless the Chosen people? Three times Nm 24:10
- (6I) You don't have to be a man of God to speak His words. In John 11:47-53 we find the high priest saying it is fitting for one man to die for the people. John 11:51 "Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation." Of course, what the high priest said was not what he meant. He was justifying the murder of Jesus to keep his position of power. He was an Edomite and probably did not care about the people at all. God can use anyone and anything to speak, even a donkey. (See also Luke 19:39-40 and Philippians 1:15-18)

For further thought:

- [6j] In Numbers 22:20 God gives Balaam permission to go, but in Numbers 22:22 God is angry because Balaam is going. How can we explain that? (Hint: Numbers 31:16)
- [6k] Balaam's donkey saved him from the angel three times, and Balaam refused to curse the Israelites three times. Is that significant? Why?
- [6L] When the donkey speaks, Balaam does not even act surprised. He just begins having a conversation with the donkey. How can we explain Balaam's casualness?
- [6m] Has God ever spoken in a miraculous way to you or through you? Explain?
- [6n] Compare Num 31:16 with Revelation 2:14. What did you learn?
- [6o] Does Philippians 1:15-18 confirm or deny my contention that God can use anyone to preach His word? Why?
- [6p] Read their context and discuss these verses: Nehemiah 13:2; Micah 6:5, and 2nd Peter 2:15.
- [6q] Compare Genesis 12:3 with Numbers 24:9.

Lesson 7 – God's Promise

Please read Numbers 23:19

(7A) Who is speaking to whom? _____

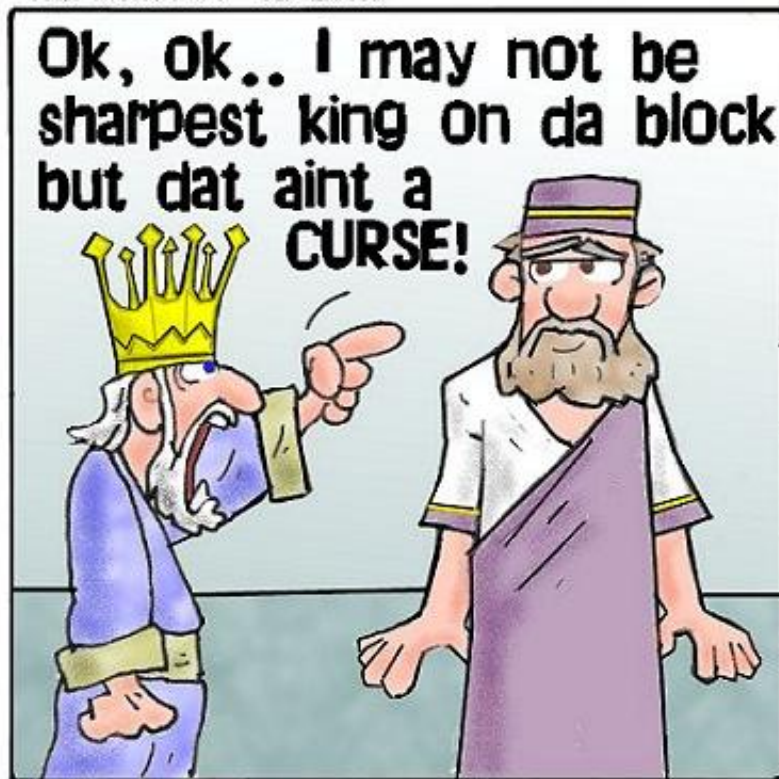
(7B) What is promised to whom? _____

(7C) What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any? _____

(7D) Does this promise apply to us? Why or why not?

Think & Pray _____

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Numbers 23, 24 – Balak hires Balaam to curse the Jews, but instead three times he blesses them.

Lesson 7 – God's Promise

- (7A) Who is speaking to whom? Balaam is speaking with Balak, the king of the Moabites.
- (7B) What is promised to whom? The statement is made that God does not break his promises.
- (7C) What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any? It is based on God's character.
- (7D) Does this promise apply to us? Why or why not? God is reliable. Everyone can count on that.

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Numbers - A 9 day journey that took 38 years. Moses driving the family wagon with the 'children' of Israel doing what kids do on a long trip. wiggle & whine!

For further thought:

- [7e] In Numbers 11:23 who promises what to whom under what conditions, and is this a promise to us?
- [7f] In Numbers 14:17 who promises what to whom under what conditions, and is this a promise to us?
- [7g] In Numbers 15:41 who promises what to whom under what conditions, and is this a promise to us?
- [7h] In Numbers 6:27 who promises what to whom under what conditions, and is this a promise to us?

Lesson 8 - Praying the Scripture & Conclusion

(8A) Pick out a scripture from Numbers and reword it into a prayer. Add a New Testament passage if you like. Passage Reference(s): _____

Your Prayer: _____

You may or may not want to share your prayer with the group. What we did with Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-15 is on the back of this sheet.

(8B) What did you learn from this course that you hope you will remember?

Think & Pray _____

(8C) Is there a verse or passage from the book of Numbers that you might want to memorize?

(8D) If someone asked you what the book of Numbers is about, what would you say?

Lesson 8 - Praying the Scripture & Conclusion

(8A)

| | |
|---|--|
| Numbers 21:4 the people became impatient because of the journey. | Father in Heaven, I have become impatient in my Christian walk. Help me to remember we are here for only a moment, visitors and strangers on a journey. Forgive my impatience & help me to have self control. |
| 5 The people spoke against God and Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this miserable food." | Lord, you know how many times I have complained, yet I have so much more than most of the world. Forgive my whiney attitude. Help me to be content with what I have. |
| 6 The Lord sent fiery serpents among the people and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. | Thank you for those things that you send to my life that open my eyes to my sins. |
| 7 So the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the Lord and you; intercede with the Lord, that He may remove the serpents from us." And Moses interceded for the people. | Each time I complain, whether it be about what I have to eat, what I have to wear, or who has authority over me in, I have sinned against You. Thank you that Jesus is at the right hand of God, and is interceding for me. |
| 8 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a standard; and it shall come about, that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, he will live." | Thank you that we have examples in the scriptures that we might learn from them. |
| 9 Moses made a bronze serpent & set it on the standard; & it came about, that if a serpent bit any man, when he looked to the bronze serpent, he lived. | Lord, we have all been bitten by the serpent of sin. Thank you for a way of escape. |
| John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, | I praise you that there is healing from the vicious bite of the serpent. That Jesus was lifted up on the cross. That I look to Him and believe. Thank you for eternal life. Thank you that the God of peace will soon crush Satan under our feet |
| John 3:15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. | |

(8B) I hope I remember not to grumble, gripe, and complain. I hope I remember to rejoice and be contented. It is the only sane way to get through this wilderness world where we wander.

(8C) I like Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace." It makes a great benediction at the end of a service or class.

(8D) Romans 11:22 "Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness..." pretty much sums up the message of Numbers. The first 19 chapters of Numbers talk about the experiences of the first generation and the rest talk about the new generation who actually enter the Promised Land.

For further thought:

(8e) Balaam used a Tree as a symbol of the nation of Israel in Numbers 24:6. Compare this with Luke 13:6. What did you learn? See also Psalm 1, Jeremiah 17:8, Daniel 4:10, and Isaiah 56:3.

(8f) Moses uses the Rock as a messianic image, a type of Christ, in Numbers 20:8. Compare this with Matthew 16:18 and John 4:13-14. Are they all about the same thing? See also Isaiah 32:2.