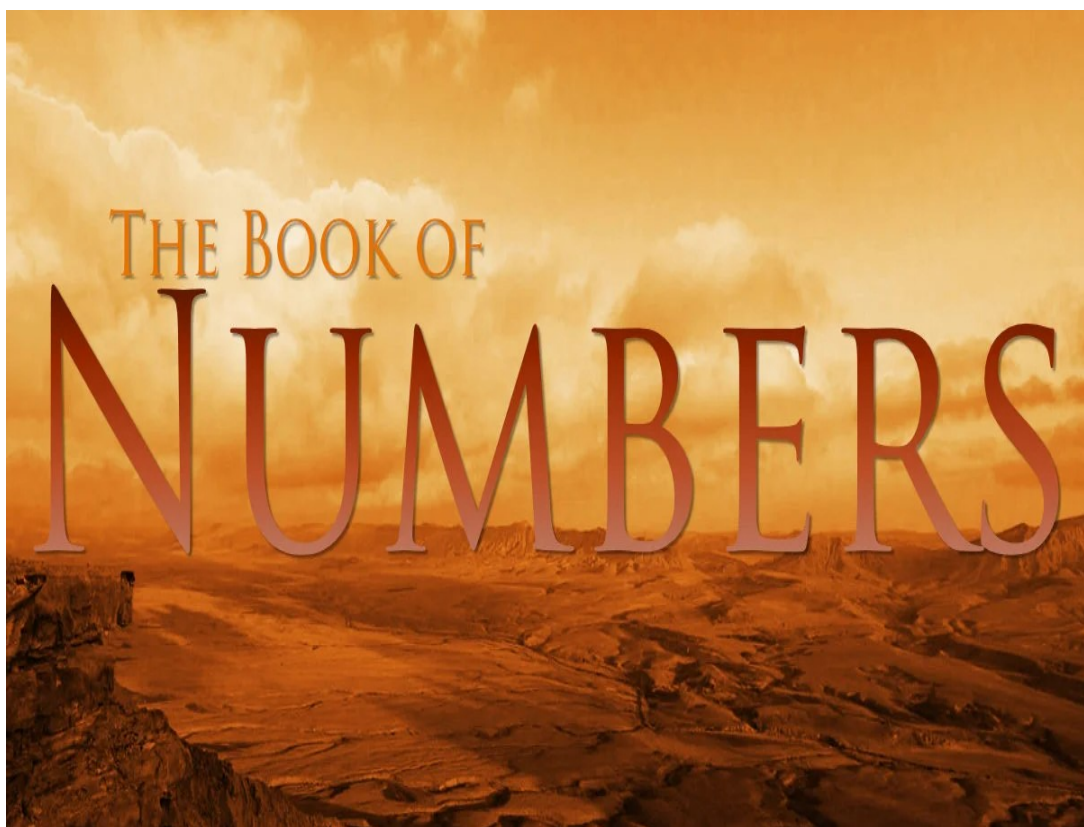


# Let's Worship God

4th - 9th September 2023  
Numbers



# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## **Monday - Numbers 24:15-25 - The Future**

The office of prophet was both to bless and to prophesy in the name of the Lord. Balaam, as a prophet, has blessed Israel; here he foretells future events. God permits and directs him, so whatever kind of person Balaam is, the prophecy itself is a true prophecy. A man may be full of the knowledge of God and yet utterly lacking in the grace of God. Balaam calls God the Most High, and the Almighty; no man could speak more honourably of Him, and yet he has no true fear of God, love for God, or faith in God.

Balaam prophesies concerning him that will be the crown and glory of his people Israel. This refers to David, who not now, not quickly, but in time, will crush the corners of Moab and under whom the forces of Israel shall do valiantly. But, this prophecy mainly refers to our Lord Jesus, the promised Messiah. He shall come out of Jacob, and Israel, as a star and a sceptre, the star symbolising His glory, and the sceptre His power and authority; it is He that shall have dominion. Perhaps this prophecy of Balaam (one of the children of the east) concerning a star that will arise out of Jacob, showing a sceptre arising in Israel, gave the wise men, who were of the east too, upon the sight of an unusual star over the land of Judea, reason to ask for Him that was born king of the Jews. Christ's kingdom shall be universal, and victorious over all opposition. Christ shall be king, not only of Jacob and Israel, but of all the world. His Israel shall do valiantly; the people of Christ, enabled by His strength, shall fight a spiritual war with the powers of darkness, and be more than conquerors. This is a prophecy that looks as far forward as the Greeks and Romans, for that is what is meant by the ships from Kittim. Balaam, instead of cursing the church, curses Amalek the first, and Rome the last, enemy of the church.

## **Question**

1. To whom does Balaam's prophecy refer?
2. Who is in control of the rise and fall of kingdoms?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 149 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

## **Tuesday - Numbers 25:1-5 - Temptation**

In this chapter we have the sin of Israel, to which they are tempted by the daughters of Moab and Midian; they are guilty both of physical and spiritual adultery. Balak, by the advice of Balaam, throws this stumbling-block before the children of Israel, Rev. 2:14. Those are our worst enemies that tempt us to sin, for that is the greatest hurt any man can do to us. If Balak had brought out his armed men against them to fight them, Israel would have bravely resisted, and no doubt been more than conquerors; but now that he sends his beautiful women among them, and invites them to his idolatrous feasts, the Israelites give in, and are shamefully overcome. We are in more danger from the charms of a smiling world than from the terrors of a frowning world. The Israelites first defile their consciences, by committing sin with the women, and then are easily drawn, in contempt of the God of Israel, to bow down to their idols. It aggravates the sin that Israel stays in Shittim, when they have the land of Canaan in view, and are just ready to enter and take possession of it. It is the highest degree of treachery and ingratitude to be false to their God, whom they have found so faithful to them, and to eat of idol sacrifices when they are on the verge of inheriting the Promised Land and all the blessings that go with it.

Israel's harlotry does that which all Balaam's enchantments can't do, it sets God against them. A plague immediately breaks out, (v 8-9). Epidemical diseases are the fruits of God's anger, and the just punishments of epidemical sins. The ringleaders are ordered to be put to death, which will be the only way to stop the plague. The Israelites, seeing their leaders and princes so severely punished for their idolatry, would have a sense of the evil of the sin and the terror of God's wrath against them.

## **Questions**

1. How are the people tempted to sin?
2. What happens to the ringleader?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that you would withstand temptation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 150 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF

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## **Wednesday - Numbers 25:6-15 - Godly Zeal**

Never was sin more bold than it was in Zimri, a prince of a chief house in the tribe of Simeon. He isn't content with going with his harlot to worship the gods of Moab, but, when he has done that, he brings her with him to dishonour the God of Israel. It is an insult and a rebellion against the justice of the nation. The judges have been ordered to put the criminals to death, but he thinks himself too important for them to meddle with, and, in effect, dares them to do anything to him.

Never was righteousness more bold than it was in Phinehas. It is not at all difficult to justify Phinehas in what he did; for, being the heir-apparent to the high-priesthood, no doubt he is one of those judges of Israel whom Moses has ordered, by God's command, to kill all those whom they know to have joined themselves to Baal-peor. Two ways God shows His acceptance of the Godly zeal of Phinehas:—1. He immediately puts a stop to the plague. If magistrates do not take care to punish sin, God will; but their justice will be the best prevention of His judgment. 2. He honours Phinehas. Though Phinehas does no more than it is his duty to do as a judge, yet because he does it with extraordinary zeal against sin, and for the honour of God and Israel, and does it when the other judges, out of respect to Zimri's status as a prince, are afraid, and don't do it, therefore God is particularly well pleased with him. The covenant of peace seems to refer to the covenant of priesthood, for that is called the covenant of life and peace (Mal. 2:5), and is made for the preservation of peace between God and his people. By executing justice Phinehas has made an atonement for the children of Israel (v. 13), and therefore he and his shall henceforward be employed in making atonement by sacrifice.

## **Question**

1. What did Zimri do?
2. How was Phinehas blessed?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the minister and elders.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 1 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## **Thursday - Numbers 25:16-26:4 - Orders for Punishment and Numbering**

God has punished the Israelites for their sin with a plague; as a Father He corrects His own children. But we don't read that any of the Midianites die of the plague; God takes another way with them, and punishes them with the sword of an enemy, not with the rod of a father. Moses is ordered to fight the Midianites v. 17. We must set ourselves against that, whatever it is, which is causes us to sin, even if it is a right eye or a right hand, Matt. 5:29, 30. The reason given for this revenge is because they have tempted the Israelites to sin, v. 18. The mischief which the Midianites did to Israel by enticing them to sin must be remembered and punished with as much severity as that which the Amalekites did in fighting with them when they came out of Egypt, Exod. 17:14. God will certainly reckon with those that do the devil's work in tempting men to sin.

Moses only numbers the people when God commands him. David in his time does it without a command, and pays dearly for it. God is Israel's king, and He will not have this act of authority done but by His express orders. Eleazar is joined in this task with him, as Aaron had been before, by which God honours Eleazar before the elders of his people, and confirms his succession. It is after the plague that this account is ordered to be taken, to show that though God has in justice punished them by that sweeping pestilence, yet He has not made a full end of them, nor will He utterly cast them off. God's Israel shall not be ruined, though it is severely rebuked. They are now to follow the same rule that they had gone by in the numbering before, counting only those that are able to go out to war, for this is the job now before them.

## **Questions**

1. What does God tell Moses to do?
2. How should we view sin?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks that God has provided forgiveness for sin.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 2 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## Friday - Numbers 26:5-51 - Sons of Korah

As we compare these numbers with those when they were numbered at Mount Sinai, we learn several things. The sum total is nearly the same; they are now 1,820 fewer than they were then; yet seven of the tribes have increased in number - Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Manasseh, Benjamin, Dan, and Asher. But the other five have decreased - Reuben, Simeon, Gad, Ephraim, and Naphtali. None of the tribes have increased so much as that of Manasseh, which in the first account is the smallest of all the tribes, while here it is one of the largest. None of the tribes decreased so much as Simeon did; from 59,300, it went to 22,200, little more than a third of what it was. Simeon is not mentioned in Moses' blessing, and the lot of that tribe in Canaan is quite small, only a part out of Judah's lot. Some conjecture that most of those 24,000 who were cut off by the plague for the sin of Peor are of that tribe; for Zimri, a ringleader, was a prince of that tribe.

In the account of the tribe of Reuben mention is made of the rebellion of Dathan and Abiram, who are of that tribe, together with Korah a Levite. Dathan and Abiram are a warning to all others, in all ages, to take heed of treading in the steps of their pride and rebellion. The children of Korah do not die, as the children of Dathan and Abiram did, doubtless because they would not join, even with their own father, in rebellion. If we don't partake of the sins of sinners, we shall not partake of their plagues. These sons of Korah are afterwards employed by David as singers in the house of the Lord; many psalms are said to be for the sons of Korah: and perhaps they are made to bear his name for so long, rather than the name of any other of their ancestors, as a warning to themselves, and as an instance of the power of God, which brings fruit even out of bitter roots.

## Question

1. Which tribe decreased?
2. What role do the children of Korah have later?

## Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God can bring fruit out of anything and anyone.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## Memory Verse

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 3 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

## **Saturday - Numbers 26:52-65 - God Keeps His Promises**

When Moses has numbered the people God does not say, 'By these shall the land be conquered;' but, taking that for granted, He tells him, 'Among these the land shall be divided.' The general rule is here given to Moses, that to many he should give more, and to few he should give less. The application of this general rule is to be determined by lot; they must all submit to the providence of God shown in the lot, however much it goes against their desires.

Levi is God's tribe, a tribe that is to have no inheritance with the rest in the land of Canaan, and therefore is not numbered with the rest, but by itself; so it has been numbered in the beginning of this book at Mount Sinai. This tribe, now at its second numbering, has increased only by 1,000 and is still one of the smallest tribes. Mention is made here of the death of Nadab and Abihu for offering strange fire, as before the sin and punishment of Korah was mentioned, because these things are meant to be examples.

God declares that, because of their refusal to enter the land, not one of those who were numbered from twenty years old and upwards should enter Canaan, except Caleb and Joshua. Here we see the righteousness of God, and His faithfulness to do what He says He will do. Those whom God has condemned cannot escape. We also see the goodness of God to this people. Though so many had died, yet God raised up another generation, which was as numerous as they, that the name of Israel might not be cut off. We also see the truth of God, in performing his promise made to Caleb and Joshua. The arrows of death, though they fly in the dark, do not fly at random, even when they fly thickest, but are directed to the mark intended, and no other.

## **Question**

1. Why is Levi not numbered with the people?
2. What promise did God give Joshua and Caleb?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Psalm 90:13

**Praise: Psalm 4 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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If you have any queries please contact - [rpchurchscotland@gmail.com](mailto:rpchurchscotland@gmail.com)