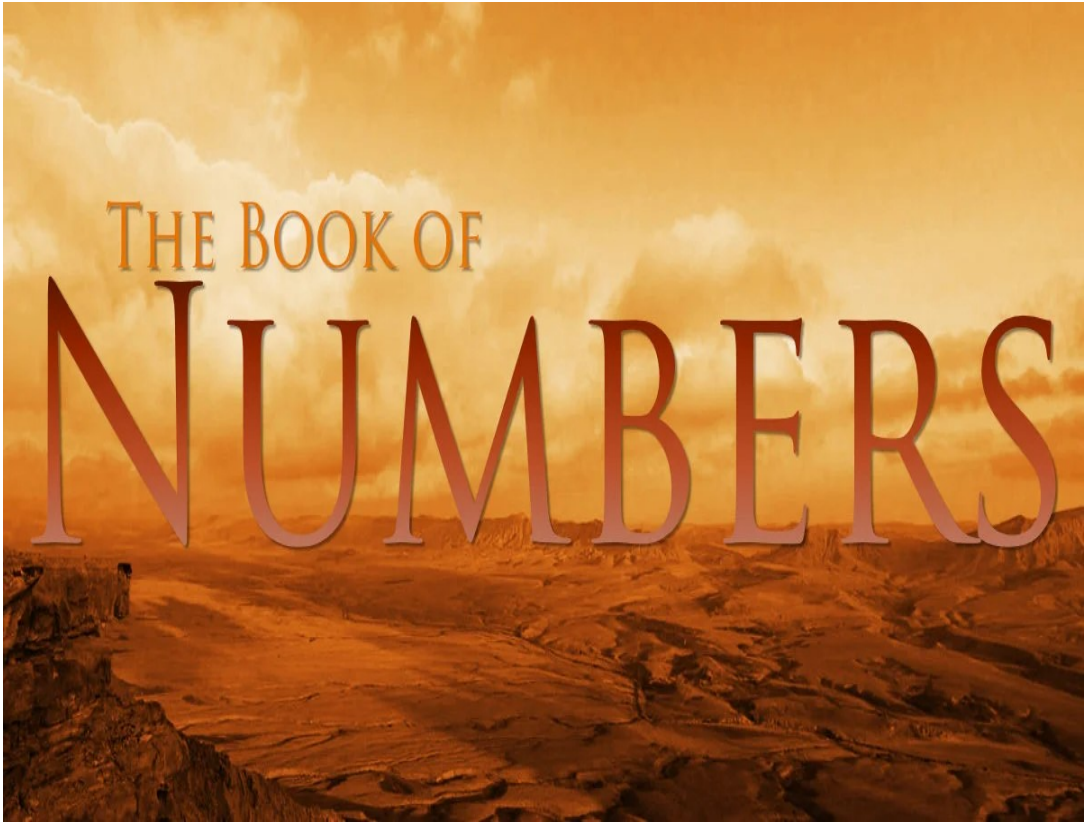


Let's Worship God

3rd-8th July 2023
Numbers

THE BOOK OF

NUMBERS



THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Monday - Numbers 8:1-4 - The Lamps

Directions are given long before this for the making of the golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31), and it is made according to the pattern shown to Moses, Ex. 38:17. But now it is time for the lamps to be lit. Aaron lights the lamps. As the people's representative to God, he does the job of a servant in God's house, lighting His Master's candle.

The Word of God is a lamp, Prov. 6:23. The Scripture is a light shining in a dark place, 2 Pet. 1:19. And a dark place indeed the church would be without it, as the tabernacle (which has no window in it) without the lamps. Now the work of ministers is to light these lamps, by expounding and applying the Word of God.

The priest lights the middle lamp from the fire of the altar, and the rest of the lamps he lights one from another, which shows that the fountain of all light and knowledge is in Christ, but that in the expounding of Scripture one passage must borrow light from another. Seven, being a number of perfection, by the seven lamps is shown the full perfection of the Scriptures, which are able to make us wise to salvation.

The lamps are lit to give light to that part of the tabernacle where the table stands, with the show-bread upon it. They are not lit to burn themselves, but to give light to the other side of the tabernacle. The light of the church, must shine as light. The Word of God is not meant to be hid or kept to ourselves. We have light, that we may give light.

Question

1. Who lit the lamps?
2. What was the purpose of the lamps?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would give light to others.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 115 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Tuesday - Numbers 8:5-26 - Set Apart

The great trouble the Levites are to take to make themselves clean teaches all Christians, and ministers particularly, by repentance, to cleanse themselves from all filthiness of body and spirit, that they may be holy. Moses must sprinkle the water of purifying upon them. This signifies the application of the blood of Christ to our souls by faith, to purify us from an evil conscience, that we may be fit to serve the living God.

Sacrifices are to be offered for the Levites. We are all utterly unworthy and unfit to be admitted into and employed in the service of God, till atonement is made for sin, and thereby our peace made with God. It is by sacrifice, by Christ the great sacrifice, that we are reconciled to God, and made fit to be offered to Him. In calling the Levites wave-offerings it reminds them that they must continually lift up themselves towards God in His service, lift up their eyes, lift up their hearts, and must move to and fro with readiness in their service.

All that expect to share in the privileges of the tabernacle must resolve to do the service of the tabernacle. As on the one hand, none of God's creatures are His necessary servants (He doesn't need anyone's help), so, on the other hand, none are taken merely as honorary servants, to do nothing. All whom God owns He employs; angels themselves have their work. Aaron offers the Levites to God (v. 11), and then God gives them back to Aaron. Whatever we give up to God, He will give back to us unspeakably to our advantage. Our hearts, our children, our things, are never more ours, more truly, more comfortably ours, than when we have offered them up to God.

Questions

1. Why did sacrifices have to be offered for the Levites?
2. Whom were the Levites to help?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for faithfulness in doing God's work.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 116 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Numbers 9:1-14 - Passover

The Israelites keep the Passover even in the wilderness. Even if our circumstances are unsettled, yet we must keep up our relationship with God, using the opportunities He gives us in worship, His Word, and prayer.

Those whose minds and consciences are defiled by sin are utterly unfit for communion with God, and cannot partake, with any true comfort, of the gospel passover, till they are cleansed by true repentance and faith. But in the case of the men in these verses, their uncleanness is not through any sin on their part. So, they ask Moses for advice. Notice how unhappy these men are that they cannot celebrate the Passover. It should trouble us when for any reason we are kept back from worshipping God, and like these men we should not rest till we set it right. In difficult cases we should take time, like Moses, to spread the matter before God by humble believing prayer, and we have reason to hope that the Spirit, who is promised to lead us into all truth, will enable us to see the good and right way. We see from God's response that there may be reasons for putting off doing something for a time, but that does not justify us to neglect it and not do it at all. When a person is perfectly capable of eating the passover at the appointed time, if he neglects it then, he abuses God's kindness, and he shall certainly bear his sin, and be cut off from his people. In the same way, those who out of necessity or mercy are forced to be absent from worship may comfortably expect the favour of God's grace to them, but those who choose to absent themselves from worship for no good reason may justly expect God's wrath for their sin. Finally, we see that the kind admission of those that are not native Israelites to eat the passover is an sign of the future grace for the Gentiles in Christ.

Question

1. What happened to those who were unclean at the time of the Passover?
2. Who was allowed to take the Passover with the Israelites?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for those that are housebound and unable to attend worship.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 117 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE BOOK OF

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Thursday - Numbers 9:15-23 - The Cloud and Fire

What appears as a cloud by day is a fire all night. If it was only a cloud, you couldn't see it at night; and, if it was only a fire, it would have been hard to see during the day; but God demonstrates by the cloud and fire how He is constantly with them and cares for them night and day. It teaches us to set God always before us, and to see Him near us both night and day.

As long as the cloud rests upon the tabernacle, they stay in the same place, and never stir; though no doubt they want to be pressing forward in their journey towards Canaan. There is no time lost while we are waiting God's time. It is as much obedience to the will of God to sit still contentedly when our lot requires it as to work for Him when we are called to it. When the cloud is taken up, they move, no matter how comfortably they are camped. Whether it moves by day or night, they are not to delay, and probably there are some appointed to stand guard day and night within sight of it, to give notice to the camp of its beginning to stir. The people, being kept at a constant uncertainty, and having no time fixed for stopping or moving, have to hold themselves in constant readiness to march upon very short warning. And for the same reason we are kept in uncertainty concerning the time of our death, that we may be always ready to move at the commandment of the Lord. As long and as far as the cloud moves, so long and so far they march, and just where it stops they pitch their tents about it, and God's tent under it. It is uncomfortable staying when God has departed, but very safe and pleasant going when we see God go before us and resting where He appoints us to rest. Nothing could be more expressive of God's tenderness for Israel than the guidance of this cloud, and today God promises to guide us by His Word and His Spirit.

Questions

1. What is the point of the pillar of cloud?
2. How does God promise to guide us today?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's Word.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 118 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Friday - Numbers 10:1-10 - The Trumpets

The priests themselves, the sons of Aaron, are to blow the trumpets. As great as they are, they must not think it beneath them to be trumpeters in the house of God; the smallest job there is honourable. The Lord's ministers should lift up their voice like a trumpet, to show people their sins and to call them to Christ. Trumpets are blown for the calling of assemblies. Public notice ought to be given of the time and place of worship. But trumpets are also blown, if only the princes and elders are to meet, and if the camp is to move out. When the trumpets are blown for the camp to move, they must sound an alarm, a broken, quavering, interrupted sound, which will excite and encourage the minds of people in their marches against their enemies. In this way, the priests, who are God's mouth to the people, give not only the divine orders to move, but the divine blessing upon them in all their journeying.

Trumpets are blown for the encouraging of their armies, when they go out in battle. God will take notice of this sound of the trumpet, and will fight their battles. Not that God needs to be woke by the sound of a trumpet any more than Christ needed to be woke by His disciples in the storm. But where He intends to show mercy it is His will that we should ask for it. Ministers must stir up the good soldiers of Jesus Christ to fight manfully against sin, the world, and the devil, by assuring them that Christ is the captain of their salvation, and will tread Satan under their feet.

Trumpets are blown for their sacred feasts. One of their feasts is called a memorial of the blowing of trumpets, Lev. 23:23. They show with what joy and delight they perform their duty to God. Holy work should be done with holy joy.

Question

1. Who are to blow the trumpets?
2. What are some of the reasons that trumpets are to be blown?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would be a good soldier of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 1 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Saturday - Numbers 10:11-28 - Moving Out

In these verses is a general account of the removal of the camp of Israel from Mount Sinai, before which mountain they have camped about a year. The cloud is taken up, and probably stands for some time, till they are ready to march; and a great deal of work it is to take down all those tents, and pack up all those goods that they have there; but many hands make quick work of it. They take their journey according to the commandment of the Lord, and just as the cloud leads them. In every stage, in every step, they are under divine direction; and, if they don't know where they are, He that leads them knows. Those that give themselves to the direction of God's Word and Spirit steer a steady course, even when they seem to be bewildered. While they are sure they cannot lose their God and guide, they need not fear losing their way. They go out of the wilderness of Sinai, and rest in the wilderness of Paran. All our moves in this world are but from one wilderness to another. The changes which we think will be for the better do not always prove so; while we carry about with us, wherever we go, the sin and weakness of human nature, we must expect, wherever we go, to meet with its common problems; we shall never be at rest, never at home, till we come to heaven, and all will be well there.

Judah's squadron marches first. Then comes those two families of the Levites which are entrusted to carry the tabernacle. As soon as the cloud is taken up, the tabernacle is taken down, and packed up for moving. Reuben's squadron marches forward next. Then the Kohathites follow with the sacred furniture of the tabernacle, in the midst of the camp, the safest and most honourable place. Ephraim's squadron follows next after the ark. Dan's squadron follows last.

Question

1. Who guides the people where they are to go?
2. Which tribe leads the way?

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

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. Psalm 90:4

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 2 - See 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