

# Let's Worship God

24th-29th July 2023  
Numbers



THE BOOK OF

NUMBERS

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## **Monday - Numbers 14:1-4 - Go Back To Egypt**

The people listen to the report of the spies rather than to the Word of God, and imagining their situation to be desperate, lose their temper. Time enough to cry if the enemy had beaten them, and they had seen the sons of Anak at the gate of their camp; but to cry now, when nothing has hurt them, is foolish. Unbelief, or distrust of God, is a sin that is its own punishment. Those that do not trust God are continually upsetting themselves.

Despite all that God has done for them, all the care they have received, the people wish they had died in Egypt. They would even rather die as criminals under God's justice than be conquerors in this land. They look forward with a groundless despair, taking it for granted that if they go on they will fall by the sword. They are, in effect, charging God, who is love itself, with the worst of malice and hypocrisy, suggesting that all the kind things He has said to them, and done for them, up till now, are intended only to decoy them into a trap and destroy them. The devil is always trying to get us to think bad of God, as if He desires the death of sinners, and delights in the hardships and sufferings of his own servants.

It is incredibly foolish of the people to even think of returning to Egypt. How quickly (not even a year and a half) have they forgotten all their misery! Can they expect that God's cloud will lead them or His manna feed them? Even if the difficulties of conquering Canaan are as great as they imagine, those of returning to Egypt are much greater. Instead of always expecting things to be better somewhere else, we need to learn to be content in the place God has put us. Heaven is the Canaan set before us, a land flowing with milk and honey. It is promised to us, and our response is to be obedient and not turn back to the Egypt of our past.

### **Question**

1. What do the people wish had happened to them?
2. What do the people decide to do?

### **Prayer Points**

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

### **Memory Verse**

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise: Psalm 119:Part 16 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

## **Tuesday - Numbers 14:5-10 - Arguing Against The People**

Moses and Aaron bravely overlook the insult done them, and prove to be faithful friends to those who are outrageous enemies to them. They fall down as men astonished and even thunder-struck, amazed to see a people throw away their own mercies. Earnestly they beseech the people to stop rebelling and to be reconciled to God. Those that are true friends to others will stoop to anything for their salvation.

Caleb and Joshua do their part: they tear their clothes in holy indignation at the sin of the people, and a holy dread of the wrath of God, which they see ready to break out against them. They assure them of the goodness of the land they have surveyed, and that it is really worth having. If we are thoroughly convinced of the desirableness of our faith, we won't be put off by the struggle that goes with it. Caleb and Joshua show that, whatever is suggested to the contrary, the advantage is clearly on Israel's side. God has abandoned the Canaanites and will not be a protection to them. Even though the children of Israel live in tents, the Lord is with them, and they have nothing to fear. When we have the presence of God with us, we need not fear the most powerful force against us. Joshua and Caleb show the people that the greatest danger they are in is from their own grumbling, and they will succeed against all their enemies if they do not make God their enemy. But the people are deaf to this reasoning - it only exasperates them. It is common for those whose hearts are set to do evil to rage at those who give them good advice. Caleb and Joshua know they stand for God and His glory, and even the murderous wrath of the people does not shake them. Those who faithfully show themselves on God's side are sure to be taken under His special protection.

### **Questions**

1. How do Moses and Aaron react?
2. What do Joshua and Caleb tell the people?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that you would have the courage to stand on the Lord's side.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise:** Psalm 119:Part 17 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.

# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## **Wednesday - Numbers 14:11-19 - Moses Intercedes**

Two things God justly complains of to Moses:—(1.) Their sin. They reject, reproach, and despise Him, for they will not believe Him. Distrust of God, of His power and promise, is itself a very great sin, and at the bottom of many other sins. (2.) Their continuing in it. The God of heaven keeps an account how long sinners persist in their sin; and the longer they persist the more He is displeased. The fact that they are a special, chosen people who have experienced God's power and goodness, just makes everything worse. The more God has done for us the greater is the sin if we distrust Him.

Moses makes humble intercession for them. Here he is a type of Christ, who intercedes for His persecutors, and prays for those that despitefully use Him. Moses essentially prays, "Do not bring upon them the ruin they deserve." This is Christ's prayer for those that crucify Him. Moses focuses on the glory of God. God's honour is nearer to his heart than anything else. If God should destroy them, His power will be questioned; if He continues and completes their salvation, despite the difficulties that arise, not only from the strength of their enemies, but from their own sin, this will greatly magnify His power. Three things God has solemnly declared, which Moses here fastens upon:—[1.] The goodness of God's nature in general, that He is long-suffering, or slow to anger, and of great mercy; not soon provoked, but tender and compassionate towards offenders. [2.] His readiness in particular to pardon sin. [3.] His unwillingness to go to the extreme, even when He does punish. Moses does not ask that they may not be corrected, but that they may not be disinherited.

## **Question**

1. What does God tell Moses He will do?
2. How does Moses respond?

## **Prayer Points**

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

## **Memory Verse**

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise:** Psalm 119:Part 18 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.

# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## Thursday - Numbers 14:20-35 - Prayer and Judgement

We see here the power of prayer, and the delight God takes in honouring it. Here is a whole nation rescued from ruin by the effectual, fervent prayer of one righteous man. Moses in his prayer has shown a great concern for the glory of God. And now all the world shall see how God hates sin even in His own people, and will deal with it, and yet how gracious and merciful He is, and how slow to anger. These people tempt God—tempt His power, whether He can help them—His goodness, whether He will help them—and His faithfulness, whether He will keep His promise. They tempt His justice, whether He will resent what they say and punish them. They dare Him, and in effect challenge Him, to do good, or do evil. They complain against Him. As they question what He will do, they quarrel with Him for everything He has done, continually finding fault. They do this after they have seen God's miracles in Egypt and in the wilderness.

God passes sentence upon them. When we don't believe God's promises, we're forced to give them up. They wished that they might die in the wilderness, and God takes them at their word. The wilderness will help to humble them and test them, and show them what is in their heart. But there is mercy mixed with this severe sentence. Mercy to Caleb and Joshua, that they will survive the years of banishment, and live to enter Canaan. Caleb is described as a man who follows the Lord fully. It should be our desire to follow the Lord fully and faithfully without arguing or grumbling. The heavenly Canaan shall be the everlasting inheritance of those that follow the Lord fully. There is mercy as well to the children of the Israelites. God will keep His promise to Abraham and not utterly take away His loving kindness.

### Questions

1. How will God punish the Israelites?
2. How will He bless Caleb and Joshua?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise:** Psalm 119:Part 19 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.



# THE BOOK OF

# NUMBERS

## Friday - Numbers 14:36-45 - Foolishness

God shows His particular displeasure against those who sin and make Israel to sin. God is angered by those who misrepresent Him, cast reproach upon Him, and raise problems in men's minds against Him. Those that represent serving God as despicable, sad and uncomfortable, hard and impracticable, needless and unprofitable, are essentially bringing an evil report about a good land. But the lives of Caleb and Joshua are spared. God hereby confirms their testimony, and silences those that speak of stoning them. He also gives them an assurance of their continued safety in the wilderness, when thousands will fall on their right hand and on their left. Death never misses his mark, nor takes any by accident that are meant to be left alive.

Moses tells the people all that God has said concerning them. If they had mourned for their sin when they were faithfully rebuked for it (v. 9), who knows what might have happened, but now their tears come too late. They now desire the land which they had despised, and have confidence in the promise which they had distrusted. But it is too late. Moses warns them that they are sinning against the Lord's command and will not succeed. It is foolish to promise ourselves success when we are disobeying God. It is dangerous going where we cannot expect God will go along with us. God will certainly leave those that leave him. But the people go on anyway. They have distrusted God's strength, and now they presume upon their own strength without His. And everything happens as Moses said it would. That affair can never end well that begins with sin. The way to obtain peace with our friends, and success against our enemies, is to make God our friend, and keep ourselves in His love.

### Question

1. What happens to the ten evil spies?
2. What do the people decide to do?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would trust in God's promises.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise: Psalm 119: Part 20 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

## **Saturday - Numbers 15:1-21 - Laws for the Promised Land**

The beginning of this law is very encouraging. It is obvious, not only that God is reconciled to them despite the sentence He has passed upon them, but that He will give the promised land to their children despite their proneness to rebel against Him. For this law takes it for granted that there are some of them that will in due time come into Canaan. Some food offerings are added to the burnt-offerings and peace-offerings, and about these direction is here given. It is required, since the sacrifices are intended as the food of God's table, that there should be a constant provision of bread, oil, and wine, whatever the meat is. The purpose of this law is to show what proportion the meat-offering and drink-offering should bear to several sacrifices to which they are added.

Natives and strangers are treated equally with the Israelites in this. This is an invitation to the Gentiles to embrace the faith and worship of the true God. This is an obligation upon the Jews to be kind to strangers, and not to oppress them, because they see God accepting their offerings. It would also humble the pride of the Jews. God lets them know that the sons of the stranger are as welcome to Him as the sons of Jacob; no man's birth or parentage shall affect His acceptance with God. But in the same way as believing strangers should be counted Israelites, so unbelieving Israelites should be counted strangers.

There is a law for the offering of the first of their dough to the Lord. This again presumes that they will be in Canaan one day. They must admit their dependence upon God for their daily bread. Christ has taught us to pray not, 'Give us this year our yearly harvest', but 'Give us this day our daily bread,' so we will remember we need Him every day.

### **Question**

1. Why are these laws encouraging?
2. How does God treat the stranger in Israel?

### **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 we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.  
Psalm 90:7

**Praise: Psalm 119: Part 21 - 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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