

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Lesson 4

Numbers (cont'd) & Joshua (Chaps. 1-6)



This week we'll continue our study beginning in about the middle of the book of Numbers. As we discussed in class last week, it seems so incredible that God's chosen people, the Jews, could have personally witnessed so many miracles and yet so easily allow their faith to diminish. This week we'll see their rebellious hearts once again, as they continue to displease God and seek after their own desires and gods. Yet God will use them in a decisive victory over the city of Jericho.

Here's your assignment for this week:

1. What prompted the sin of Korah? Describe what God did to Korah and his followers. (Numbers Chapter 16)
2. Describe in detail the activity of Balaam and his dialogue with Balak. (Numbers chapters 22 through 24)
3. Describe the sin of Baal-Peor. What happened, and how did God deal with it? (Numbers 25)
4. What internal evidence is there to support the position that Moses wrote the Pentateuch? (Where in the Bible can you find verses that would indicate this - Numbers 33:1-2, for instance, is an example.) List what you've found below:
5. Why would you believe the Dead Sea Scrolls are valuable as evidence for the accuracy of the Old Testament texts? Jeremiah Chapter 36 will give you some insight into this answer.

6. In what land did Moses die, and how old was he? (Deuteronomy chapter 34)

7. Locate and describe in the space below a description of "Baalism".

8. Beginning in the book of Joshua, God's "holy war" begins with the invasion of Canaan. God sent "the army of Lord" to go against the Canaanites and, with Joshua being led by the "Commander of the army of the Lord", he was to destroy both the inhabitants of Canaan and the worship of Baal. (Joshua chapters 1-6) After reading these chapters summarize below the instructions given Joshua for how he was to attack and destroy Jericho.

This week, we see that God will not tolerate sin, nor will He tolerate the worship of idols and other gods. We also see that when God deals with evil and sin, He deals with it completely. We also see that even though the people of Israel sinned and demonstrated their lack of faith many times, God remained faithful and led the new nation into the land of Canaan victoriously -- leaving no doubt to their surrounding neighbors that God is the God of all creation and that He is above all gods. With the conquest of Canaan and the elimination of the worship of Baal as their mission, the new people of Israel score a decisive victory in Jericho as God leads them into battle. Next week we'll see if they can fully accomplish this mission.

Thanks for studying with us as we continue to watch for the coming of our King and Savior -- Jesus the Christ.

In Christ,

Wes