

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 04 Dec ..... Num 1:1-8:26 ..... Stay True to Your Commitments
- 2) 11 Dec ..... Num 9:1-10:10 ..... Stay on Track with God's GPS
- 3) 18 Dec ..... Num 10:11-15:41 ..... Stay Fearless in Your Obedience
- 4) 25 Dec ..... Num 24:15-19; Mat 1:1-2:23 ..... The Messiah has Come
- 5) 01 Jan 2012 ..... Num 16:1-25:18 ..... Stay Grateful for God's Care
- 6) 08 Jan ..... Num 26:1-36:13 ..... Stay Focused on the Goal
- 7) 15 Jan ..... Deut 5;19;24; Mat 5 ..... Be Resolute about Life's value
- 8) **22 Jan ..... Deut 1:1-4:43 ..... Be Exclusive**
- 9) 29 Jan ..... Deut 4:44-11:32 ..... Be Passionate
- 10) 05 Feb ..... Deut 12:1-16:17 ..... Be Different
- 11) 12 Feb ..... Deut 16:18-26:19 ..... Be Honest and Fair
- 12) 19 Feb ..... Deut 27:1-30:20 ..... Be Repentant
- 13) 26 Feb ..... Deut 31:1-34:12 ..... Be Positive

**INTRODUCTION**

- These early chapters re-iterate what was detailed in Num 1-33, and culminate in exhortations to observe God's commandments
- Israel's safety and prosperity depended on their obedience to God
- When we are faced with a major change to our comfort zone whether at home, church or work, how do we respond?
  - ♦ Is it with unswerving faith in God, or with fear and anxiety?
  - ♦ Do we freeze up, spin up, get depressed, or do we dive in?

Passage	Comments
Deut 1:1-46	<p><b>Historical Recap of Israel's 40 Year Odyssey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>v2.</b> Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai</li> <li>• <b>Note.</b> It just took 11 days to migrate 2M+ people from Mt Sinai to the Promised Land, yet Israel had to spend 40 years basically marching aimlessly in the desert</li> <li>• <b>v13.</b> How would the nation of Israel survive without their infamous ruler? By establishing a governmental structure of leaders who were wise, knowledgeable and were known for their integrity and maturity</li> <li>• <b>v17.</b> And the rulers were to judge impartially ..... WOW!</li> </ul>
Deut 2:1-37	<p><b>Who to Fight and Who Not to Fight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 years earlier the Israelites feared the residents living west of the Jordan River</li> <li>• <b>v25.</b> A generation later the Israelites aroused a sense of dread in those living in Canaan</li> <li>• <b>vv5-19.</b> Israel was not to pick a fight with their cousins – Edomites (Esau's descendants), Moabites and Ammonites (Lot's descendants) - BUT they would be thorns in Israel's side for years</li> <li>• <b>v30.</b> God hardened the heart of King Sihon so he would fight Israel and be destroyed (men, women and children). Their land would be given to Reuben &amp; Gad</li> <li>• <b>Giants in the Land.</b> For more discussion on the Nephilim, the Emims, the Anakims, the Zamzummims, see <a href="#">Genesis 6 Comments</a></li> </ul>
Deut 3:1-29	<p><b>King Og had the first King Size Bed – 13.5 feet x 6 feet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>vv6.7.</b> Israel "utterly destroyed" the Bashanites – men, women and children. Only the animals were spared</li> <li>• <b>v22.</b> Even though God fought for Israel, Israelites often died on the battlefield</li> <li>• <b>v26.</b> God was angry with Moses for Israel's benefit – Israel had to learn that God must be obeyed</li> </ul>
Deut 4:1-43	<p><b>Fear God and Live, Seek Him and You Will Find Him</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>v6.</b> Non-believers will acknowledge Israel as a nation of "wise and understanding people" – That's how our obedient living should strike non-believers                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ We should be seen as the "normal" ones, as people who have their act together in all areas of life, who can be trusted to do right in all situations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
<b>Five Eras of "Real" Miracles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ We may be a "peculiar people" to some, but our behavior should not be quarrelsome or unreliable</li> <li>• <b>v8.</b> God's laws do not constrain humanity, but actually allows us to reach our full potential – if we obey</li> <li>• <b>v9.</b> The Israelites were told miracles would soon cease                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Now they must live by faith, not by sight – and they must convey to the younger generation God is still the same, but He will operate differently                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Their daily free meals of manna would end</li> <li>2. God's explicit leading by fire &amp; smoke would stop</li> <li>3. Their clothes and sandals will now wear out</li> </ol> </li> <li>♦ The same happened as the NT came to a close and the Holy Spirit moved away from miracles                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The author of Hebrews said God's salvation was confirmed (past tense) unto us with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His own will</li> <li>2. Paul could not heal Epaphroditus or himself</li> <li>3. Paul told Timothy to take medicine/wine for his ills</li> <li>4. Paul left Trophimus sick in Miletum</li> <li>5. James told the sick to seek forgiveness and have elders pray (gifts &amp; signs/wonders have ceased)</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>vv25-29.</b> Complacency leads downhill. To return to God all we have to do is turn around with all our heart</li> <li>• <b>vv41-43.</b> Three cities of refuge identified outside of Israel (land of Gad, Reuben and ½ tribe of Manasseh)</li> </ul>
1. Week of Creation	
2. Moses & Exodus	
3. Elijah & Elisha	
4. Jesus & Apostles	
5. Revelations (2 witnesses)	

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- When we are faced with life-changing events we can do what the 1<sup>st</sup> Exodus generation did – complain, murmur, become high maintenance, threaten to leave, run & hide, and accomplish nothing
  - ♦ Or we can choose to do what the 2<sup>nd</sup> Exodus generation did – acknowledge God's hand on the situation, commit to God's ways no matter what happens, & be prepared to move forward

**NEXT WEEK:**

Deuteronomy 4-11. God sanctioned the unmerciful genocide of 7 nations by a people who were suppose to be holy as God was holy, but who would one day be worse than the 7 nations they partially destroyed



If you accidentally kill someone, you could be saved by running to Bezer, Ramoth or Golan. **Deut 4:41-43**