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

- Skeptics say IMPOSSIBLE for Moses to migrate ~2.4M people 300-600 miles (depending on route), even accounting for 40 years Where is the physical evidence? Graves, latrines, water supply?
- Marching ten abreast, and without accounting for livestock, they would have formed a line 150 miles long; but marching 100 abreast, the line would've been only ~15 miles long as they traveled about 25 miles per day
- About 4 sq miles is needed to house ~2M people (Mt Washington, KY is 5 sq miles)
- God provided the information in the book of Numbers for even skeptics to work through the math to determine, YES, it was feasible for Moses to accomplish what he did within the time recorded

<table>
<tr><th>Passage</th><th colspan="4">Comments</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="7">Numbers 9:1-5</td><td colspan="4">Time to Observe the Passover/Feast Unleavened Bread
• An institution is established – 1st of 3 annual feasts</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Possible Correspondence of the Passover to the Atonement</td></tr>
<tr><td>Date (A.D. 33)</td><td>Judean Day</td><td>Passover Event</td><td>Event in Savior's Life</td></tr>
<tr><td>Mon, 28 Mar</td><td>10 Nisan</td><td>Passover lamb chosen</td><td>Messiah chosen at Triumphal Entry</td></tr>
<tr><td>Fri, 1 Apr</td><td>14 Nisan</td><td>Sacrifice of Passover lamb</td><td>Sacrifice of the Lamb of God</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sat, 2 Apr</td><td>15 Nisan</td><td>Feast commemorating liberation of captives from Egypt</td><td>Liberation preached to captives in spirit prison</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sun, 3 Apr</td><td>16 Nisan</td><td>Firstfruits of the harvest presented to the Lord</td><td>Firstfruits of the Resurrection come forth</td></tr>
<tr><td>9:6-8</td><td colspan="4">Damned if We Do, Damned if We Don't
• If these unclean men were to keep the Passover they would have been cut off/ostracized from the rest
• …and if they did NOT keep the Passover, they would have suffered the same fate
• They were eager to do what was right – so they sought godly direction</td></tr>
<tr><td>9:9-13</td><td colspan="4">Passover Exceptions
• God is flexible - Mercy & Grace often trump processes
• The Law was a precursor to the New Covenant where "we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter" ....Romans 7:6
• v13. God allows Exceptions – not Excuses
  ◆ Those who violate the Passover will be cut off!</td></tr>
<tr><td>9:14</td><td colspan="4">One Statute for All
• Acts 10:34-35 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that fears Him, and works righteousness, is accepted with him
• The Jews were to treat converts as family – Being prejudiced against other believers was not allowed</td></tr>
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<tr><th>Passage</th><th colspan="2">Comments</th></tr>
<tr><td>9:15-23</td><td colspan="2">The Tabernacle Cloud of Fire
• This cloud by day/fire by night was 1-of-a-kind event
• Consider other miraculous aspects of the Exodus:
  ◆ Their clothing did not wear out and they suffered no ill effects from the long marches ....Deut 8:4
  ◆ God either altered the 2nd law of thermodynamics so nothing wore out or He reapplied a restorative law that once existed during the time of Adam/Eve and will occur again in the Millennium ...Isaiah 65:22</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:1-10</td><td>Blowing of the Trumpets
• Purpose of 2 Silver Trumpets
1. Assemble the people
2. March the people
3. Prepare for Battle
4. Provide special recognition for solemn feasts</td><td>Trumpet Sounds of War
(source: Dead Sea Scrolls)
1) Sound Assembly
2) Advance
3) Attack; 4) Kill; 5) Ambush
6) Pursue retreating enemy
7) Reassembly</td></tr>
<tr><td>Other Trumpets in the Bible</td><td colspan="2">Trumpets Never Lead in Singing, and They are Never Blown Quietly – They Pronounce Change
• 7 trumpets of rams horns at Jericho ....Josh 6-7
• 300 trumpets led Gideon into battle.............Judg 7:22
• 120 trumpets at Solomon's Temple 2Chron 5:12
• 7 trumpets of Revelations.......................Rev 8:2-9:14
  #1) 1/3 of earth burns up; #2) 1/3 of sea turns to blood
  #3) Polluted water; #4&5) Smoke darkens sun & moon
  #6) Locusts and war; #7) Earthquake, thunder & hail
• 1 Last Trump to raise the dead...... 1Th 4:16; 1Co 15:52</td></tr>
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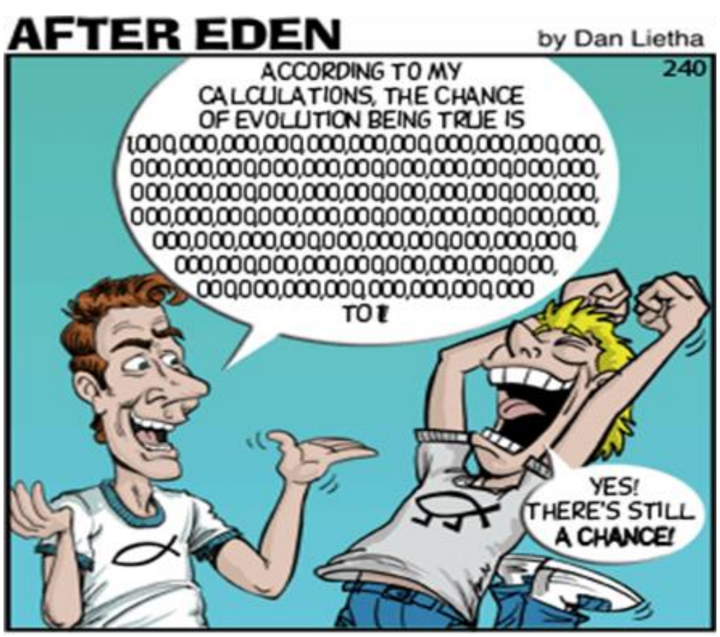
CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- My house is 1 mile away from the local football field. I can hear the sounds of each game and see the fireworks after a touchdown, so when the Levitical trumpeters blew their horns, it was easily heard, and the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night easily seen by the masses signally when to move and when to camp
- Is there room for skeptics to doubt if the Exodus even happened? YES! God doesn't force anyone to believe, yet He gives ample evidence for our faith to be based on substance and not feelings

NEXT WEEK: Numbers 10b-15. The Jews are barely out of the parking lot and the grumbling begins



The problem with probability arguments – There is always wiggle room for other opinions