

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 07 Sept 2025	Numbers 01-09	The Journey
2) 14 Sept	Numbers 10-12	Provision
3) 21 Sept	Numbers 13	The Land
4) 28 Sept	Numbers 14	Rebellion and Judgement
5) 05 Oct	Numbers 15-20	Lack of Trust
6) 12 Oct	Numbers 21-27	God's Plan
7) 19 Oct	Numbers 28-36	Instructions Given
8) 26 Oct	Deuteronomy 01-04	Remember
9) 02 Nov	Deuteronomy 05-06	Love
10) 09 Nov	Deuteronomy 07-18	Undivided Worship
11) 16 Nov	Deuteronomy 19-28	Covenant Relationship
12) 23 Nov	Deuteronomy 29-30	Fully Committed
13) 30 Nov	Deuteronomy 31-34	God's Power

INTRODUCTION

- This is the 10th time of grumbling – Israel had established a pattern, "...and the people said 'let's stone Moses and Aaron'"
- While God's forgiveness is greater than our sins, we often must bear sin's temporal consequences – in this case, people died early

Passage	Comments
14:1-4	Israel Grumbled Again <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v1. The people wept bitterly – NOT with a repentant heart, but out of perceived hopelessness. They looked at their situation without considering the GOD Factor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In other words, where is God through all this? vv2-3. All they saw was a hopeless situation, for there was no way people living in tents could humanly defeat a larger populace entrenched in fortified cities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So, they grumbled and complained v4. And to make matters worse, they ganged together and conspired to replace Moses and return to Egypt Questions: What would you do? When is it appropriate to replace God-ordained leadership?
14:5-10	"...Let's Stone the Messengers" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv5-7. The only ones to show reasonableness are the godly ones – Moses, Aaron, Caleb, and Joshua vv8-9. They tried to reason with the people, but wicked people do not consider the consequences of their sin and fools have no commonsense Lam 1:9; Pro 6:2 v10. When the people tried to stone their God-ordained leaders, then God showed up to force a change Question: What does God call a congregation who tries to oust their God-anointed leaders? EVIL.....v35
14:11-25	God is Ready to Implement Plan C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall Plan A – work with the Pre-Flood generation Plan B: Raise up a chosen people – Israel Plan C: Destroy Israel and make Moses a great nation vv11-12. God's patience with His people is at an end, and He puts forth a powerful claim to make Moses a great nation and wipe out His chosen people, Israel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowing God's immutable promises to establish Israel as a great nation, we must assume this is a unique testing from God. Will Moses pass the test? Realize this: Since God can raise up stones to be the children of Abraham (Mat 3:9), to make Moses a Great Nation would be a viable option. vv13-20. Moses reasons with God to stay true to His character for being slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness. And God relents God has "relented" or changed His ways several times <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abraham's discourse with God Gen 18:23-33 God relented destroying Jerusalem 2Sam 24:16 God wants to avoid destruction. Amos 5:15; Joel 2:14

Passage	Comments
14:26-35	God's Ultimatum – Destroy the Older Generation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of course, none of Israel's sins took God by surprise, but God must take action for His Name's sake He told Moses the older generation will be prevented from entering the Promised Land as they die over the next 40 years wandering through the desert v33. The younger generation will suffer for their parents' unfaithfulness Principle to Live By: Avoid generational sins and consider the consequences of lifelong sins, because they could impact the next generation.
14:36-39	Most Spies Die by a Plague from God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 out of 12 spies die gruesomely – only Caleb and Joshua are spared. What was the plague? Was it Covid? Cancer? Flu? Was it painful? Was it a sudden or a lingering death? Does God still invoke plagues to individuals or nations? We can only speculate and guess. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realize this: Only God ravishes a nation with plagues, NOT Satan Hab 3:5; Rev 2:23
14:40-45	It's Too Late to Repent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Israel gets defeated by the Amalekites and Canaanites v40. Why didn't the Lord forgive and forget and restore Israel upon their confession and repentance? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have to realize God does have His limits God has also stated in His word when He will no longer forgive, even His own people, of vile sins 2Kings 24:3-4; Jer 7:16; 14:11 Recall if God's judgment begins with His people first, what will be the outcome of those who do not obey the Gospel of God? 1Peter 4:17

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- God has numerous options available to turn people around:
 - If people repent, God could relent from punishing them
 - If people fail to repent, God could wait till the older generation dies off before using the younger generation – but will the younger generation be any better than their parents?
 - God could remove good shepherds from bad congregations, and likewise remove bad shepherds from good congregations
 - And finally, God could remove a church's candlestick where there are unrepentant bad sheep and bad shepherds



TECHNICALLY, MOSES WAS THE FIRST PERSON WITH A TABLET DOWNLOADING DATA FROM THE CLOUD.