

Becky Crabb

Leviticus 24:1 -27:35

No wonder people still think when bad things happen, God must have something to do with it. God sure said so in Chapter 26.

Prayer... Lord, help us ALL see bad things don't happen because of You! But that You are here with us through all things. In His name, amen.

Numbers 1:1 – 4:49

With so many people and sacred work to do it was important to delegate. Everyone knew exactly what their job was. (I assume jobs were passed on when someone died.)

Prayer... Lord, it seems so detailed, but sometimes life goes smoother with organization. Help me see when to organize and when to let it happen. In His name, amen.

Numbers 5:1 – 7:89

Chapter 5 – What an interesting way of testing husband's jealousy and/or wife's fidelity. I suspect the test rested mostly on the woman's state of mind and health. But at least there was a chance for the woman.

Prayer... Lord, help us today to resist judging and let You be the judge of people. In His name, amen.

Numbers 8:1 – 10:36

So far, so good...we're moving.

Prayer... Lord, be near us as we move through our life. In His name, amen.

Numbers 11:1 – 14:45

And the grumbling begins...No meat; God gives them LOTS of quail. Miriam and Aaron talk against Moses; Miriam gets leprosy for seven days. All the people grumble, yet God forgives them after Moses argues convincingly. Scouts check promised land and say "no way", Moses and God say no one of this generation will enter promised land, yet some went anyway and were killed.

Prayer... Lord, do we ever learn?! Help me to stop and really listen to You so I know what You want me to do. In His name, amen.

Numbers 15:1 – 18:32

Don't rebel against authority, especially Moses! Then Moses had a good way of sharing his authority with the staff.

Prayer... Lord, Help me know when it's OK to rebel and how to do it in a peaceful, most effective way. In His name, amen.

Number 19:1 – 21:35

And the destroying people and fighting begins.... They marched around Edom and destroyed other people and cities as they went, at God's will. And they moved in, at least for a while.

Prayer... Lord, this part is always hard for me to understand. Help me see what You want me to get from these words. In His name, amen.

Phyllis Halsema

The Bible says it's a 40 year period of Israel's wilderness wanderings. It leads us to believe if it is or if their time frame is different than ours. Leviticus details, the laws and rituals that were given at Mount Sinai, as well as vows, offerings and redemption.

Numbers are the events at the very end of a long journey, and taking a census of Israelite tribes. They did a lot of complaining about their hardships and lack of food. It ends with the Israelites entering the Promised Land. Even in those days, people didn't listen to God... Example: God told Moses and Aaron to strike the rock for water, but instead they thought they knew better and they spoke to it. Didn't work out well.

Prayer... God, please help us not to only listen to what You tell us, but to do it. So many times we think we know what is best, but it doesn't always work out the way we had planned. Lord help us to keep your Commandments. Amen.

In Numbers 21 I found something I was not clear about, so I dug a little deeper, and I wanted to share with you. We have another serpent. But this time it's not the same as in Genesis. Although both used the same Hebrew word(Nachash).

In Genesis, the serpent represents Satan, acting in opposition to God's will. In Numbers," Fiery" serpent is an agent of God's judgment for Israel's sin. The bronze serpent on the pole is God's instrument for healing, a symbol of faith and repentance.

The bronze serpent on the pole was not an idol when God commanded it to be made, but later it did become an idol when people began to worship it instead of God. It was a temporary means of healing by God's command. Finally, it was destroyed by King Hezekiah to stop idolatry.

Prayer... Please forgive us when at times we idolize objects. Maybe we just admire something or someone thinking they are the greatest ever... Knowing in our hearts that it is only YOU Lord that are great. ONLY YOU!! Help us to realize the important things in our life and praise you for all your greatness you have shown and given us. In your name, we pray. Amen.