

Last week we concluded Chapters 13- 14. In these Chapters, we read how and why the Israelites were not told to wander the wilderness for 40 years. It was not their fear but their doubt. Their contempt was against God and His leaders:

Numbers 14:4

(4) So they said to one another, "**Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.**"

Numbers 14:9-10

Joshua....

(9) Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them." (10) And all the congregation said to **stone them** with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

Numbers 15:1-41

(1) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

(2) "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: '**When you have come into the land you are to inhabit, which I am giving to you,**

CHAPTER 15 - GOD GIVES THEM OFFERING INSTRUCTIONS

1. UNINTENTIONAL SINS - Offering
2. SINS INTENTIONALLY – Cut off

(Sinning Intentionally)

(32) Now while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. (33) And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation.

(34) They put him under guard, because it had not been explained what should be done to him. (35) Then the LORD said to Moses, "The man must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp." (36) So, as the LORD commanded Moses, all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him

with stones, and he died. I have learned in my life never to ignore the small acts of disobedience or rebellion because they often reveal larger issues of the heart.

TASSELS

Numbers 15:37-41 ...(39) And you shall have the tassel, that **you may look upon it** and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that **you may not follow the harlotry** to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, (40) and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God. (41) I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD your God."



PEOPLE are not happy:

Stoning of a man, plague killing people, lost a battle, and now they are doomed for 40 years in this wilderness.

Numbers 16:1-50

(1) Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men;

(2) and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown.

(3) They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them,

"You take too much upon yourselves,

for all the congregation is holy,

every one of them,

and the LORD is among them.

Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

- A) Korah gets a dishonorable mention in the NT as a man who was a person causing strife. Jude 1:11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.
- B) The sin of Korah was not about Korah wanting to take Moses' job; it was about bringing Moses down.

(4) So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face;
(5) and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, "Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.

(6) Do this: Take censers, Korah and all your company; (7) put fire in them and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow, and it shall

be that the man whom the LORD chooses is the holy one. **You take too much upon yourselves, you sons of Levi!"**

(8) Then Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you sons of Levi: (9) **Is it a small thing** to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, **to do the work of the tabernacle** of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to serve them; (10) and that **He has brought you near to Himself**, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you? **And are you seeking the priesthood also?**

A) Korah and those with him had a responsibility. They had a duty but they wanted to do what Moses and Aaron was doing. They were not happy and felt their job was not important enough.

(11) Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD. And what is Aaron that you complain against him?"

A) These people when disputing Moses did not understand that they were disputing God.

Romans 13:1-2 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. (2) Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

(12) And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, but they said, "We will not come up! (13) Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you should **keep acting like a prince over us?**

(14) Moreover you **have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor given us inheritance of fields and vineyards.** Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up!"

(15) Then Moses was very angry, and said to the LORD, "Do not respect their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, nor have I hurt one of them." (16) And Moses said to Korah, "Tomorrow, you and all your company be present before the LORD—you and they, as well as Aaron. (17) Let each take his censer and put incense in it, and each of you bring his censer before the LORD, two hundred and fifty censers; both you and Aaron, each with his censer." (18) So every man took his censer, put fire in it, laid incense on it, and stood at the door of the tabernacle of meeting with Moses and Aaron. (19) And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation. (20) And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, **(21) "Separate yourselves from among this congregation,** that I may consume them in a moment."

(22) Then they fell on their faces, and said, "O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, **shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?**"

(23) So the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

(24) "Speak to the congregation, saying, '**Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.**' "

(25) Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. (26) And he spoke to the congregation, saying, "**Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins.**"

(27) So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children. (28) And Moses said: "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will. (29) If these men die naturally like all

men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me.

(30) But if the **LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit**, then you will understand that these **men have rejected the LORD.**"

(31) Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, (32) and the earth opened **its mouth and swallowed them up**, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. (33) So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; **the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.** (34) Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!" (35) **And a fire came out from the LORD and**

consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.

(SAVE CENSERS AS MEMORIAL)

(41) **On the next day** all the congregation of the children of Israel **complained against Moses and Aaron**, saying, "**You have killed the people of the LORD.**"

(42) Now it happened, when the congregation had gathered against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tabernacle of meeting; and **suddenly the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared.** (43) Then Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of meeting.

(44) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

(45) "**Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.**" And they fell on their faces.

(46) So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a censer and put fire in it from the altar, put incense on it, and take it **quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them;** for wrath has gone out from the LORD. The plague has begun."

(47) Then Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people. (48) And he stood

between the dead and the living; so the plague was stopped. (49) Now those who died in the plague were fourteen thousand seven hundred, besides those who died in the Korah incident.

(50) So Aaron returned to Moses at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, for the plague had stopped.

Numbers 17:1-13 – Aarons Staff

(1) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

(2) "Speak to the children of Israel, and get from them a rod from each father's house, all their leaders according to their fathers' houses—twelve rods. Write each man's name on his rod.

(3) And you shall write Aaron's name on the rod of Levi. For there shall be one rod for the head of each father's house.

(4) Then you shall place them in the tabernacle of meeting before the Testimony, where I meet with you.

(5) And it shall be that the rod of the man whom I choose will blossom; thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you."

(6) So Moses spoke to the children of Israel, and each of their leaders gave him a rod apiece, for each leader according to their fathers' houses, twelve rods; and the rod of Aaron was among their rods.

(7) And Moses placed the rods before the LORD in the tabernacle of witness.

(8) Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds.

(9) Then Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD to all the children of Israel; and they looked, and each man took his rod.

(10) And the LORD said to Moses, "Bring Aaron's rod back before the Testimony, to be kept as a sign against the rebels, that you may put their complaints away from Me, lest they die."

(11) Thus did Moses; just as the LORD had commanded him, so he did.

(12) So the children of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, "Surely we die, we perish, we all perish!

(13) Whoever even comes near the tabernacle of the LORD must die. Shall we all utterly die?"

Numbers 12:1-16 – Mariam and Aaron

(1) Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

(2) So they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it.

(3) (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

(4) Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out.

(5) Then the LORD came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.

(6) Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make

Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

(7) Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.

(8) I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"

(9) So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed.

(10) And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly Miriam became leprous, as white as snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, a leper.

(11) So Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord! Please do not lay this sin on us, in which we have done foolishly and in which we have sinned.

(12) Please do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb!"

(13) So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "Please heal her, O God, I pray!"

(14) Then the LORD said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not be shamed seven days? Let her be shut out of the camp seven days, and afterward she may be received again."

(15) So Miriam was shut out of the camp seven days, and the people did not journey till Miriam was brought in again.

(16) And afterward the people moved from Hazeroth and camped in the Wilderness of Paran.