

50+ Sunday School Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

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Life of Moses
Part 3 – Sinai to Transfiguration

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2021

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

Life of Moses – Part 3 – 10/10/21 – Anger & Its Consequences

Prayer

Introduction

Numbers 14

² And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron... ⁴ And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”... ⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all...Israel. ⁶ And Joshua...and Caleb...tore their clothes ⁷ and said to all ...Israel, “...do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, ...the LORD is with us...” ¹⁰ Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones.

- Godly Commitment invites resistance and the danger of ... being Rejected or taking Revenge
 - ¹² ”I will strike them with pestilence and disinherit them”
 - Moses intercedes for Israel and lets God be his defender.
 - God relents, but promises Judgment—1 year of wilderness wandering for each day they spied out the land.

Numbers

1-4 – Census of Israel's Warriors

2 – Arrangement of the Camp

3-4 – Aaron's Sons, Levites' Duties, Firstborn's Redemption

5 – Unclean People, Confession & Restitution, Test for Adultery

6 – Nazirite Vow & Aaron's Blessing

7 – Tabernacle's Consecration & Offerings

8 – Seven Lamps & Cleansing & Retirement of Levites

9 – Passover Celebration & The Cloud Covers the Tabernacle

10 – Silver Trumpets & Israel Leaves Sinai

11-14 – Rabble, Complaints, Grumbling, Disbelief & Rebellion

15 – Laws About Sacrifices, Unintentional Sins, Garment Tassels

16-17 – Korah's Rebellion & Aaron's Staff Buds

18-19 – Levitical Duties & Purification Laws

20 – Death of Mariam & Aaron

Numbers 14:39-45

When Moses told [of God's promised judgment to] Israel, the people mourned greatly. ⁴⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, "...We will go up to the place that the Lord has promised, for we have sinned." ⁴¹ But Moses said, "Why now are you transgressing the command of the Lord, when that will not succeed? ⁴² Do not go up, for the Lord is not among you, lest you be struck down before your enemies. ⁴³ For there the Amalekites and the Canaanites are facing you, and you shall fall by the sword. Because you have turned back from following the Lord, the Lord will not be with you." ⁴⁴ **But they presumed** to go up to the heights of the hill country, although neither the ark of the covenant of the Lord nor Moses departed out of the camp. ⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them and pursued them, even to Hormah.

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Numbers 16

Now *Korah* the son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, and *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 a number of the people of Israel, **250 chiefs** of the congregation, chosen from the assembly.... ³ They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said..., “You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. **Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?**” ⁴ When Moses heard it, he fell on his face, ⁵ and he said to Korah and all his company, “In the morning **the LORD will show who is his**, and who is holy, and will bring him near to him [the Lord]. The one whom he chooses he will bring near to him....

³¹ And...the ground under them split apart. ³² And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the people who belonged to Korah and all their goods. ³³ ...and they perished from the midst of the assembly.... ³⁵ And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men offering the incense.

Numbers 17

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Speak to the people of Israel, and get from them staffs, one for each fathers' house, from all their chiefs according to their fathers' houses, twelve staffs. Write each man's name on his staff, ³ and write Aaron's name on the staff of Levi. For there shall be **one staff for the head of each fathers' house**. ⁴ Then you shall deposit them in the tent of meeting **before the testimony**, where I meet with you. ⁵ And **the staff of the man whom I choose shall sprout...** [A]nd behold, the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted and put forth buds and produced blossoms, and it bore ripe almonds. ⁹ Then Moses brought out all the staffs from before the LORD to all the people of Israel. And they looked, and each man took his staff. ¹⁰ And the LORD said to Moses, “Put back the staff of Aaron before the testimony, to be kept as **a sign for the rebels**, that you may make an end of their grumblings against me, lest they die.” ¹¹ Thus did Moses....

Exodus 2

¹¹ One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. ¹² He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he **struck down** [killed] the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. → Murderous Anger

Exodus 11

⁴ So Moses said, “Thus says the LORD: ‘About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt, ⁵ and every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die.... ⁸ And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, ‘Get out, you and all the people who follow you.’ And after that I will go out.” And he went out from Pharaoh in **hot anger**.

→ Unnecessary Anger

Exodus 32

*15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, ... written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. 16 The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.... 19 And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' **anger burned hot**, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and **broke them** at the foot of the mountain. 20 He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.*

→ Destructive Anger

Exodus 34

The LORD said to Moses, “Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.

→ God is slow to anger with Moses' continuing anger issues

Numbers 20

¹ And the people of Israel...came into the wilderness of Zin... ² Now there was no water... And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. ³ And the people quarreled...and said, “Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD! ⁴ Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? ... ⁶ Then Moses and Aaron went...to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them, ⁷ and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁸ “Take **the staff**, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron..., and **tell** the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle.” ⁹ And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him. ¹⁰ Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels: shall **we** bring water for you out of this rock?” ¹¹ And Moses lifted up his hand and **struck the rock with his staff twice**, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

→ Rebellious Anger

Numbers 20

¹² *And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “**Because you did not believe in me**, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.”*

Numbers 20

¹² And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.”

- Disobedience stems from unbelief in God
 - Here: unbelief that God knows best what the rebels need
- Disobedience and unbelief are 2 sides of the same coin
- Why is this particular angry outburst such a problem?

Exodus 17

¹ All...of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you **quarrel** with me? Why do you **test the LORD?**” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand **the staff** with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall **strike the rock**, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so.... ⁷ And he called...the place Massah [testing] and Meribah [quarreling]....

→ Israel tested the Lord at Massah and Meribah by saying, “Is the Lord among us?” They charged God with breaking His covenant to provide for them. They were calling for justice—a trial! So, God gives them one. God appears before Moses on the Rock at Horeb, as if God is standing in the Prisoner’s Dock, where the Accused stands at trial. Moses has in his hand the Staff—the Rod of Judgment—it ate Pharoah’s serpents, turned the Nile to blood, and closed the Red Sea over Egypt’s army. With it God tells Moses to strike the Rock on which God stands, with which God is identified. God Himself receives the blow.

1 Corinthians 10.1-4

*I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from **the spiritual Rock that followed them**, and **the Rock was Christ....***

→ This Rock (Exodus 17 & 20) was Christ, who followed Israel and quenched their wilderness thirst. HE is the Rock Smitten for us, that we might receive *Living Water*. This is why it was so serious when Moses didn't just speak to the Rock in Exodus 20, he struck it, even twice! Jesus, the Rock of Our Salvation, is only struck once for us—on Calvary! He's the Lamb of God, our Once-for-All Sacrifice for sin. God has come to save His people.

1 Corinthians 10.9-13 – ⁹ *We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents,* ¹⁰ *nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.* ¹¹ *Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.* ¹² *Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.* ¹³ *No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*

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Q & A / Discussion

Prayer Requests

Next Class on 10/17/21