

Numbers 28-30 – 21 January 2021

“The Call To Commitment”

Introduction

*Israel has been in the dessert for almost 40 years b/c of disobedience, now they're on the plains of Moab!

*Numbers 26-30 are the last chapters b4 Israel starts conquering land that they keep at God's command

*These chapters are the final instructions b4 going in

*Remember, going into the Promised Land isn't a picture of the Christian dying & going to heaven. It's a picture of living the victorious Christian life by faith, hope and love.

*As this new generation need to go in, God taught in Chap 26-27 of the sure hope they should have in the inheritance, but today in Chap 28-30, He's calling them to **commitment**

Today, here are 3 lessons from God's call to commitment addressed to this new generation

1st Lesson from God's call to commitment is: Take every fresh opportunity to commit (Chap 28:1-15)

Read Chap 28:1-2

1. My, My, My – these aren't just rituals.
 - a. This is special relationship that they've been graced into.
 - b. These are a “sweet savor” (7x) to God
2. See, it's of God's grace just that they can bring offerings to the Lord
3. The Lord is reminding this new generation of Israelites that they have the chance to know the God of the universe!
 - a. Each generation has to embrace that themselves
 - b. Each person has a fresh chance to embrace God

Read Chap 28:3-8

1. So the continual daily burnt offerings
 - a. Lamb in morning & another at start of night
 - b. W/ meat (grain) offering & drink offering
2. Every day a chance to come to God

Read Chap 28:9-10

1. These are additional offerings for the Sabbath
2. This is added to the two daily lambs offered
3. Renewal, renewal, each day speaks of renewal and each Sabbath speaks of renewal

Chap 28:11-15 (Read Vs 11 & 14b)

1. At each New Moon (new month), offer 2 bulls, a ram & 7 lambs for Burnt plus a goat for a Sin
2. Burnt showing dedication & Sin showing the acknowledgement of the people's sin

Conclusion

1. You constantly get a fresh chance to commit your life to God!
 - a. Every day you can come
 - b. Every Sabbath, every month you can come
2. This is the grace of God on display!
3. If you die and go to hell, it's not for lack of God offering you a chance to come!

2nd Lesson from God's call to commitment is: Live in the reality, not the ritual, of commitment (Chap 28:16-29:40)

Intro

1. Next chapter and ½ describes sacrifices at the Feast Days of Israel
2. Let's get the understanding and then make the application at the end

Chap 28:16-25 (Read Vs 16-23)

1. This is the offering during the **Passover, Unleavened Bread & Firstfruits Feasts**
2. 2 bulls, ram & 7 lambs for burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.
3. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offering.
4. Do each of the 7 days of the feast
5. This is in addition to the special Passover Lamb that each family would bring

Chap 28:26-31 (Read Vs 26)

1. This is the offering during **Feast of Weeks**
2. 2 bulls, ram & 7 lambs for burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.
3. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offering

Chap 29:1-6 (Read Vs 1)

1. This is the offering during **Feast of Trumpets**
2. 1 bull, ram & 7 lambs for burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.
3. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offering.

Chap 29:7-11 (Read Vs 7)

1. This is the offering for the somber feast called the **Day of Atonement**
2. 1 bull, ram & 7 lambs burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.
3. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

Chap 29:12-38

1. Covers the 8 days of the Feast of Tabernacles

29:12-16 – 13 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 1st day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.

Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:17-19 – 12 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 2nd day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:20-22 – 11 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 3rd day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:23-25 – 10 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 4th day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering. Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:26-28 – 9 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 5th day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.

Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:29-31 – 8 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 6th day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.

Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:32-34 – 7 bulls, 2 rams & 14 lambs for 7th day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering.

Also 1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

29:35-38 – 1 bull, 1 ram & 7 lambs for 8th day of Feast of Tabernacles burnt sacrifice w/ meat & drink offering. Also

1 goat for a sin offering w/ drink offerings

2. More than 200 offerings during Tabernacles!

Read Chap 29:39-40

1. These things commanded God of Moses, so Moses *told* the children of Israel

Application

1. Just a massive amount of sacrifice and effort
2. Would make a massive impact on the people
 - a. They made a trench from temple to Valley of Hinnom. Hinnom (black) from all sacrifice
3. Think of the last time you had a very large task that was repetitive.
 - a. Either going to be meaningful or mindless

- i. Like athlete getting shower after each game...it's routine, but meaningful
 - ii. Or a pre-teen getting a shower...needs to be routine, but to them it's mindless...why!
4. Will your commitment to God be reality or just dead ritual?
 - a. Ritual is only meaningful if it's motivated by the reality of love
 - b. Sacrifice can become a good luck charm
 - i. God wants our heart more than sacrifice
 - ii. Ritual is meaningless if our heart isn't in it
5. When you think of all the rituals, laws and commandments in the Bible; which is the greatest?
 - a. Jesus said to love God & 2nd to love others
 - b. Of all the dos & don'ts, THAT'S it!
 - c. Without the motivation of love the outward acts and deeds are void of relationship!
 - d. See when you love, the rest falls in line!!!
 - e. Augustine said, "love the Lord w/ all of your heart.....and do as you will."

3rd Lesson from God's call to commitment is: Fulfil your powerful words of commitment (Chap 30:1-16)

Intro

1. Chapter is about making vows & the authority within the home to do so

Read Chap 30:1-2

1. Vow – a promise to do something
2. Oath – a promise to abstain or a curse

Read Chap 30:3-5

1. An unmarried woman's vow can be allowed or disallowed by her father on the day he hears it

Read Chap 30:6-8

1. A married woman's vow can be allowed or disallowed by her husband on the day he hears it

Read Chap 30:9

1. Divorced/widow woman shall perform her vow

Read Chap 30:10-16

1. Again, a married woman's vow can be allowed or disallowed by her husband on day he hears it
2. B/c words are so powerful, they are regulated by the authority in the home

Application

1. In Matt 5:33 Jesus says don't swear at all, just let your yes be yes and your no be no
 - a. See the OT is based on man's attempt to be faithful to God
 - b. The NT is based on God's unending faithfulness to man
 - c. Certainly, the NT tells us not to lie and to verbally stand for the Lord
2. There is power in words AND power in silence
 - a. Said, "If the father or husband held his peace, then the vow should stand"
 - b. When something is in your realm of authority to speak, then speak up.

Conclusion

So, let's take some lessons about commitment from God's call to the new generation of Israelites

1. **Take every opportunity to commit our efforts to God and FOR God**
 - a. Choose this Lord's day Sunday, choose today!
But choose to commit your efforts to God!
 - b. The special days for Israel were designed to give chances to serve God. What are we doing?
2. **Live in the reality, not the ritual, of commitment**
 - a. Are your efforts for God motivated by love for Him or by an anterior motivation?
 - b. God would rather you STOP your religious motions, unless it's motivated by love for Him!
3. **Let's fulfill our powerful words of commitment...say it & do it!**
 - a. Don't be the silent parent that lets their kids go astray.
 - b. Let's put our heads into motion!!!