

Numbers 15 –19 November 2020

“The Faith To Be Resilient”

Introduction

*In Num 13-14, we saw one of the greatest examples of Israel’s failure to love God recorded in the Bible

*They were on the border of entering into Promised Land after only 2 yrs, but something tragic happened.

*They didn’t believe God was able of bringing them into victory by defeating the giant enemies and their cities in the Promised Land

*Turn to I Cor 10:1-12

*There punishment is to go another way & wander the desert for another 38 years before entering in

*Do you remember those moments after failure?

*What do you do to get back on your feet?

What do you do when you need something real to hold?

Today, 3 principles of resilience after great failure

1st principle of resilience after failure is to set your mind on the future (Chap 15:1-21)

Read Chap 15:1-5 – *Sacrifice in the land of lamb / kid*

1. Vs 2 – “When you come into the land” – What an amazing encouragement this is to them!
 - a. After being told they’ll wait 40 years
 - b. After being told only 20 & younger go in
 - c. God directs their minds to future, what grace!
 - i. See God’s punishment is different than being cast off or disowned
2. So the offering (once coming into the land) can be (vs 3) of the herd of flock (lamb or goat)
 - a. We explained in depth these offerings in Leviticus chapter 1-7.

Read Chap 15:6-7 – *Sacrifice in the land of ram*

1. Each of these options for burnt offerings come w/ a meal offering representing worship

Read Chap 15:8-10 – *Sacrifice in the land of Bull*

1. A bull can be used for a burnt offering, a vow or for a peace offering

Read Chap 15:11-12

1. What different between the lamb, ram, & bull?
 - a. The meal offering has more oil for the bigger animal.
 - b. There are degrees of offering & worship
 - i. Worship as you can from the heart

Read Chap 15:13-16

1. Same regulation for foreigners and Israelites
2. Dedication to God & worship of God is the same regardless of who you are

Read Chap 15:17-21

1. Vs 18 – Again, “When you come into the land”
2. So, a tithe of your bread once you’re in land
3. All this to set their mind on how grateful they’ll be once they get to the Promised Land

2nd principle of resilience after failure is to look for daily cleansing (Chap 15:22-36)

Read Chap 15:22-26 – *Cleansing national unintentional sin*

1. This describes the cleansing of national sin
2. Most Israelites are repentant & want to follow God after their great sin of not going into the land
 - a. They're sad and shamefaced right now
 - b. For them to hear there is STILL a way for cleansing would be so amazing!

Read Chap 15:27-29 – *Cleansing personal unintentional sin*

1. This is cleansing of personal unintentional sin

Read Chap 15:30-31 – *Cleansing personal premeditated sin*

1. This is worse than an intentional sin, this is premeditated w/ view they don't care about God
2. And now an example of premeditated sin

Read Chap 15:32-36

1. Read Heb 10:26 – There IS a willful despising of God's will that has no more remedy

3rd principle of resilience after failure is to set up reminders of the holy (Chap 15:37-41)

Read Chap 15:37-XX

1. Set up garment fringes that have tassels of blue
2. This is to be reminder: YOU BELONG TO GOD!
3. Notice God says this is to prevent you from “going a-whoring” (vs 39)
 - a. This is what God called it (Num 14:33) when they refused to believe Him that they could conquer the Promised Land by Him
 - b. Making something more important than God
4. Sin is crouching at our door unless we’re on guard
 - a. Most common phrase before every lustful sin is, “feels so right, it can’t be wrong!”
 - b. That’s also the last thing that goes thru the mouse’s mind before he licks the peanut butter or eats the cheese!
5. Still good habit today to wear something
6. Matt 23:5 – Pharisees abused this

Conclusion

What's the key to all these principles? Faith. It takes faith to believe God can yet work good in & thru you. Even after great failure, God loves you & wants your whole heart!

1. **It takes faith to set your mind on the future**
 - a. Not b/c you deserve it, but in spite of our failures, God has a future and a hope for us
 - b. Phil 3:13 – “Forgetting those things which are behind...”
2. **It takes faith to look for daily cleansing**
 - a. As God coming to Cain; He's not coming to condemn us, but to offer cleansing if we'll repent.
 - b. Rom 8:1 – “There is now therefore, now...”
3. **It takes faith to set up reminders of the holy**
 - a. God's encouraging us to set physical markers to remember that we belong to Him
 - b. Don't use it to be puffed up in pride.