

Numbers 18:1-20:13 – 10 December 2020

“Beyond Rebellion To Sanctification”

Introduction

We’ve just come thru chap 16-17 of Korah leading a rebellion in which almost 15,000 people died b/c Korah wasn’t content with his role & blessings in life. Korah’s main question was, “why do you get to be leader. Are we not all sanctified?”

So we learned the keys to killing rebellion:
Thankfulness, Humility, Love & Faith in Christ

As people who belong to the King, they are all sanctified, but as w/ us, all have a unique role to play

Whatever your role for God, set God apart in your life as special, this goes beyond just not being rebellion.

Like when you were dating and they had a special place in your heart.

Today, 3 benefits of sanctifying God in your life

1st Benefit: Thru a sanctified life, God provides for all your daily need (Chap 18:1-32)

Read Chap 18:1-7

1. So there's a certain level of responsibility that the priests have.
 - a. This protects all the people from "wrath"
2. Levites are to help bear the physical work for the priests.
 - a. This allows that no one is overwhelmed w/ too much work, but it's balanced out

Read Chap 18:8-11

1. The Lord is describing all the parts of the sacrifices that are provision for the priests.
2. Here's the blessing: as we give service away, it's returned & we have OUR needs met
3. Bible teaches that God will meet our needs as we stay focusing on meeting the needs of others.

Read Chap 18:12-19

1. Looked at each 1 of these offerings in the past, the point now is that there's a part for the priests.
 - a. Daily food for the priests
2. "...of salt" = enduring, pure, incorruptible

Read Chap 18:20

1. As you're earning your daily living, in the back of your mind, you're always thinking of retirement
2. God's telling the priests, your future isn't built on land, your future is built on the Lord
 - a. Do you trust Him?

Read Chap 18:21-24

1. The Levites receive the tithe of the people.
2. Don't have to worry about passing to your kids your land or your house. Lord Himself has promised to provide for them when you're gone.

Read Chap 18:25-32

1. Even the Levites should offer a tithe of the tithe of the people to the priests.
2. *A sanctified life looks like total dependance on the Lord and God then “shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus.” Phil 4:19*

2nd Benefit: Thru a sanctified life, God provides rest from fear of death & worry-filled effort (Chap 19:1-22)

Intro

1. This chapter is the special offering of the red heifer to purify those that have been around death
2. Interesting that it's the only sacrifice not given on Mt. Sinai
3. What is the purification from the dead? Jesus

Read Chap 19:1-6

1. Vs 2 – Without blemish or spot; perfect Jesus
2. Vs 2 – Never a yoke
 - a. Jesus wasn't under the control of man
 - b. “No man takes my life; I lay it down.”
3. Vs 3 – Sacrificed outside the camp
 - a. No other offering sacrificed outside the city
 - i. Jesus was led out of Jerusalem to Calvary
4. Vs 3 – Sacrificed “before the face” of the priest
 - a. Jesus tried before the High Priest but not sacrificed by him.
5. The burning & cedar, scarlet, hyssop
 - a. The judgement of the cross of Christ
 - b. Just as Lev 13 cleansing of lepers
6. So it's Jesus that is our provision for being purified from death and dead things.
 - a. He brings a rest from our worry-filled effort at trying to make ourselves clean
 - b. He brings a rest from our fear of death!

Read Chap 19:7-10

1. The remains or ashes were added to water to make this purification water to sprinkle onto things
2. The principle: The product of a perfect life applied to us brings purity and life anew.

Chap 19:11-22 – *The Application of the cleansing*

Read Chap 19:11-12

1. 3rd day for the resurrection and trinity
2. 7th day for completion

Read Chap 19:13

1. See it's the application of Jesus cross to your life that makes you clean & able to rest, not just the knowledge of Jesus
2. Lots of folks know of Jesus & are yet worried!
3. It's Christ's work that gives rest from fear of death. "Come unto Me, all ye that labor..."

Read Chap 19:14-20

1. So the application to all things that come in contact with the dead.
 - a. Practical to separate those contaminated.
 - b. Spiritual to learn of Christ thru the ashes
2. Each app is cleansing of death of human life

Read Chap 19:21-22

1. From Moses til 70AD only 9 heifers needed
2. Israel has a tradition of mixing the end of the ashes w/ the ashes of the next red heifer.
 - a. As you would do with yeast which pics sin
 - b. Yeast shows continuity of death, ashes show the continuity of life.
 - c. Problem:
 - i. Since Temple destroyed, there's no ashes
 - ii. What's worse, red heifer went extinct
 - d. Answer:
 - i. Qumran may have found ashes (not needed)
 - ii. Red heifers are potential back!

3rd Benefit: Thru a sanctified life, God provides opportunities to please Him by faith (Chap 20:1-13)

Read Chap 20:1-5

1. This isn't 1st time they complain of no water.
2. Vs 3 – They would rather identify themselves w/ those that rebelled before than with Moses!
3. God gives them every reason to have faith in Him but they mostly don't.
 - a. Proven Himself thru deliverance from Egypt
 - b. Proven Himself thru deliverance from trial
 - c. All God's looking for is their faith!

Read Chap 20:6-8

1. Again, God asks for action derived from faith
2. Notice the instruction is to speak to the rock, not to smite it as the first time in Exo 17

Read Chap 20:9-11

1. Water came out, meeting a very real need.
2. This is a good outcome, right?
 - a. Good short-term outcome, but bad method which leads to bad long-term outcomes.

Read Chap 20:12-13

1. Moses was told to speak to the rock, not to strike it, let alone strike it twice.
2. What's the big deal, the rock gave water?
 - a. They didn't do it way God asked of them
 - b. It's just a rock, no big deal, right?
3. I Cor 10:4 tells us this Rock is pic of Jesus
 - a. God wanted to set the pic; the 1st time coming to the Rock, they would watch Him be smitten, but 2nd time they need only speak.
4. God is doing more than we can imagine in each situation, so trust Him to do it His way
 - a. Unbelief in not obeying God's way, we misrepresent God (God wasn't angry w/ them)

Conclusion

Next chap will be dealing with evil from foreign nations, but for now another look internally

The benefits of setting God apart as the most important thing in your life

1. **God provides for all your daily need**
 - a. It's in serving others than we're ministered to
 - b. God knows how to provide an inheritance and a lasting effect from your life
2. **God provides rest from fear of death & worry-filled effort**
 - a. When you have reliance on Christ, then He's sustaining you.... you're not
 - b. Only the cross of Christ can free you from the fear of death
3. **God provides opportunities to please Him by faith**
 - a. Faith is key - Even when you don't get it all
 - b. He's working a bigger plan than u can see