

# Numbers 26-27 – 14 January 2021

## “Inheriting Faith, Hope & Love”

### 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 of people need to go in, what does God want them to know about this promised inheritance just in front of them?

These lessons should be applied to us as well. **Here are 3 attributes of our promised inheritance**

**1<sup>st</sup> Attribute of our promised inheritance: Takes faith to know God will give us how much we need (Chap 26:1-65)**

Read Chap 26:1-4

1. This is a new generation of people
  - a. Just as God had them take a census when they left Egypt 40 years ago, now another.
  - b. The comparing of census will show God's faithfulness to them
2. Remember, b/c of their unbelief, everyone 20 and older were told, they would die before getting to the Promised Land
3. There are certain lessons & laws God wants to get across to this group of people in chap 26-30 before they start conquering land that they'll keep

(Don't Read) Chap 26:5-51 – Census of all 12 tribes

1. Birth order, 20 & older just like 1<sup>st</sup> census

2. Changes of #s since 1<sup>st</sup> census
  - a. 7 tribes increased (Gad, Judah, Issachar, Manasseh, Benjamin, Dan, Asher)
  - b. 5 tribes decreased (Reuben, Simeon, Zebulun, Ephraim, Naphtali)
  - c. Simeon decreased A LOT – no biblical explanation
3. This is a record, it's not for reading
4. Only unique vs is vs 33 – talk about soon
5. Vs 51 – Total # just went down 1,820

### Read Chap 26:52-54

1. All of them will get according to their need
2. You will have as much as you need
3. Now if we could only live believing that today!
4. My God shall supply all your need... (Phl 4:19)
5. God was ready to give the 1<sup>st</sup> generation what they needed also, but they didn't believe (Heb 3:8)

### Read Chap 26:55-56

1. The land will be divided by randomness.

2. You never know what you're gonna face in life
  - a. You may face challenges I don't have to
  - b. I may face things you're glad you don't have to face
  - c. We didn't choose to be born in a country with freedom to worship God. What a blessing
  - d. We didn't choose to be born in a time period where every electronic is trying to take you to hell.
3. God choose the circumstances / events for your life...enjoy conquering with God at your lead!

Read Chap 26:57-62

1. The Levites went up a thousand
2. #ed separately b/c they don't inherit land

Read Chap 26:63-65

1. This is a whole new generation of people
2. They need to learn lesson of faith for themselves
3. Even w/o their elder 1st generation, God will take them in, it shows they have faith

2<sup>nd</sup> Attribute of our promised inheritance: We have hope that it can't be taken away (Chap 27:1-11)

Read Chap 27:1-5

1. What would happen to the inheritance of a man that died w/o any sons? Can't daughters gain land?
2. There are 2 built in assumptions w/ this problem
  - a. Father's inheritance can only go to a male
    - i. We'll deal with this one now
    - ii. There's a major principle of your salvation that hangs on this question
  - b. Women await joining another family at marriage
    - i. This is true – for purpose of seeing how the Christian doesn't have Jesus join his family, but that we join Christ's family at marriage
    - ii. So a lady takes the name of her husband

Read Chap 27:6-11

1. So what doesn't happen
  - a. The inheritance & promise doesn't dissolve
  - b. It doesn't go to a foreign nation

2. The inheritance & promise is to stay in the family with a peeking order
  - a. Son, then daughter, brother, uncle, other kin
  - b. These daughters were numbered in census we just read (vs 33) b/c they would get land
3. Why is this important to your salvation?
  - a. 3 things were promised for an inheritance
    - i. A land, a nation of people, and a Messiah
  - b. The rules of inheritance apply to receiving ALL of the promises including the Messiah
    - i. Messiah promised to come thru Abe, then Judah, then thru King David
    - ii. There's a problem though: David's kingly lineage was cursed & cut off (Jer 22:28-30)
4. Problem solved b/c of this law in Num 27
  - a. No son to receive the promised inheritance of Messiah? Goes to a daughter...like Mary!
  - b. Read Luke 1:30-32 –Given to Mary, not Joe
5. So the inheritance can't be annulled or end
6. Even w/o any sons, God gives them a sure hope

3<sup>rd</sup> Attribute of our promised inheritance: We receive love from our spiritual leadership (Chap 27:12-23)

Read Chap 27:12-14

1. The Lord allows Moses to view the Promised Land but reminds him he won't go in b/c of striking the rock instead of speaking to it
2. Moses failed "to sanctify [God] at the water before their eyes" – misrepresented God to Israel

Read Chap 27:15-17

1. Notice Moses' love for Israel – He wants them to prosper
2. That's what a shepherd does, he loves people
  - a. Peter told the pastors of the region in I Pet 5 "Feed the flock" – Read I Pet 5:1-3
  - b. After His resurrection Jesus told Peter in John 21, "Do you love Me, feed My sheep."
3. True spiritual leadership want the people to succeed even if the leader can't.
  - a. They don't quit loving the people

## Read Chap 27:18-23

1. So the commissioning of Joshua to become the new earthly leader of Israel
  - a. He's intended to be the representation of God to them – “*a man in whom is the spirit*”
  - b. This is heavy for Joshua – James 3:1
2. Joshua is ready b/c he has God's spirit and is qualified (*character, calling, confirmation*)
3. So spiritual, earthly leadership is passed from Moses to Joshua indicating the perpetual loving guidance of the Lord for His people.
  - a. God is continually in the business of shepherding His sheep
  - b. God never stops loving us.
4. *Even w/o Moses, God shows them great love*



## Conclusion

So, as Israel, you have inherited faith, hope and love?

1. **You have inherited faith to know that God will give us as much as we need**
  - a. Don't be like the 1<sup>st</sup> generation that missed out b/c of unbelief
  - b. Trust that God will supply all your need
  - c. Don't know what challenges await, but God is able to meet the need for you
2. **You have inherited hope that our inheritance can't be taken away**
  - a. Don't rely of yourself to maintain your inheritance, God is maintaining it for you!
  - b. We have no strength (no sons) to maintain it, God *declares* we will always have His *promise*
3. **You have inherited love to give and receive from spiritual leadership & from God Himself**
  - a. Praise God He loves us enough to give leaders to love us as under-shepherds!