

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning 10-9-22
Christianity 101 – Message 26 Part 1
Israel's struggle with faith at Kadesh Barnea

1. Introduction:
 - a. Taking a look back:
 - 1) Do you see Jesus in the wilderness Tabernacle?
 - b. Taking a look ahead:
 - 1) This is a transitional message for us today.
 - 2) This journey would expose and yet seek to build their trust of God.
 - a) You cannot obey God unless you trust Him, and you cannot trust Him unless you know Him.
 - 3) Every story recorded for us has a striking parallel to the way we often think and live out our faith today.
2. Moving from the mountain to the Promised Land: Exodus 32-40
 - a. Israel's idolatry – the golden calf.
 - 1) What we have studied are the instructions God gave Moses on Mount Sinai.
 - a) Israel was waiting – they did not wait well.
 - b) Impatience is the enemy of obedience.
 - 2) When Moses saw what was going on – he broke the tablets God had given him.
 - 3) The sin of those involved is easily seen, what was the sin of those who did not participate?
 - a) You cannot be neutral in matters of faith.
 - 4) They exchanged the glory of God for the dead non-existent representation of an animal.
 - 5) Application – The battle to grow and trust God was just as hard then as it is now.
 - 6) Sometimes God will bring about moments like this.
 - 7) When God moves, what do we learn?
 - b. It's time to go: Exodus 33:1
 - 1) God tells them to move forward to the land of promise.
 - 2) God's presence was no longer among them – Exodus 33:7
 - 3) Moses beholds the glory of God. Exodus 33:17-23
 - 4) Second set of tablets are given. Exodus 34
3. God faithfully leads His children: Exodus 40:34-38
 - a. Cloud and pillar of fire:
 - 1) Would you have been excited to go to this new land of Promise?
 - b. God's grace and mercy flow:
 - 1) God led them through the wilderness until they reached Kadesh Barnea.
 - 2) Why didn't God give up on them?
 - c. God shows grace to those who reject Him:
 - 1) When God first promised the land of Canaan, He didn't immediately take it from the inhabitants. Why?
 - a) Genesis 15:16 – **“the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete”**
 - b) God was showing mercy.
 - 2) God is the initiator in the restoration of fellowship between God and man.
4. First things first: Numbers 13 and Deuteronomy 1
 - a. Walking by faith or sight... does it really matter?
 - 1) Do you find it interesting that...
 - a) On one hand you have God telling His children that He has given this land to them and on the other hand you have man planning a reconnaissance mission.
 - 2) Do you see this as a step of faith or doubt?

5. Today's Take Away:

a. Where does God find you this morning...

1) Has my impatience in waiting on the Lord resulted in me being angry? Has that anger influenced me to be disobedient to the Lord?

b. Where does God find you this morning...

1) You cannot obey God unless you trust Him, and you cannot trust Him unless you know Him.

c. Where does God find you this morning...

1) God was waiting on the Amorites to repent, is God still waiting on you?