

**“THE CALL, THE CAMP & THE CONFLICTS”**  
**NUMBERS Chapters 10 – 12**

**CHAPTER 10 – “TRUMPETS & TRAVELING”**

**(v1-10) Instructions regarding the blowing of the silver trumpets.**

**(v11-28) From Sinai to the plains of Moab we see the traveling tribes of Israel.**

Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun led the march, followed by the Gershonites and Merarites carrying the items of the tabernacle. Next were Reuben, Simeon, and Gad; followed by the Kohathites carrying the tabernacle furniture. The tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin came next, and then Dan, Asher, and Naphtali. The "mixed multitude" that didn't belong to any tribe was last.

**(v29-36) Moses invites his father-in-law to join their journey and experience the provision, protection and blessings of the LORD!** Observe Moses continuous prayer and reminder to the people in verses 35–36. This isn't doctrine but just something to think about; *“Rise, O LORD!”* Christ is risen indeed! *“Return, O LORD!”* Christ is coming again!

(Warren Wiersbe writes with great insight regarding Israel and life itself, “It was time for them to move. The more comfortable we become the less we welcome change; and yet there's no growth without challenge and there's no challenge without change. Comfort usually leads to complacency, and complacency is the enemy of character and spiritual growth. In each new experience of life, one of two things happens: either we trust God and He brings out the best in us, or we disobey God and Satan brings out the worst in us.”)

**CHAPTER 11 – “COMPLAINERS, WHINERS & LEADERS”**

**(v1-3) A hot lesson in regards to “complaining.”** And a great lesson in *intercessory prayer* by Moses. Complaining is usually *quenched* through prayer. (*Taberah* means *burning*.) Memorize this scripture and it will cure you complaints; **Romans 8:28** - *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

**(v4-30) The mixed multitude begins whining about the food, being tired of the daily “manna” from heaven (v4-9).** Moses has had enough, he's at his wits end, he wants to quit; the people are too much for him (v10-15). God intervenes and tells Moses to gather 70 men, elders of Israel and He will anoint them for help (v16-25). Here's a great lesson for leadership; find the anointed men and let God use them. (Cp. Acts 6:1-5; 1 Tim. Ch. 3)

**(v31-35) Why were the people struck with the plague?** God told them to “consecrate” themselves; it appears they didn't, thus the plague. The name *Kibroth Hattaavah* means *graves of craving*. One commentator writes, “The Lord had warned Israel that the way they treated the daily manna would be a test of their obedience to His word (**Exodus 16:4-5** - *Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.”* also Deuteronomy 8:3). In rejecting the manna, Israel really rejected the Lord (Numbers 11:20, NIV), and it was this rebellious attitude that invited the judgment of God. This reminds us that the way we treat God's Word is the way we treat the Lord Himself. To ignore the Word, treat it carelessly, or willfully disobey it is to ask for the discipline of God (Hebrews 12:5-11). Instead of feeding on the things of the world that bring death, let's cultivate an appetite for the holy Word of God (Job 23:12; Psalms 1:1; Jeremiah 15:16; Matthew 4:4; Luke 10:38-42; 1 Peter 2:1-3).”

**CHAPTER 12 – “POWER STRUGGLES”**

**(v1-2) Miriam (her name means bitterness and she's living out her name in this passage) and Aaron spoke out against Moses and the LORD heard it.** We must realize that God hears everything and we may pay a price for what we say (let's learn from James Ch. 3).

**(v3) Moses is HUMBLE, are we?**

**(v4-8) God says Moses is FAITHFUL, are we?**

**(v9-13) Miriam is judged with leprosy. Moses once again intercedes through prayer. This is an amazing lesson for all leaders, pray for those who speak against you.**

(Matthew 5:43-44 - *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you”*)

**(v14-16) Sin hinders everyone, the camp did not move for seven days.**