

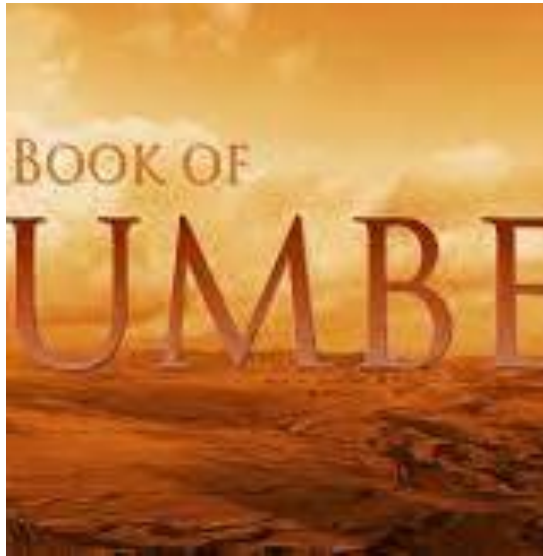
The background of the image is a dense field of 3D-rendered numbers in various sizes and orientations. The numbers are primarily in shades of light blue and white, creating a sense of depth and movement. The numbers are scattered across the frame, with some appearing larger and more prominent than others. The overall effect is a textured, data-like background.

# THE BOOK OF NUMBERS



Bible Series

## Introduction...



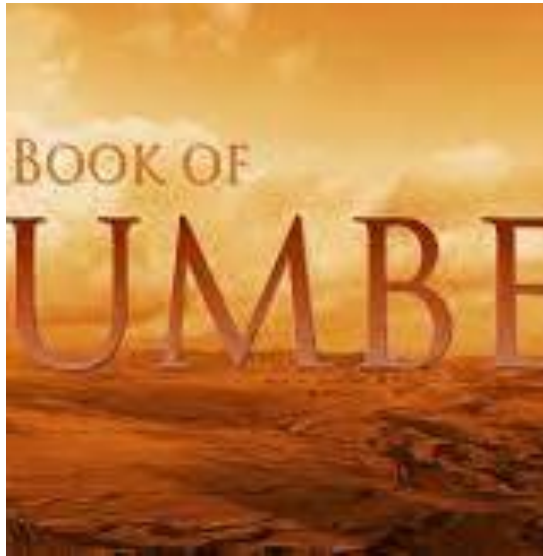
After the story of humanity in Genesis and the call of Abraham, God's renewed Promise to Bless Man is repeated through Isaac and Jacob.

This Family of Families become a Nation in Exodus and then delivered from Egypt and meet up with God in the Wilderness at Mount Sinai.

We finished Leviticus with the powerful Presence of God moving from the terrible overwhelming sight and sound on Sinai, into the Tent called The Tabernacle.



## Introduction...



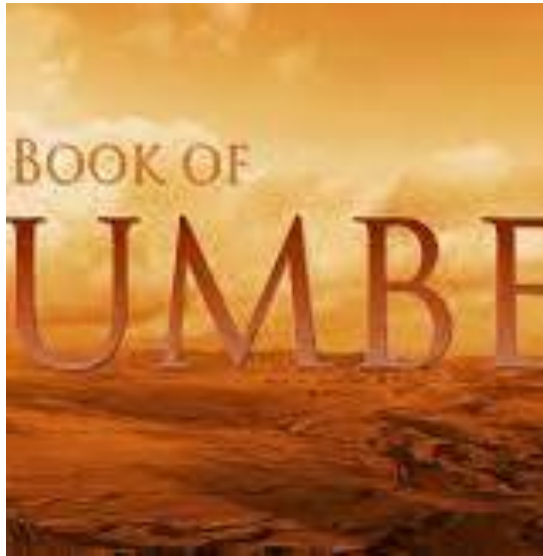
Numbers starts after about a one year stay at Mount Sinai. The significance of this encounter is laid out in the second part of Exodus and the Book of Leviticus.

It was like God was saying. “now that I have delivered you, lets agree on a contract and terms for me to be your God and you my Chosen people”

Once the agreement (The Law) was drawn up, it was time to start the journey to the Promised Land.



# Introduction...



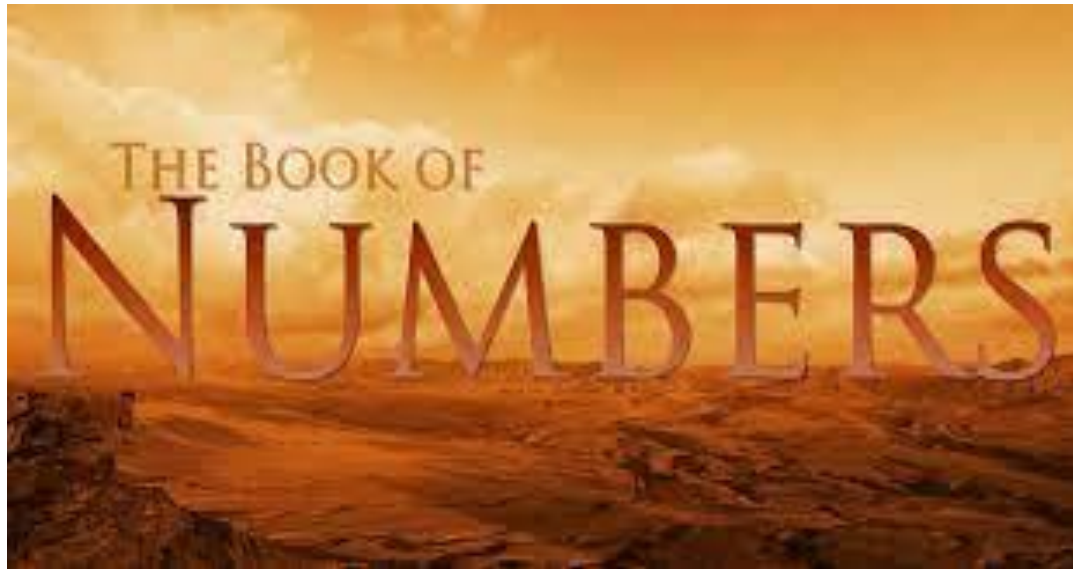
The Book of Numbers has three key locations which make up the narrative in this pivotal season of the Nation of Israel

- Mount Sinai
- The Wilderness of Paran
- The Plains of Moab

The approximate length of years of this Book is 40 years primarily due to a major mistake by the Israelites. This book contains major life lessons for Christians today about our Christian Faith and Journey.



## Video Summary...





## Lessons From Numbers...

*For whatever things were written in earlier times were written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the scriptures, might have hope.*

Romans 15:4

*Now all these things happened unto them for examples, and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come. 1*

Corinthians 10:11



# Follow God! – Numbers 9:15-23



When the cloud that covered the scared tent moved, the Israelites packed up camp and followed it. When the cloud stopped, the people stopped and set up camp again. This provides a simple, but important, lesson for our relationship with God. When God moves, we should move; when he stops, we stop.

Today, God does not usually guide us by clouds, but he does guide us with his Word, Spirit, prayer, and the counsel of his ministers and other believers. When we follow God's guidance, we know that we are where he wants us to be.



# Grumbling, Mumbling & Tumbling – Numbers 11:1-35



Only three days into their renewed journey, the Israelites began complaining again. They whined about how much better life had been in Egypt, apparently forgetting all the misery they had suffered as slaves. Incredible as it may seem, they also forgot about the many miracles the LORD had already performed to help them during their travels.

How easily we, too, become discouraged when life does not go our way. We often overlook the many good things God provides for us. God did not tolerate grumbling from the Israelites and he does not want us to waste our time complaining either. Instead, we should be thankful for the way God is taking care of us, day by day.





# Green With Envy

## Numbers 12:1-16



Aaron and Miriam resented Moses' leadership. Their complaints about his wife were simply a smoke-screen to hide the real problem. The Lord quickly let Moses' brother and sister know that they were not on the same terms with him as Moses was. Although the Lord rebuked both Miriam and Aaron, Miriam alone was struck with leprosy.

This passage shows that we should be very careful about Criticizing our spiritual leaders. Just like us, they are imperfect people who sometimes say and do foolish things. While they must be held accountable for their actions, we should be sure of our motives before we point an accusing finger at spiritual leaders. What does God see in our hearts? Are we acting out of true concern for someone else, or because we are jealous?

Notice that Moses did not hold a grudge but prayed for Miriam to be healed. When someone wrongly criticized us, we can be as forgiving as Moses when we let God guide our hearts.

God Is Not  
Joking...Numbers  
14:11-38



Our Patient God never quits loving his people. He mercifully forgives us again and again. But when his people refuse to trust and obey him, the Lord allows them to go their own way ... Which always leads to destruction.

God forgave the Israelites when Moses prayed for them, but that did not change the consequences for their sin. They had refused to trust him one time too many. Of the more than 600,000 men who came out of Egypt, only Joshua and Caleb were allowed to enter Canaan.

Today we must be careful about presuming the Lord will be kind. If God has disciplined us for sins, we should learn from our mistakes and recommit ourselves to trusting God for a great future



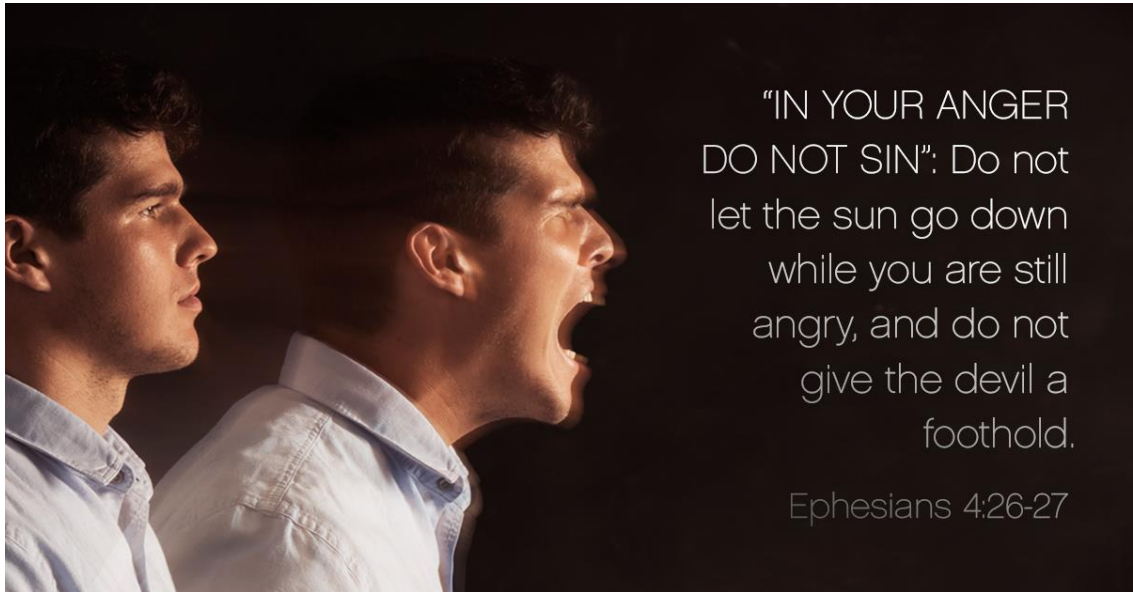
# Stop Playing With Fire! – Numbers 15:22-31

When God's people sinned accidentally, the Lord promised to forgive them if they admitted their errors and offered sacrifices. Deliberate sin, however, was dealt with much more severely.

Although God hates all sin, there is a big difference between unintentionally and willfully wanting to do what is wrong. God sees not only what we have done, but he knows why we have done it.

God knows that his children are not perfect; we all sin. But he expects us to think carefully about our actions and get in the habit of choosing right over wrong.





“IN YOUR ANGER  
DO NOT SIN”: Do not  
let the sun go down  
while you are still  
angry, and do not  
give the devil a  
foothold.

Ephesians 4:26-27

## Beware-Red Mist!




Moses lived with the stress of leading people who often complained and rebelled. We cannot blame him for getting angry and frustrated. When Moses hit the rock with his walking stick, the people for their water, and Moses got some relief.

But Moses' end result did not justify his means. God had instructed Moses to speak to the rock and command water to come out of it. Instead, Moses struck the rock, which was against what God commanded. Was God too harsh with Moses? As the leader of the Israelites, Moses had the responsibility to set a good example for them. He did not do this here.

God's instructions are never to be taken lightly. Yes, he is merciful and loving, but he also means what he says. The Bible tells us that God is always working for our good. We hurt him and ourselves when we disobey him.

Numbers 20:1-12



This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid! Don't be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God's.

2 Chronicles 20:15

## The Battle Is The Lord's

After the hard lessons the Israelites had recently learned, they were due some encouragement. In this passage, King Sihon and King Og may have assumed that this ragged band of nomads would be a pushover, but they were in for a big surprise. Their opponent wasn't Israel - It was the Lord of all the earth!

These battles are wonderful examples of how God continually fights for his people in all circumstances. We can be assured that he will do no less for us

Numbers 21:21-35





## Even A Donkey!

Even a donkey (ch. 22) seemed to have had more sense than Balaam, a prophet who sold himself for money (see Jude 11). Yet, God's Spirit "took control of him" (24.2) and used Balaam to speak a message to the Israelites.

The first part of the message is a blessing for the people, but an even more promising message follows in verses 17-19. Balaam tells of the coming Messiah, who is described as "a star" (v. 17). This coming Christ would a blessing to all nations.

Numbers 24:1-25





## A Stitch In Time...!

When Zimri worshiped a Moabite god, he directly opposed the Lord. Phinehas knew about Zimri's sin and was angry, so he did what God had said to do to those who had committed this sin. He killed Zimri.

Does this mean all anger and our resulting actions are justified? If God's name is at stake then anger is the power response. Rarely, though, is violence the power reaction for our anger. We must be careful about how we express anger. Let's pray that God will show us how to respond with calm wisdom rather than violence when we confront sin.

In the context of his culture and time Phinehas did what was right and was honoured by God for acting swiftly and with zeal.

Numbers 25:1-15





## School Of Hard Knocks!

The Israelites were finally done wandering through the desert. They had arrived near the banks of the Jordan River, the land God promised them may actually have been within their view.

God's people had learned some hard lessons since their parents had crossed the Red Sea forty years ago. They had seen the results of not believing in God. They knew that disobedience and complaining would bring trouble.

The Israelites would follow God's instructions and keep their faith in him. These are good lessons for God's people to remember today.

Numbers 36:13

\*Culled from Simple Lessons From the Bible Blogspot





Next Week...  
Deuteronomy



Moses Validatory Speech..

This is the last book of the Torah, and it happens mainly on the edge of the Promised Land

