

## Teaching Through Numbers

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Lesson 1:        The Military Census and Camp at Sinai (Numbers 1-2)

Key Verse:        "Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls." (Num. 1:2)

Introduction:     In ancient Israel the people were registered by tribes for military service and the people were assigned places and duties. God instructed the people to be well organized and equipped for defense and travel. God expected His people to be well disciplined.

I.    A Military Census Taken at Sinai (Num. 1:1-54)

- A. The LORD commanded a military census (1:1-3)
- B. The tribal chiefs were appointed (1:4-16)
- C. The tribes counted their soldiers (1:17-54)
- D. The Levites were exempt from military service (1:47-54)

II.   Camp Sites Were Assigned at Sinai (Num. 2:1-34)

- A. The tribes had a place to set up camp (2:1-34)
  - 1. Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun camped east of the Tabernacle (3-9)
  - 2. Reuben, Simeon, and Gad camped south of the Tabernacle (10-17)
  - 3. Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin camped west of the Tabernacle (18-24)
  - 4. Dan, Asher, and Naphtali camped north of the Tabernacle (25-34)
- B. The tribes had a place in the order of marching
  - 1. The first rank was Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun (2:9)
  - 2. The second rank was Reuben, Simeon, and Gad (2:16)
  - 3. The Levites followed with the Tabernacle (2:17)
  - 4. The third rank was Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin (2:24)
  - 5. The fourth rank was Dan, Asher, and Naphtali (2:31)

Conclusion:        God is not against big numbers but expects the church to be well organized and to do things decently and in order. This is not contrary to spiritual maturity.

Lesson 2:        The Levitical Census for Redemption and Services (Numbers 3-4)

Key Verse:        "And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn that openeth the matrix among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mind." (Num. 3:12)

Introduction:     The LORD chose the Levites to redeem the first born of Israel, man for man, that they might serve in their place in the tabernacle. The priests were the leaders and the Levites were the workers. Everyone had his assigned duty to serve in the worship of God.

I.    The Levites Were Numbered to Redeem the Firstborn (Num. 3:1-51)

- A.    The Levites were counted for redemption (3:1-39)
- B.    The Levites were assigned a place to camp
  - 1.    The Gershonites camped west of the Tabernacle (3:23)
  - 2.    The Kohathites camped south of the Tabernacle (3:29)
  - 3.    The Merarites camped north of the Tabernacle (3:35)
  - 4.    The families of Moses and Aaron camped on the east (3:38)
- C.    The first born of Israel were counted for redemption (3:40-43)
- D.    The firstborn were redeemed by the Levites (3:44-51)

II.   The Levites Were Numbered for Service (Num. 4:1-49)

- A.    The Levites were assigned duties (4:1-33)
  - 1.    The priests were to supervise the service (5-20)
  - 2.    The Kohathites were to carry the furniture (4-20)
  - 3.    The Gershonites were to carry the hangings (21-28)
  - 4.    The Merarites were to carry the boards (29-33)
- B.    The Workers were counted from 30 to 50 years (4:34-49)

Conclusion:        Every Christian has been redeemed that he might serve the LORD. Every believer is a priest, and everyone has gifts for service.

Lesson 3:            Separation and Dedication to God (Numbers 5-7)

Key Verse:        "And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.  
(Num. 6:27)

Introduction:     God has a place and a purpose for every one of His people. He wants them to be wholly dedicated to Him. This is demonstrated by purity of life, vows of devotion and gifts of worship. These should develop into sincere expressions of love, not deteriorate to mere ritual.

I. God's People Should be Separated From Defilement (Num. 5)

- A. The Law of Lepers: Exclusion from Camp (5:1-4)
- B. The Law of Secretions: Exclusion from Camp (5:1-4)
- C. The Law of Defilement: Exclusion from Camp (5:1-4)
- D. The Law of Atonement: Required for Sin (5:5-10)
- E. The Law of Jealousy: Trial by Ordeal (5:11-31)

II. God's People Should Be Separated to God (Num. 6)

- A. The Law of Food: No fruit of the vine (6:3-4)
- B. The Law of Drink: No wine or strong drink (6:3-4)
- C. The Law of Appearance: No razor (6:5)
- D. The Law of Purity: No defilement (6:6-8)
- E. The Law of Cleansing: Shave and sacrifice (6:9-12)
- F. The Law of Fulfillment: Sacrifice and shave (6:13-20)

III. Dedication of the Altar (Num. 7)

- A. The princes gave wagons
- B. The princes gave oxen for the wagons
- C. The princes gave a grain offering
- D. The princes gave an incense offering
- E. The princes gave burnt offerings
- F. The princes gave sin offerings
- G. The princes gave peace offerings

Conclusion:        God desires His people to be pure and dedicated to Him, generous in worship and offerings.

Lesson 4:            Preparation for the Promised Land Journey (Numbers 8-10)

Key Verse:        "For all the firstborn of the children of Israel are mine, both man and beast; on the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for myself.: (Num 9:17)

Introduction:     For the people of God to progress toward the Promised Land there must be adequate preparation. Leaders must be prepared; the congregation must be prepared; and good lines of communication must be maintained.

I. The Preparation of the Levites (Num. 8:1-26)

- A. The lamps were correctly lighted (8:1-4)
- B. The Levites were consecrated to God (8:5-26)
  - 1. They were consecrated by sprinkling (7, 21)
  - 2. They were consecrated by sacrifice (8-12)
  - 3. They were consecrated for substitution (13-18)
  - 4. They were consecrated for service (19-26)

II. The Preparation of the Congregation (Num. 9:1-23)

- A. Their hearts were prepared by the Passover (9:1-14)
  - 1. It was a memorial of the Passover (1-5)
  - 2. No one was excluded (6-14)
    - a. The defiled had an alternative (6-12)
    - b. The negligent were guilty (13)
    - c. The stranger was welcome (14)
- B. Their wills were prepared for following the Pillar (9:15-23)
  - 1. The Pillar was a cloud by day, fire by night (15-16)
  - 2. They journeyed when the Pillar journeyed (17-18)
  - 3. They camped when the Pillar stood still (19-23)

III. The Preparation of Communications (Num. 10:1-36)

- A. Silver trumpets were for communicating commands (10:1-10)
  - 1. To call an assembly (1-3)
  - 2. To call the princes (4)
  - 3. To command the march (5-6)
  - 4. To call the congregation (7-8)
  - 5. To command the battle (9)
  - 6. To commence the holidays (10)
- B. Traveling sequence used to control organization (10:11-36)
  - 1. The line of march was established (11-28)
  - 2. The leadership of Hobab was obtained (29-36)

Conclusion:        Christians should be well prepared to serve the LORD and keep the lines of communication open to both Heavenly and earthly leaders.

Lesson 5:            Sin and Judgment on the Way to Kadesh (Numbers 11-12)

Key Verse:        "And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and His anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp."  
(Num. 11:1)

Introduction:     Although Israel had experienced the miraculous deliverance from Egypt, the voice of God from Mount Sinai, and God's marvelous preparation for their journey, still the people were given to sin and rebellion for which God had to judge them.

I. The LORD Judged the Sins of the People (Num. 11:1-35)

- A. The people sinned repeatedly (11:1-15)
  - 1. They sinned by complaining (1-3)
  - 2. They sinned through carnality (4-9)
    - a. The mixed multitude fall into lust (4)
    - b. The Israelites lusted for the flesh pots of Egypt (5)
    - c. They were dissatisfied with God's manna (6-9)
  - 3. They sinned by discouraging their leaders (10-15)
    - a. The people wept in discontent (10)
    - b. The LORD's anger was aroused (10)
    - c. Moses was greatly discouraged (11-15)
- B. The LORD responded in judgment (11:16-35)
  - 1. He gave Moses administrative assistants (16-30)
    - a. Seventy elders were appointed (16-17, 24)
    - b. Meat was promised (18-23)
    - c. The elders were given Holy Spirit power (25-30)
  - 2. He supplied a scourge of quail for the murmurers (31-35)

II. The LORD Judged the Sins of the Leaders (Num. 12:1-16)

- A. Miriam murmured against Moses' authority (12:1-2)
- B. Moses' meekness was affirmed (12:3)
- C. Moses' authority was established (12:4-9)
- D. Miriam was judged with leprosy (12:10)
- E. Moses pleaded for Miriam's healing (12:11-13)
- F. Miriam spent seven days in exile (12:14-16)

Conclusion:        Christians must guard against spiritual complacency that would lead to complaints, carnality, and rebellion.

Lesson 6:            Judgement of Unbelief at Kadesh (Numbers 13-14)

Key Verse:        "If the LORD delight in us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it to us; a land which floweth with milk and honey." (Num. 14:8)

Introduction:     God commanded Israel to enter the Promised Land and conquer it. But fear of opposition and of obstacles caused unbelief and disobedience. So God condemned them to forth years of wilderness wandering.

I. Fear Caused Unbelief at Kadesh (Num. 13:1-30)

- A. Twelve spies were sent to scout out the land (13:1-25)
- B. Twelve spies returned a report at Kadesh (13:26-33)
  - 1. The majority reported with fear and unbelief (26-29, 31-33)
  - 2. The minority reported with faith and courage (30)

II. God Judged Israel's Unbelief at Kadesh (Num. 14:1-45)

- A. Israel reacted in unbelief at the spies' report (14:1-10a)
  - 1. In fear they wanted to return to Egypt (1-4)
  - 2. The leaders reassured them of God's help (5-9)
    - a. Moses and Aaron prayed (5)
    - b. Joshua and Caleb tried to persuade them (6-9)
      - (1.) The land is good (7)
      - (2.) The LORD will give the land (8)
      - (3.) The land's defense is departed (9)
      - (4.) The LORD is with them (9)
  - 3. Israel rebelled with murderous threats (10a)
- B. God pronounced judgment on Israel's unbelief (14:10b-38)
  - 1. God was provoked to destroy Israel (10b-12)
  - 2. Moses pleaded for Israel's pardon (13-19)
    - a. His plea was based on God's reputation (13-16)
    - b. His plea was based on God's promises (17-18)
    - c. His plea was based on God's mercy (19)
  - 3. God pardoned Israel for Moses' plea (20)
  - 4. God pronounced judgment (21-38)
    - a. They were judged to die in the wilderness (23-30)
    - b. They were judged to forty years wandering (31-35)
    - c. The unbelieving spies died by the plague (36-38)
- C. Israel was defeated at Kadesh (14:39-45)

Conclusion:        Unbelief and disobedience result in judgment and unfruitfulness. Christians must trust and obey.

Lesson 7:            Regulations and Rebellion in the Transition Era (Numbers 15-17)

Key Verse: "And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds." (Num. 17:8)

Introduction: Ever since leaving the Land of Egypt, the people of Israel had expressed rebellion against God and His appointed leaders. They rebelled against the diet provided by God; they rebelled against the leadership of Moses; and they rebelled against entering the Promised Land to conquer it. This lesson covers their rebellion against God's appointed priesthood.

- I. Regulations Given for Future Offerings (Num. 15:1-41)
  - A. Regulations given for the grain and drink offerings (15:1-12)
  - B. The same regulations applied to strangers and sojourners (15:13-16)
  - C. Regulations given for the heave offering (15:17-21)
  - D. Regulations given for the sin of ignorance (15:22-29)
  - E. Regulations given for the presumptuous sin (15:30-36)
    1. The presumptuous sinner was cut off from the people (30-31)
    2. Sabbath breaking was an example of presumptuous sin (32-36)
  - F. Regulations given for tassels of remembrance (15:37-41)
  
- II. Rebellion Made by Self-Appointed Priests (Num. 16:1-50)
  - A. Korah led a rebellion against the priesthood of Aaron (16:1-3)
  - B. Moses challenged Korah and the rebels (16:4-19)
  - C. The congregation separated from Korah and the rebels (16:20-27)
  - D. Moses proposed a test of true priesthood (16:28-30)
    1. If the rebels lived, then Moses was false (28-29)
    2. If the rebels died, then they were false (30)
  - E. The rebels failed the test (16:31-35)
    1. The earth swallowed the rebel leaders (31-34)
    2. The other rebels were consumed by fire (35)
  - F. A bronze plaque was made for a memorial (16:36-41)
  - G. A multitude (14,700) died of the plague (16:42-50)
  
- III. A Miraculous Rod Signified the Authorized Priesthood (Num. 17:1-13)
  - A. The tribal rods were brought to the tabernacle (17:1-7)
  - B. Aaron's rod budded in the tabernacle (17:8-9)
  - C. Aaron's rod was kept as a token (17:10-13)

Conclusion: God has appointed a new High Priest after the order of Melchizedek, Jesus Christ. His eternal ministry gives access to the Throne of Grace. Christians must not rebel against the authority and ministry of Christ.



Lesson 8:            Responsibilities, Rights, and Purification (Numbers 18-19)

Key Verse:        "And the LORD said unto Aaron, Thou and thy sons and thy father's house with thee shall bear the iniquity of the sanctuary: and thou and thy sons with thee shall bear the iniquity of your priesthood." (Num. 18:1)

Introduction:     After God confirmed His appointment of Aaron as High Priest and the Levites as the tribe to minister in the tabernacle, He gave regulations concerning their responsibilities, rights, and purification.

I. The Regulations for Priests and Levites (Num. 18:1-32)

A. The rights, responsibilities, and restrictions of the priests (18:1-20) [There are 18 total]

1. The priests had three responsibilities (18:1-7)
  - a. They served at the altar
  - b. They served in the sanctuary
  - c. They supervised the Levites
2. The priests had several rights (18:8-19, 26-28)
  - a. They were granted ten portions of the offerings (8-13,19)
  - b. They received the devoted things (14)
  - c. They received the firstborn animals (15-18)
  - d. They received the redemption money (16)
  - e. They received the tithes from the Levites (26-28)
3. The priests had one restriction: no inheritance (18:20)

B. The rights, responsibilities, and restrictions of the Levites (18:21-32)

1. They had the responsibility of service in the tabernacle (21-23)
2. They had the right to the tithes from Israel (21, 24-32)
3. They had one restriction: no inheritance (24)

II. The Red Heifer Used for Purification from Defilement (Num. 19:1-22)

A. A red heifer without blemish was burned to ashes (19:1-8)

B. The ashes were used to make purification water (19:9-10)

C. The water was used to purify from defilement (19:11-22)

Conclusion:        Those who serve God in special ministries have specific responsibilities and corresponding privileges. They are obliged to live lives of holiness and purity.

Lesson 9:        Death, Disqualification, and Detour (Numbers 20)

Key Verse:        "And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them." (Num. 20:12)

Introduction:     During the latter days of the wilderness wandering, Miriam died. The people again experienced thirst and demanded water from Moses. Discouraged, Moses struck the rock in disobedience, and God disqualified him from entering the Promised Land. Being refused passage through Edom, Israel had to detour around the land. Finally Aaron died, and his son Eleazar became High Priest.

I.    The Death of Miriam: The Smitten Rebel (20:1)

II.   The Disqualification of Moses and Aaron: The Smitten Rock (20:2-13)

- A.    The demand on Moses: Supply the water! (20:2-5)
- B.    The discouragement of Moses: Sorrow before God (20:6)
- C.    The duty of Moses: Speak to the Rock (20:7-8)
- D.    The disobedience of Moses: Smote the Rock (20:9-11)
- E.    The disqualification of Moses: Set aside as leader (20:12-13)

III. The Detour of Israel: The Stubborn Edomites (20:14-22)

- A.    Israel requested for passage through Edom (20:14-17)
- B.    Israel was refused passage through Edom (20:18)
- C.    Israel offered to pay for passage through Edom (20:19)
- D.    Israel was again refused passage (20: 20-21)
- E.    Israel required to detour around Edom (20:22)

IV. The Death of Aaron: A New High Priest (20:23-29)

- A.    Aaron's high priestly garments were removed (20:23-26)
- B.    Aaron's son Eleazar made High Priest (20:27-28)
- C.    Aaron sorrowed over by Israel (20:29)

Conclusion:        The consequences of unbelief and disobedience are death, disqualification, and detours. A wise Christian avoids these consequences.

Lesson 10:      Victory Over Sin, Hindrance, and Fear (Numbers 21)

Key Verse:      "And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived." (Num. 21:9)

Introduction:      The forty years of wandering were nearing an end, and the new generation, in anticipation of entering the Promised Land, began to experience victory.

I.    Victory Over Harassment: Arad King of the Canaanites (Num. 21:1-3)

- A. Arad harassed the stragglers of Israel (21:1)
- B. The Israelites vowed their destruction (21:2)
- C. God gave Israel victory over the Canaanites (21:3)

II.   Victory Over Sin: The Fiery Serpents (Num. 21:4-20)

- A. Israel sinned by murmuring against God, Moses, and Manna (21:4-5)
- B. Israel sorrowed over the stinging serpents of death (21:6)
- C. Israel was saved by repentance and faith (21:7-9)
  - 1. The people repented of their sin (7)
  - 2. God provided the symbolic serpent on a pole (8)
  - 3. The believers looked and lived (9)
- D. The serpent symbolized Christ crucified (John 3:14-16)
- E. Israel moved to the land of Moab (21:10-20)

III. Victory Over Hindrance: Sihon King of the Amorites (Num. 21:21-32)

- A. Sihon hindered Israel by refusing passage (21:21-23)
- B. Israel victoriously destroyed the Amorites (21:24-32)

IV. Victory Over Fear: Og King of Bashan (Num. 21:33-35)

- A. Israel feared the people of Bashan (21:33-34)
  - 1. They had strong cities (cf. Deut. 3:5)
  - 2. They had strong giants (cf. Deut. 3:11)
- B. Israel victoriously destroyed Og and his people (21:35)

Conclusion:      When God's people believe God and obey His Word, they will experience victory over harassment, sin, hindrances, and fear.

Lesson 11:        Balaam's Way, Error, and Doctrine (Numbers 22-25)

Key Verse:        "I shall see Him but not now: I shall behold Him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth." (Num. 24:17)

Introduction:     When Israel moved into the plains of Moab in anticipation of crossing the Jordan River, Balak, the king of Moab, hired the false prophet Balaam to pronounce a curse on Israel. Balaam became the classic type of future apostate false prophets.

I.    Balaam's Way: He Disobeyed Divine Guidance for Wages (Num. 22)  
      (cf. 2 Peter 2:15-16)

- A. Balaam refused Balak's first call to curse Israel (22:1-14)
- B. Balaam heeded Balak's second call to curse Israel (22:15-20)
- C. Balaam encountered the Angel of the LORD (22:21-40)
  - 1. Balaam's donkey saw the Angel and spoke (21-30)
  - 2. Balaam saw the Angel who spoke (31-40)

II.   Balaam's Error: He Denied Divine Grace for Reward (Num. 23-24)  
      (cf. Jude 11)

- A. He uttered two prophecies from afar (23:1-26)
  - 1. He prophesied from the High Place of Baal (1-12)
    - a. Israel cannot be cursed
    - b. Israel is righteous in God's eyes
  - 2. He prophesied from Mount Pisgah (13-26)
    - a. God will bless Israel
    - b. God sees no iniquity in Jacob
- B. He uttered two prophecies from nearby Mount Peor (23:27-24:25)
  - 1. Israel will experience present prosperity (23:27-24:14)
  - 2. Israel will enjoy future Messianic dominion (24:15-25)

III. Balaam's Doctrine: He Destroyed Divine Separation (Num. 25)  
      (cf. Rev. 2:14)

- A. Balaam counseled Moab to entice Israel to compromise (25:1-3; 31:16)
- B. The LORD judged Israel for moral and spiritual adultery (25:4, 5, 9)
- C. Phinehas courageously delivered Israel from destruction (25:6-18)

Conclusion:        Although the false prophet could not curse Israel directly, he was able to entice God's people to bring judgment upon themselves. Christians are in danger of the same kinds of subtle satanic attacks today.

Lesson 12:      The New Census, Instructions, and Vows (Numbers 26-30)

Key Verse:      "If a man vow a vow unto the LORD, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth." (Num. 30:2)

Introduction:      When the new generation was near ready to enter the Promised Land, God commanded a new census and gave instructions concerning inheritance, regular public offerings, and personal vows.

- I. A Census Was Made of the New Generation (Num. 26:1-65)
  - A. A census was made of the twelve tribes (26:1-56)
    1. Their numbers totaled 601,730 (1-51)
    2. Their inheritance was to be divided by lot (52-56)
  - B. A census was made of the Levites (26:57-65)
    1. Their numbers totaled 23,000 (57-62)
    2. They had no land inheritance (62-65)
- II. Instructions Were Given Concerning Inheritance and Moses' Successor (Num. 27:1-23)
  - A. Priorities were set for inheritance rights (27:1-11)
    1. Zelophehad's daughters raised a question of woman's rights (1-7)
    2. Inheritance priorities set: sons, daughters, brothers, uncles, near kinsmen (8-11)
  - B. Joshua was appointed as Moses' successor (27:12-23)
    1. The LORD announced Moses' impending death (12-14)
    2. Moses appointed Joshua as his successor (15-23)
- III. Instructions Were Given Concerning Regular Public Offerings (Num. 28-29)
  - A. Daily offerings were to be made at evening and morning (28:1-8)
  - B. Weekly offerings were to be made each Sabbath (28:9-10)
  - C. Monthly offerings were to be made at the New Moon (28:11-15)
  - D. Yearly offerings were to be made in the Spring and Fall (28:16-29:34)
    1. Three feasts were held in the Spring (28:16-31)
      - a. Offerings were to be offered at the Feast of Passover (16)
      - b. Offerings were to be offered at the Feast of Unleavened Bread (17-25)
      - c. Offerings were to be offered at the Feast of First Fruits (26-31)
    2. Three feasts were held in the Fall (29:1-34)
      - a. Offerings were to be made at the Feast of Trumpets (1-6)
      - b. Offerings were to be made on the Day of Atonement (7-11)
      - c. Offerings were to be made at the Feast of Tabernacles (12-34)
- IV. Instructions Were Given Concerning Personal Vows (Num. 30:1-16)
  - A. The Law of Vows for men: Men must keep vows (30:1-2)
  - B. The Law of Vows for women: vows may be overruled (30:3-16)
    1. Vow of unmarried woman overruled by father (3-5)
    2. Vow of newly married woman overruled by new husband (6-8)
    3. Vows of widows and divorcees must be kept (9)
    4. Vow of wife overruled by husband (10-16)

Conclusion:      God has similar expectations concerning His people today.

Lesson 13:        Judgment and Compromise (Numbers 31-33)

Key Verse:        "And Moses gave unto them, even to the children of Gad, and to the children of Reuben, and unto half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land with the cities thereof in the coasts, even the cities of the country round about." (Num. 32:33)

Introduction:     Because the Midianites had conspired to destroy Israel by luring them into idolatry and immorality, God commanded their destruction. Afterward the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and part of Manasseh chose their inheritance east of the Jordan.

I.    God Executed Judgment on the Midianites (Num. 31:1-54)

- A. Israel was commanded to take vengeance on the Midianites (31:1-6)
  - 1. Moses received the command from God (1-2)
  - 2. Moses sent 12,000 troops against Midian (3-6)
- B. Israel conquered the Midianites (31:7-12)
  - 1. They killed all the males (7)
  - 2. They killed their five kings and Balaam (8)
  - 3. They spared the women and children (9-12)
- C. Israel was commanded to destroy the women and children (31:13-18)
  - 1. Moses revealed the sin of the women (13-16)
  - 2. Moses commanded them to kill all but the virgins (17-18)
- D. Israel was cleansed from the defilement of war (31:19-24)
- E. Israel divided the spoils of war (31:25-54)

II.   Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh Requested Eastern Possessions (Num. 32:1-42)

- A. They asked for the land east of the Jordan (32:1-5)
- B. They were rebuked by Moses (32:6-15)
  - 1. He accused them of cowardice (6)
  - 2. He warned them of unbelief and disobedience (7-15)
- C. They offered to help in the conquest (32:16-19)
  - 1. They would accompany the tribes to war (16-17)
  - 2. They would not return before victory (18-19)
- D. Moses granted their request (32:20-42)
  - 1. Moses warned them against failure (20-32)
  - 2. Moses gave them the eastern territory (33-42)

III. Moses Summarized Israel's Wilderness Wanderings (Num. 33:1-33)

Conclusion:        Christians should put away all influences toward idolatry and immorality. They should desire only the inheritance prepared for them by God.

Lesson 14:      The Laws of Land Inheritance (Numbers 34-36)

Key Verse:      "Command the children of Israel, and say to them, When ye come into the land of Canaan; (this is the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance, even the land of Canaan with the coasts thereof)." (Num. 34:2)

Introduction:      Before the Israelites entered the Promised Land, the LORD gave them the laws governing the inheritance of the land. This included their territorial boundaries, the inheritance of the Levites, and the inheritance of women.

I. The Land Inheritance of the Tribes (Num. 34:1-29)

- A. The inheritance of the tribes west of the Jordan (34:1-13)
  - 1. The national boundary was defined (1-12)
  - 2. Division of the land was to be by lot (13)
- B. The inheritance of the tribes east of the Jordan (34:14-15)
- C. Tribal princes were appointed over dividing the land (34:16-29)

II. The Inheritance of the Levites (Num. 35:1-34)

- A. The Levites were to inherit 48 cities with their common land (35:1-8)
  - 1. The cities included their surrounding common land (1-5)
  - 2. The cities included the six cities of refuge (6)
  - 3. The tribes were to provide 42 more cities for them (7-8)
- B. The law of their cities of refuge (35:9-34)
  - 1. The cities were to be a refuge from the avenger of death (9-12)
  - 2. The cities were to number six (13-14)
  - 3. The cities were to assure justice in the land (15-34)
    - a. Guilty murders were to be executed (15-21)
    - b. Innocent manslaughter were to receive refuge (22-29)
    - c. Witnesses must number more than one (30)
    - d. No exceptions were given to death penalty (31-32)
    - e. Such justice purified the land (33-34)

III. The Inheritance of Land by Women (Num. 36:1-13)

- A. Zelophehad's daughters raised the question of transfer (36:1-4)
  - 1. Would a woman's inheritance transfer to husband's tribe? (1-3)
  - 2. Would not such transfer disrupt tribal possessions? (4)
- B. Female heirs must marry within their father's tribe (36:5-6)
- C. This provides permanence to tribal inheritance (36:7-13)

Conclusion:      Christians have an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled that does not fade away, reserved in Heaven for them. (1 Peter 1:4)