

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

02-26-2023 // WEEK 8 NOTES

This past week, you've finished **Numbers 18 - 34**. Here are a few highlights:

- **Numbers 18 - 19:** More laws of **purification/holiness**.
- **Numbers 20:** Miriam dies. Moses strikes the rock and God doesn't allow him to enter the Promised Land. **Why such a severe penalty?** God needed the Jews in that land for Jesus's eventual entrance into the world. Edom's enmity with Israel is expressed. Edom's descendants were from Esau. Their enmity continued between the two countries. The book of Obadiah prophesied against Edom and its arrogance against Israel.
- **Chapter 21:** More battles. The **bronze serpent** is a sign from God. When lifted up, diseases were healed by faith. This medical symbol is still used today. **Jesus used this story to allude to his cross in John 12.** As the Jews head toward the Promised Land, kings Sihon and Og are defeated, giving the people an idea that God will defeat the enemies this time WHEN they enter the Promised Land soon.
- **Chapters 22 - 25: The story of Balaam.** He turned out to be motivated by money/greed. He had been given a price for trying to curse Israel. It's a fascinating story. The NT book of Jude refers to it as a lesson for all of us about **guarding ourselves against false prophets who are motivated by greed.**
- **Chapter 26: The Second Census.** As they are ready to enter the Promised Land, the numbers need to be known to divide the land accordingly.
- **Chapter 27:** These daughters come to Moses and ask for a rightful inheritance from their father who died without a son. This is a very interesting chapter showing **God's egalitarianism with inheritances for women.** Through the Mosaic law, now women are included. This is a HUGE change that should be noted for those who say the Bible, and particularly the OT, is patriarchal. There is evidence which refutes some of those arguments and this is one of them.

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

- **Chapters 28 - 30:** The regular feasts are placed on the calendar. This shows God's desire that we take time off with family and friends on a regular, annual basis. Laws and vows must also be observed and followed through as promised. Our word needs to be true and reliable.
- **Chapters 31 - 33:** Reuben, Gad, and a half-tribe of Manasseh settle in the Transjordan area, to the east of the Jordan. At first, Moses saw this as rebellion like the 10 spies years earlier, but then it was explained that it was asked for:
 1. because of the **grazing area for their many livestock** and
 2. they would **go into the Promised Land** with their brothers and fight alongside them to conquer it. Then **they would return across the Jordan to their part of the land.** The defeat of the two kings, Sihon and Og, gave this land to the Israelites.

Remember: Jesus is alive. Death has lost its sting and victory. And the grave has been denied. Jesus lives forever. Praise him! Hallelujah!