

## LESSON 37

1. Who wrote the first five books in God's Book, the Bible?  
-Moses.
2. How did Moses know what to write?  
-God guided Moses to write down that which God wanted him to write.
3. As the Israelites were traveling through the desert, how did they know the way?  
-God guided them.
4. Where was God leading the Israelites?  
-God was leading the Israelites to Canaan, the land that He had promised to their forefather Abraham.
5. When the Israelites arrived at the border of Canaan, what did God tell Moses to do?  
-God told Moses to choose one man from each of the twelve tribes to go and explore the land.
6. Why did the ten men who did not believe in God not want to enter Canaan?  
-The ten men were afraid of the large and powerful people living in Canaan.  
-The ten men did not believe that God was powerful enough to defeat the people of Canaan.  
-The ten men did not believe God's promise to give the Israelites the land of Canaan.

7. Why did Caleb and Joshua want to enter Canaan?

-Caleb and Joshua were not afraid of the large and powerful people living in Canaan.

-Caleb and Joshua believed that God was powerful enough to defeat the people of Canaan.

-Caleb and Joshua believed that God would keep His promise and give the Israelites the land of Canaan.

8. If we do not believe God's message, what are we calling God?

-A liar.

9. Because the Israelites refused to believe in God, who alone would enter Canaan?

-Only Caleb, Joshua, and the children of the Israelites.

10. Because the Israelites refused to believe in God, how did God punish them?

-They would not enter Canaan.

-They would all die in the desert.

-Because the Israelites refused to believe in God, they did not enter Canaan, but wandered around in the desert.

-When the Israelites arrived at Kadesh, there was no water.

-What do you think the Israelites did?

Let's read Numbers 20:1-5

1-In the first month the whole Israelite community arrived at the Desert of Zin, and they stayed at Kadesh.

2-Now there was no water for the community, and the people gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron.

3-They quarreled with Moses and said, "If only we had died when our brothers fell dead before the LORD!

4-Why did you bring the LORD's community into this desert that we and our livestock should die here?

5-Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? It has no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!"

-When the Israelites had no water, did they believe in God to give them water?

-No.

-What did the Israelites do?

-They blamed Moses and Aaron.

-What should the Israelites have done when they had no water?

-They should have asked God to give them water.

-In the past, God gave them water from a rock.

-Why did the Israelites not ask God to give them water?

-Because they did not believe in God.

-Today, many people are like the Israelites.

-Even though God gives rain and makes the maize grow, many people still do not believe in Him.

-What did Moses and Aaron do when there was no water?

Let's read Numbers 20:6

6-Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and fell face down, and the glory of the LORD appeared to them.

-Moses and Aaron believed in God.

-Moses and Aaron asked God to give them water.

-Were Moses and Aaron able to give the Israelites water?

-No.

-Why were Moses and Aaron not able to give the Israelites water?

-Because they were in the desert.

-If God would not give the Israelites water, what would happen?

-All of the Israelites would die.

-Did God give the Israelites water?

Let's read Numbers 20:7-8

7-The LORD said to Moses,

8-“Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.”

-Because God loved the Israelites, He gave them water.

-What did God command Moses to do to get water?

-God commanded Moses to speak to a rock.

-In the past when the Israelites needed water, God commanded Moses to strike a rock.

-Now, God commanded Moses to speak to a rock.

-What did Moses do?

Let's read Numbers 20:9-11

9-So Moses took the staff from the LORD's presence, just as he commanded him.

10-He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, “Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?”

11-Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank.

-Did Moses speak to the rock?

-No.

-What did Moses do?

-He struck the rock two times.

-Why did Moses strike the rock?

-Because he was angry with the Israelites.

-Did Moses disobey God?

-Yes.

-What did God then say to Moses and Aaron?

Let's read Numbers 20:12

12-But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

-Because Moses and Aaron did not speak to the rock, but instead struck the rock, did God punish them?

-Yes.

-How did God punish Moses and Aaron?

-God told them that they would not enter the land of Canaan.

-When the time came for Aaron to die, God told Moses to take Aaron to the top of a nearby mountain.

Let's read Numbers 20:23-25 & 28

23-At Mount Hor, near the border of Edom, the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,

24-"Aaron will be gathered to his people. He will not enter the land I give the Israelites, because both of you rebelled against my command at the waters of Meribah.

25-Get Aaron and his son Eleazar and take them up Mount Hor."

28-Moses removed Aaron's garments and put them on his son Eleazar. And Aaron died there on top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain.

-At the top of the mountain, Aaron died.

-Did Aaron enter the land of Canaan?

-No.

-Why not?

-Because Aaron disobeyed God.

-Did God keep His Word?

-Yes.

-God always keeps His Word.

-Who took Aaron's place as chief priest?

-Aaron's son, Eleazar.

-Sometime thereafter, the Israelites complained again.

Let's read Numbers 21:4-5

4-The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way;

5-they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

-Even though God had given the Israelites water, the Israelites continued to complain.

-Because the Israelites continued to complain, what did God then do to them?

Let's read Numbers 21:6

6-Then the LORD sent poisonous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died.

-God punished the Israelites by sending many poisonous snakes among them.

-The poisonous snakes were everywhere.

-Many of the Israelites were bitten by the snakes and died.

-How is sin like the snakes?



-Just like the snakes bit the Israelites and they died, so sin bites people and they die.

-Were the Israelites able to escape the poisonous snakes?  
-No.

-Why not?

-Because the poisonous snakes were everywhere.

-When God decides to punish people who do not believe in Him, there is no place for them to escape.

-In the days of Noah, was there a place of escape for the people who were outside of the boat?  
-No.

-In the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, was there a place of escape for the people who were inside the cities?  
-No.

-Was there a place of escape for Lot's wife when she looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah?  
-No.

-When God decides to punish people who do not believe in God, there is no place for them to escape.

-When many Israelites died, what did the rest of the Israelites do?

Let's read Numbers 21:7

7-The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

-Did the Israelites admit their sin?

-Yes.

-Did the Israelites ask Moses and God to help them?

-Yes.

-Were the Israelites able to save themselves from the snakes?

-No.

-Was Moses able to save the Israelites from the snakes?

-No.

-Who was the only One who was able to save the Israelites from the snakes?

-God.

-Did God help the Israelites?

Let's read Numbers 21:8-9a

8-The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live."

9-So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole.

-What did God tell Moses to do to save the Israelites?  
-To make a snake out of brass, and to put it up on a pole.

-If the Israelites were to be saved from death, what must they do?

-Look at the bronze snake on the pole.

Let's read Numbers 21:9b

9-Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

-Did the Israelites who looked at the bronze snake on the pole live?

-Yes.

-If the Israelites had prayed but not looked at the snake, would God save them?

-No.

-If the Israelites had offered God a sacrifice but not looked at the snake, would God save them?

-No.

-In order to be saved, the Israelites had to obey only what God said.

-In order to be saved, the Israelites had to follow only God's path.

-In order to be saved, the Israelites had to only look at the snake on the pole.

-Did the bronze snake have any power to save the Israelites?  
-No.

-Who alone had the power to save the Israelites?  
-God.

-God saved all of the Israelites who looked at the bronze snake up on the pole.

-Did the sin of the Israelites call for death?  
-Yes.

-Even though the sin of the Israelites called for death, what did God do for those who looked at the snake?

-God saved them.