

SESSION 19: NUMBERS – TO KADESH BARNEA

A. Numbers continues the story of Exodus

1. Leviticus made no advance of the story.
2. Timing of the books.
 - a. *Burning bush to the Passover* – Unknown but probably about a year.
 - b. *Passover to Sinai* – 3 months
 - c. *Tabernacle is erected* – first day of the first month of the second year.
 - d. *Earliest event of numbers is the keeping of the Passover* – 14th day, first month.
 - e. *Israel leaves Sinai 20th day of the 3 month*
 - f. *Arrival at Kadesh at time of first ripe grapes* – August.
 - g. *Failure at Kadesh* – 40 days (six weeks) later. Still the second year.
 - h. *Miriam dies in chapter 20* – apparently 39 years after the Exodus.

B. Outline for the book.

Organization of Israel for conquest:

(1-14)

Delay due to rebellion: (15-19)

Reorganization of Israel for conquest:

(20-36)

- Remember that the people at the end are a whole new generation.

C. Keys to the first section of the book.

1. God's purpose for Israel was to live in the land promised to Abraham.
2. In order to go into that land there was necessity for certain things to happen.
 - a. *First organization* - This is how the name Numbers comes to the book.
 - b. *Just must live by faith.*
 - i. Nation needed preparation for this.
 - ii. No one is a person of faith by nature.
 - c. *The Lord had been using difficult circumstances to give opportunity to grow in faith* (note the list in the side column).
3. Kadesh Barnea
 - a. Begins with the mistake of the spies
 - i. Compare Numbers 13:2 with Deut. 1:22
 - ii. Spies are unnecessary and potentially dangerous.
 - b. Report of the spies
 - i. Begins with praise of the land.
 - ii. Moves to concern about

- the strength of the people.
- iii. Ignores the Lord.
- c. Counter by Joshua and Caleb.
 - i. Focus is on the Lord and what He can do.
- d. Response of the nation.
 - i. Who the Lord is does not encourage because they have not come to faith.
- e. Judgment of God.
 - i. *“As you have spoken it will be.”* - this time is final.
 - ii. *“You have tested Me these ten times.”* (Numbers 14:22)
- 4. How had they failed?
 - a. Failed to give thanks.
 - b. Continued in complaint.

Assignment

Read the account of God's training of the new generation, (Numbers 20-31) How can you see a growth in faith in the experience of the nation?

Verses to Reference:

Ex. 14: 10-20 Ex. 15:22-26 Ex. 16: 1-12 Ex. 16: 19-20 Ex, 16: 22-30 Ex, 17:1-7 Ex. 32-33 Num. 11:1-3 Num. 11:4-35 Num. 13-14