

SESSION 20: NUMBERS - TRAINING THE NEW GENERATION

A. The failure at Kadesh led to the rejection of the first generation.

B. The story resumes again 38 years later at Kadesh.

1. *God then prepares this generation to go in. They also are taught the way of faith.*
2. *The Training*
 - a. Pattern the same- God creates circumstances to give opportunity to learn of His faithfulness.
 - b. Seems to begin right where it left off Num. 20:7-13
 - i. No water- murmuring
 - ii. Note that the Lord simply supplied the need.
 - iii. Moses is rejected, as leader to bring them into the land.
 - c. Edom's refusal to allow Israel to pass through. Num. 20:14-21
 - i. Note that Israel withdraws without complaint
3. *Arad's Attack - Num. 21:1-3*
 - a. The people go to the Lord (pray) concerning the situation - They see the Lord's answer
4. *The Fiery Serpents - Num. 21:4-9*

- a. Issued direct complaint against the Lord
 - i. We loathe this miserable food
 - b. Serpents come in everywhere
 - c. The people repent
 - d. People ask for an answer
 - e. Bronze serpent
 - i. Both a deliverance and a separation
 - 1. Men of faith live and learn others do not
5. *The Provision of Water at Beer - Num. 27:16-18*
- a. Note that the Lord provided not in answer to complaint but because He knew their need
 - b. The people sang a song of thanksgiving in response
6. *Note the battles of the kings of Sihon and Og - Num. 21:21-35*
- a. The Lord gives words of encouragement and the people go forward
7. *Faith demands purity - Num 25:1-18*
- a. Note the sin with the local Baals
 - b. Note also it is a priest who takes the first action
 - c. Note that the Lord deals with this in a plague
 - i. Phinehas' faithfulness

slays the plague

C. From this point on the book speaks of making actual preparation for the conquest

1. Census
2. Change of command
3. Laws for the conquest
 - a. Then finally Deuteronomy tells of the final preparation of the people by renewing the covenant vows

Assignment

Read Deuteronomy 1-12. Look for the strong emphasis on the danger of pride and idolatry. Look also for the call to love God with a whole heart. What other words are used to describe this heart of love?

