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|  | **LightHouse Ranch****Bible Study**  |

**Believing is Doing Part III, Numbers 20-21**

 **I. Ending Events of the Wilderness Wandering**

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| **Just before Jesus sent out His disciples to minister He said:**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; … **(Matthew 6:33)** |
| Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I *am* the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I *am* the LORD. **(****Exodus 6:6-8****)** | And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for *there is* no bread, neither *is there any* water; and our soul loatheth this light bread. And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. **(****Numbers 21:4-6****)** |
| By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God. **(****Hebrews 11:8-10****)** |

**Believing is Doing – Part III End of the Wilderness Wandering**

This third study of *Believing is doing* brings us to and marks the end of the “Wilderness Wandering”, of Israel taking place in arguably the worst desert region in the world. Removing Israel from the economy of the world, God is teaching them to trust Him and to make a nation out of them. One very interesting aspect of the Pentateuch is the layout of Israel contrasted with its surroundings. Directions in the Bible originate in Israel and develop from there. With the exception of Egypt and the future “King of the North”, most of Israel’s enemies were located east of Israel, (Assyria, Babylon, Persia) but those great armies didn’t approach from the West; but traveled north to Syria and then attacked Israel from the North. These are described as the “*evil from the North*” - they actually were east of Israel but attacked from the North. (Jeremiah 4:4-6; Ezekiel 26:7) Between Israel on the Mediterranean coast and “The Land between the Rivers” lies one big bad desert and armies avoided it even if it meant a longer march.

Now Let’s go back to the Exodus for a moment to the first Passover as the LORD redeemed His people by blood (Redemption) and power (of the Holy Ghost) out of Egyptian bondage as He had promised. The first Passover consisted of the Passover Lamb (Christ’s death) and unleavened bread (People’s sanctification – separation from Egypt (“world”), and trumpets (Christ’s resurrection). The people were granted redemption by blood and power and this we witnessed at the “Song of the redeemed” (Exodus 15:1-21). What about the “sanctification”? As soon as the first trial arrives (the rest of Exodus 15), the people are not considering sanctification suddenly, instead they murmur and complain desiring to return to Egypt (The economy of the world). The Bible calls this “unbelief” -unbelief manifested by their actions. Because they did not sanctify themselves, they were prevented from immediate entrance into God’s new economy lined out in Leviticus; instead they spent 38 years, much of the book of Numbers, wandering in one of the worst of deserts until the first generation died off. (Hebrews 3-4)

After God’s people were delivered across the Red Sea, Moses led them back to Mount Sanai so Moses could “serve God upon this mountain” as was prophesied (Exodus 3:1-12) When Moses returned to Sanai, bringing Israel with him, the second Passover (Redemption) and Unleavened Bread (Sanctification) was celebrated. Moses erected the tabernacle, (Exodus 40:17) then the second Passover is celebrated in the book of Leviticus. Leviticus covers about 30 days with its theme, sanctification seen (Leviticus 20:7-8). So while Genesis covers from 1500-2000 years, Exodus 400 years, Leviticus 30 days, but Numbers covers 39 years (Numbers 1:1) - the Wilderness Wandering. This wandering did not have to take place. In chapter 13, the children of Israel were right at the border of the land. Moses sent 12 spies into Canaan and even though the land was full of “milk and honey” as God prophesied - it was unbelief of God’s Word that prompted the first generation to believe the evil report and die rather than do the Word of God by faith. Joshua brought the true report, and the next generation prepares to enter into the promise. The Lord had removed His people from the economy of the world to make of them a nation and take them unto His new economy. Our divine commentary on these people follows: (also Psalm 78)

**I Corinthians 10:1** Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;
**I Corinthians 10:2** And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;
**I Corinthians 10:3** And did all eat the same spiritual meat;
**I Corinthians 10:4** And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. (Exodus 17; Numbers 20.8)
**I Corinthians 10:5** But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
**I Corinthians 10:6** Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

**I Corinthians 10:7** Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.
**I Corinthians 10:8** Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.
**I Corinthians 10:9** Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. **I Corinthians 10:10** Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.
**I Corinthians 10:11** Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
**I Corinthians 10:12** Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

**I.** **Ending Events of the Wilderness Wandering (Miriam and Aaron dies, Moses’ sin)**

**Israel wanders back to Kadesh-Barnea – Miriam dies**

**Numbers 20:1** Then came the children of Israel, *even* the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

**The Seventh Murmuring**
**Numbers 20:2** And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.
**Numbers 20:3** And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!
**Numbers 20:4** And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?
**Numbers 20:5** And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it *is* no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither *is* there any water to drink.

**Moses and Aaron go to God**
**Numbers 20:6** And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.

**The LORD speaks**
**Numbers 20:7** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

**Water out of the Rock**
**Numbers 20:8** Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

**Moses took the rod from before the LORD – Aaron’s rod that budded**

**Numbers 20:9** And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

**But Moses did not obey the LORD this time**
**Numbers 20:10** And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?
**Numbers 20:11** And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also*.

**Because you believed me not – We need the Biblical meaning of “believe” (1st “Meribah”** Exodus 17**)**
**Numbers 20:12** 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.

**Moses separated himself unto the people – Not God - Moses broke the type**

**Numbers 20:13** This *is* the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them.

**A Message sent to the King of Edom – What about the pillar of cloud?**
**Numbers 20:14** And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us:
**Numbers 20:15** How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers:
**Numbers 20:16** And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we *are* in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border:
**Numbers 20:17** Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink *of* the water of the wells: we will go by the king's *high* way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders.

**Edom refuses to let them pass through their land – War if you do**
**Numbers 20:18** And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword.

**Israel tries to reason with the king of Edom**
**Numbers 20:19** And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without *doing* any thing *else*, go through on my feet.

**Edom does not relent**
**Numbers 20:20** And he said, Thou shalt not go through. And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand.

**So, Israel wanders to Mount Hor**
**Numbers 20:21** Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him.
**Numbers 20:22** And the children of Israel, *even* the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh, and came unto mount Hor.

**The LORD speaks to Moses and Aaron at the mount**
**Numbers 20:23** And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in mount Hor, by the coast of the land of Edom, saying,

**Aaron will die – not enter the land because he rebelled at Meribah**
**Numbers 20:24** Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah.
**Numbers 20:25** Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up unto mount Hor:
**Numbers 20:26** And strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son: and Aaron shall be gathered *unto his people*, and shall die there.

**Moses obeys and Aaron dies**
**Numbers 20:27** And Moses did as the LORD commanded: and they went up into mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.
**Numbers 20:28** And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there in the top of the mount: and Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount.
**Numbers 20:29** And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, *even* all the house of Israel.

**II. Israel’s Vow to the LORD - A Canaanite takes prisoners from Israel**

**Numbers 21:1** And *when* king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south, heard tell that Israel came by the way of the spies; then he fought against Israel, and took *some* of them prisoners.
**Numbers 21:2** And Israel vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou wilt indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.
**Numbers 21:3** And the LORD hearkened to the voice of Israel, and delivered up the Canaanites; and they utterly destroyed them and their cities: and he called the name of the place Hormah.

**III. The way to fail a trial – Unbelief in God’s Word**
**Numbers 21:4** And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.
**Numbers 21:5** And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for *there is* no bread, neither *is there any* water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.
**Numbers 21:6** And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

**IV. The way back to God – Humble confession**
**Numbers 21:7** Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

**V. Obedience - Brazen Serpent** – **God’s Healing Message** - **Not religion** (II Kings 18:4) (John 3)
**Numbers 21:8** And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.
**Numbers 21:9** 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.
**Numbers 21:10** And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in Oboth.
**Numbers 21:11** And they journeyed from Oboth, and pitched at Ije-abarim, in the wilderness which *is* before Moab, toward the sunrising.

**Marching – not wandering - toward Moab**
**Numbers 21:12** From thence they removed, and pitched in the valley of Zared.
**Numbers 21:13** From thence they removed, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, which *is* in the wilderness that cometh out of the coasts of the Amorites: for Arnon *is* the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.
**Numbers 21:14** Wherefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, What he did in the Red sea, and in the brooks of Arnon,
**Numbers 21:15** And at the stream of the brooks that goeth down to the dwelling of Ar, and lieth upon the border of Moab.
**Numbers 21:16** And from thence *they went* to Beer: that *is* the well whereof the LORD spake unto Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water.

**VI.** **A Song Of Belief And Victory**
**Numbers 21:17** Then Israel sang this song, Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it:
**Numbers 21:18** The princes digged the well, the nobles of the people digged it, by *the direction of* the lawgiver, with their staves. And from the wilderness *they went* to Mattanah:
**Numbers 21:19** And from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth:
**Numbers 21:20** And from Bamoth *in* the valley, that *is* in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh toward Jeshimon.
**Numbers 21:21** And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,
**Numbers 21:22** Let me pass through thy land: we will not turn into the fields, or into the vineyards; we will not drink *of* the waters of the well: *but* we will go along by the king's *high* way, until we be past thy borders.

**Numbers 21:23** And Sihon would not suffer Israel to pass through his border: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and went out against Israel into the wilderness: and he came to Jahaz, and fought against Israel.
**Numbers 21:24** And Israel smote him with the edge of the sword, and possessed his land from Arnon unto Jabbok, even unto the children of Ammon: for the border of the children of Ammon *was* strong.
**Numbers 21:25** And Israel took all these cities: and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all the villages thereof.
**Numbers 21:26** For Heshbon *was* the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and taken all his land out of his hand, even unto Arnon.
**Numbers 21:27** Wherefore they that speak in proverbs say, Come into Heshbon, let the city of Sihon be built and prepared:
**Numbers 21:28** For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, *and* the lords of the high places of Arnon.
**Numbers 21:29** Woe to thee, Moab! thou art undone, O people of Chemosh: he hath given his sons that escaped, and his daughters, into captivity unto Sihon king of the Amorites.
**Numbers 21:30** We have shot at them; Heshbon is perished even unto Dibon, and we have laid them waste even unto Nophah, which *reacheth* unto Medeba.
**Numbers 21:31** Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites.
**Numbers 21:32** And Moses sent to spy out Jaazer, and they took the villages thereof, and drove out the Amorites that *were* there.
**Numbers 21:33** And they turned and went up by the way of Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he, and all his people, to the battle at Edrei.
**Numbers 21:34** And the LORD said unto Moses, Fear him not: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.
**Numbers 21:35** So they smote him, and his sons, and all his people, until there was none left him alive: and they possessed his land.

**VII. The Kingdom Economy**

**Parable of the sower**

**Matthew 13:1** The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.
**Matthew 13:2** And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
**Matthew 13:3** And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
**Matthew 13:4** And when he sowed, some *seeds* fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
**Matthew 13:5** Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
**Matthew 13:6** And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
**Matthew 13:7** And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
**Matthew 13:8** But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
**Matthew 13:9** Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.
**Matthew 13:10** And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?
**Matthew 13:11** He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.
**Matthew 13:12** For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.
**Matthew 13:13** Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.
**Matthew 13:14** And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:
**Matthew 13:15** For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
**Matthew 13:16** But blessed *are* your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.
**Matthew 13:17** For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see *those things* which ye see, and have not seen *them*; and to hear *those things* which ye hear, and have not heard *them*.
**Matthew 13:18** Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
**Matthew 13:19** When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth *it* not, then cometh the wicked *one*, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.
**Matthew 13:20** But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;
**Matthew 13:21** Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
**Matthew 13:22** He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
**Matthew 13:23** But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth *it*; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
**Matthew 13:24** Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:
**Matthew 13:25** But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.
**Matthew 13:26** But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.
**Matthew 13:27** So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?
**Matthew 13:28** He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?
**Matthew 13:29** But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.
**Matthew 13:30** Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.
**Matthew 13:31** Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:
**Matthew 13:32** Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.
**Matthew 13:33** Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
**Matthew 13:34** All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:
**Matthew 13:35** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.
**Matthew 13:36** Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.
**Matthew 13:37** He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;
**Matthew 13:38** The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked *one*;
**Matthew 13:39** The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.
**Matthew 13:40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.
**Matthew 13:41** The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;
**Matthew 13:42** And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
**Matthew 13:43** Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.
**Matthew 13:44** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.
**Matthew 13:45** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:
**Matthew 13:46** Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.
**Matthew 13:47** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:
**Matthew 13:48** Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.
**Matthew 13:49** So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,
**Matthew 13:50** And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
**Matthew 13:51** Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.
**Matthew 13:52** Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe *which is* instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man *that is* an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure *things* new and old.
**Matthew 13:53** And it came to pass, *that* when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.
**Matthew 13:54** And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this *man* this wisdom, and *these* mighty works?
**Matthew 13:55** Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?
**Matthew 13:56** And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *man* all these things?
**Matthew 13:57** And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.
**Matthew 13:58** And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.