

## **OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY- 2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER, 1889**

### **LESSON 14: FREE-WILL OFFERINGS (April 6, 1889)**

1. While Moses was in the mount, what did God tell him to say to the children of Israel?

*Exodus 25:1, 2.*

2. Of what was their offering to consist?

*Exodus 25:3-7.*

3. What were these offerings for?

*Exodus 25:8.*

4. Who only were to bring an offering?

*Exodus 25:2; 35:5, 21.*

5. What sort of things did they bring?

*Exodus 35:22-24.*

6. How did they come to have so many valuable things?

*Exodus 12:35, 36.*

7. What did the women do?

*Exodus 35:25, 26.*

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8. What kind of service was all this?

*Exodus 35:29.*

9. How are we exhorted to give?

*2 Corinthians 9:7.*

10. What kind of a giver does God love?

*2 Corinthians 9:7.*

11. Cite another instance where the people offered willingly to the cause of God.

*1 Chronicles 29:6-8.*

12. How was it that the people were enabled to give so willingly?

*1 Chronicles 29:9.*

13. Is there danger of coming to poverty through generous giving to the cause of God?

*Proverbs 11:24, 25.*

14. What is God able to do?

*2 Corinthians 9:8, 11.*

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15. How is this?

*Psalms 24:1; 50:10-12; Haggai 2:8.*

16. Then when people make offerings to God, whose property do they give?

*1 Chronicles 29:14-16.*

17. What was the result when the people gave with a willing heart?

*Exodus 36:4, 5.*

18. What proclamation had to be made?

*Exodus 36:6, 7.*

19. How many have known of such an instance in the history of the cause?

20. Is there in this record any lesson for us?

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### **NOTES:**

In his second epistle to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul makes the grace of Christ the grand spring of all Christian giving. Giving that is prompted by anything else is not Christian giving. As an incentive for believers to give liberally, the apostle said: "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9.)

The plan of salvation begins and ends in a gift. "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16.) Christ "gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:14.)

When the work of redemption shall have been completed, the saints will share a glorious immortality as the free gift of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. This consideration should incite to prompt and cheerful giving. Indeed, it will lead to such giving on the part of every soul who feels the worth of the Saviour's love. Surely it is a slight thing to give the temporal riches which come from God in the first place, and belong to him, when he so freely gives to us eternal riches. "The riches of his grace" is an expression often used by the apostle Paul. But the grace of God is a gift and consists wholly in giving; we are exhorted to be "good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10.)

The spirit of willingness to give is a grace and a manifestation of the grace of God. See 2 Corinthians 8:4-7. A converted church must be a

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liberal church. A revival that does not increase the contributions of a church is not the right kind of revival; for those who, like the brethren in Macedonia, first give themselves to the Lord, will, like them, abound in liberality, even in deep poverty. See 2 Corinthians 8:1-5.

This is further proved by the experience of the people in the time of Hezekiah. See 2 Chronicles 30 and 31, comparing especially 2 Chronicles 30:18-20 and 31:4-11.

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### **LESSON 15: THE TABERNACLE (April 13, 1889)**

1. What was the object of the sanctuary which the Lord told the children of Israel to build?

*Exodus 25:8.*

2. Was this an entirely new thought to them?

*Exodus 15:1, 2.*

3. Of what was the frame-work of the tabernacle made?

*Exodus 26:15.*

4. How many boards were there on each side?

*Exodus 26:18-20.*

5. What were the dimensions of each board?

*Exodus 26:16.*

6. Then what was the length and the height of the tabernacle?

7. How were these boards kept in an upright position?

*Exodus 26:17, 19, 26-28.*

8. Describe the west end of the tabernacle.

*Exodus 26:22-25.*

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9. With what was all the wood-work covered?

*Exodus 26:29.*

10. How was the east end inclosed?

*Exodus 26:36, 37.*

11. What formed the ceiling of the tabernacle?

*Exodus 26:1; see also verses 2-6.*

12. What covering was above this?

*Exodus 26:7; see also verses 8-13.*

13. What further protection did the tabernacle have above?

*Exodus 26:14.*

14. How many apartments were there in the tabernacle? What were they called? And how were they separated?

*Exodus 26:31-33.*

15. How was Moses guided in building this tabernacle?

*Exodus 25:8, 9.*

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16. Was this tabernacle the real dwelling-place of God?

*1 Kings 8:27; Acts 7:48, 49; Isaiah 66:1, 2.*

17. What were these "holy places" which Moses made?

*Hebrews 9:23, 24.*

18. Then where are the true holy places?

19. Is there a real sanctuary, a special dwelling place, for God in Heaven?

*Hebrews 8:1, 2; Psalm 11:4; 1 Kings 8:30.*

20. In the type, what were pictured on all the curtains within?

*Exodus 26:1, 31.*

21. What were these to represent in the reality?

*Revelation 5:11.*

22. For what purpose are these angels round about the throne of God in the heavenly sanctuary?

*Psalm 103:19, 20; Hebrews 1:14; Daniel 7:9, 10.*



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### **LESSON 16: THE ARK—ITS USE AND SIGNIFICANCE (April 20, 1889)**

1. Name the articles of furniture that were in the tabernacle.

*Exodus 25:10, 23, 31; 30:1.*

2. According to what were they fashioned?

*Exodus 25:40.*

3. Of what were they representations?

*Hebrews 9:21-23.*

4. Have any of these articles been seen in the true tabernacle in Heaven?

*Revelation 11:19; 1:12; 8:3.*

5. Describe the ark.

*Exodus 25:10-12.*

6. Tell what the covering of the ark was called, and describe it.

*Exodus 25:17, 21 (first part).*

7. What was upon the mercy-seat, or cover of the ark?

*Exodus 25:18-20.*

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8. In what part of this tabernacle was God's presence specially manifested?

*Exodus 25:22; Numbers 7:89; 8:1.*

9. What do we read of the real throne of God?

*Psalms 11:4; 99:1; see also Ezekiel 1.*

10. Since the tabernacle was a figure of the true sanctuary in Heaven, what must have been signified by the ark with its covering, from which God spoke?

**Answer:** *The throne of God in Heaven.*

11. What was placed in the ark in the earthly sanctuary?

*Exodus 25:16, 21; Deuteronomy 10:4, 5.*

12. Remembering that everything about the earthly sanctuary was a representation of things in the heavens, what must we conclude from the fact that the tables containing the Ten Commandments were placed in the ark, from above which God spoke?

**Answer:** *That the law of God—the Ten Commandments—is underneath the throne of God in heaven.*

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13. What statements have we to this effect?

*Psalms 89:14; 97:2.*

14. What are the commandments of God declared to be?

*Psalms 119:172.*

15. Whose righteousness are they?

*Isaiah 51:6, 7.*

16. Since the law of God is the foundation of his throne, how enduring must it be?

*Psalms 36:5, 6; 111:7, 8; 119:160.*

17. To what would the abolition of the law of God be equivalent?

**Answer:** *To the overthrow of the Government of God.*

18. Then is it conceivable that the law can be abolished or changed?

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### **NOTES:**

It is absolutely inconceivable that the law of God should be abolished or changed in the slightest particular. It is the righteousness of God, and that cannot be different from what it is. It is His will, and God changes not. It is the foundation of His throne, His government, and that cannot change, because He is "from everlasting to everlasting."

There is just one thing that the Bible declares God cannot do:

"He cannot deny Himself."

He cannot be other than He is. And so it is absolutely impossible for the omnipotent God himself to change or abrogate His law, for in so doing He would deny Himself; He would change His character, His will, and His Government, and would cease to be God.

But this is inconceivable; and so we repeat that it is absolutely inconceivable that the law of God should be abolished or changed.

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### **LESSON 17: OFFERINGS FOR SIN (April 27, 1889)**

1. What has God represented Himself as most willing to do?

*Isaiah 55:7.*

2. In what does He delight?

*Micah 7:18.*

3. How great is His mercy?

*Psalms 103:11.*

4. What will He do for our iniquities, and where will He put them?

*Micah 7:19.*

5. How far does He remove our transgressions from us, if we but repent?

*Psalms 103:12.*

6. What assurance have we of all this?

*Romans 8:31, 32.*

7. What is it that cleanses from sin?

*John 1:29; 1 John 1:7.*

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8. Yet what were the Israelites required to do when they committed sin?

*Numbers 15:27, 28.*

9. Tell the particulars of this sin-offering.

*Leviticus 4:29-31.*

10. In case the entire offering was burnt, what was done with the blood?

*Leviticus 4:5-7, 11, 12.*

11. What is said of the blood?

*Leviticus 17:11 (last part).*

12. When only the fat of the sin-offering was burnt, what was done with the flesh?

*Leviticus 6:26, 30.*

13. In this case, what was the flesh considered as bearing into the sanctuary?

*Leviticus 10:16, 17.*

14. Was there any power in these offerings to cleanse from sin?

*Hebrews 10:1, 4.*

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15. Yet were not the people actually and fully pardoned when they made these offerings?

*Numbers 15:28; see also Leviticus 4, noting especially verses 20, 26, 31, and 35.*

16. Then what must have been the significance of those offerings?

**Answer:** *They represented the death of Christ "who his own self bare our sins in his body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness" (1 Peter 2:24), by whose stripes we are healed.*

*God's promise makes future things as real as though they had already been performed, and so the blood of Christ was as powerful to cleanse from sin in the days of Moses as it is now. The sin offerings that the people brought simply showed their faith that the Lord had laid upon Jesus the iniquity of us all, and that there is cleansing in His blood.*

*It was by faith that all sacrifices that were of any value were made. (Hebrews 11:4.) It was faith that made the people whole in those days, as well as in the days of Christ, or at the present time; and without faith it was as impossible to please God then as it is now.*

17. If there was not true repentance, would any sacrifice avail?

*Psalms 66:18.*

18. What does the Lord require of us?

*Hosea 6:6; Micah 6:6-8.*

19. What are the real sacrifices of God?

*Psalms 51:16, 17.*

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### **NOTES:**

When the Lord says, "For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice," and David says, "Thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt-offering," we must understand it as meaning that God never had any delight in sacrifices and burnt-offering unaccompanied by a contrite spirit; for immediately after David said this, he added, "Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt-offering and whole burnt-offering."

The meaning is that God is not pleased with mere form and soulless ceremony. He does not desire a person to do penance, and His favor cannot be bought by any amount of treasure or affliction of one's body. See Micah 6:6-8. But He is pleased with a broken and contrite heart; and such a heart will say from the fullness of its sense of the divine mercy, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people." (Psalm 116:12-14.)



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### **LESSON 18: UNSANCTIFIED SERVICE, AND THE RESULT (May 4, 1889)**

1. What article of furniture was just before the vail of the Most Holy Place in the sanctuary?

*Exodus 40:26, 27.*

2. How often was incense to be offered on it?

*Exodus 30:7, 8.*

3. What else was done at the same time?

*Exodus 29:38, 39, 42.*

4. What reference does David make to this custom?

*Psalms 141:1, 2.*

5. While the sacrifice and incense were being offered, what did the people do?

*Luke 1:8-10.*

6. What was signified by the incense?

*Revelation 5:8, marginal reading.*

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7. What commandment did the Lord make concerning the offering of incense upon the altar?

*Exodus 30:9.*

8. Who violated this commandment?

*Leviticus 10:1.*

9. How were they punished?

*Leviticus 10:2.*

10. What special instruction did the Lord then give Aaron?

*Leviticus 10:8, 9.*

11. From this what must we conclude was the cause of the error of Nadab and Abihu?

**Answer:** *That they had been drinking wine and did not fully realize what they were about.*

12. Why was it that their perceptions should not be clouded by strong drink?

*Leviticus 10:10.*

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13. Can an intemperate man properly serve the Lord?

*2 Peter 1:5, 6; 1 Corinthians 9:25.*

14. What other instance can you name where God showed, in a special manner, the difference between holy and common things?

*2 Samuel 6:6, 7.*

15. If God could make one portion of fire and one article of furniture holy, could He not also make one day holy above all others?

16. What day has God made holy?

*Exodus 20:8-11.*

17. Did the fact that Nadab and Abihu used the strange fire in the service of the Lord make that fire holy?

18. Then can men, by devoting a certain day to religious uses, make it holy if God has not hallowed it?

*Lamentations 3:37.*

19. What curse has God pronounced upon those who put no difference between common and holy things?

*Isaiah 5:20-24.*

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### **LESSON 19: UNBELIEF AND ITS PUNISHMENT (May 11, 1889)**

1. How far did the Israelites travel after they left Sinai before they encamped again?

*Numbers 10:33.*

2. How were they guided in selecting a place to camp?

*Numbers 10:33.*

3. What did Moses say when the ark set forward?

*Numbers 10:35.*

4. What did he say when it rested?

*Numbers 10:36.*

5. When the people again complained, what followed?

*Numbers 11:1.*

6. What does the psalmist say was the reason they were thus punished?

*Psalms 78:20-22.*

7. What made this murmuring inexcusable?

*Psalms 78:23, 24.*

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8. Is it any less excusable if God's people complain now?

*Lamentations 3:22, 23.*

9. In the instance under consideration, how were the people saved?

*Numbers 11:2.*

10. What was proved by that?

*James 5:16.*

11. Did this lesson prove sufficient to keep the people from murmuring?

*Numbers 11:4-6.*

12. When Moses heard their murmurings, how did he feel?

*Numbers 11:11, 14.*

13. What provision did the Lord make to lighten his burden?

*Numbers 11:16, 17.*

14. What did He say the people should have?

*Numbers 11:18.*

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15. How abundantly did He say they should be supplied?

*Numbers 11:19, 20.*

16. What did Moses say of this great promise?

*Numbers 11:21, 22.*

17. What did the Lord reply to his implied doubt?

*Numbers 11:23.*

18. How was the promise fulfilled?

*Numbers 11:31; Psalm 78:27-29.*

19. How did the people manifest their greed and their distrust in God?

*Numbers 11:32; Psalm 78:30, 31.*

20. What was the result?

*Numbers 11:33.*

21. Did this cause the rest of the people to believe God?

*Psalm 78:32.*

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### **NOTES:**

The rendering in our common version, which makes the quail to have been piled up "two cubits high upon the face of the earth," is uncalled for and unwarranted. The Revised Version gives the proper sense and rendering by putting it, "about two cubits above the face of the earth." The Vulgate has it, "And they flew in the air, about two cubits above the earth." This is a very free translation; nevertheless, it exactly expresses the sense of the original. The quails flew about breast high and so were easily killed.

Many readers will recall flights of pigeons in such numbers as to darken the sun, and when they flew so low as to be easily knocked down with clubs. In the case under consideration, the quails were brought miraculously and were doubtless in miraculous numbers; but the Bible, rightly translated, gives no countenance to the absurdity of either living or dead birds being piled up three feet high for a space two days' journey in diameter.

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### **LESSON 20: MIRIAM'S SIN (May 18, 1889)**

1. What name was given to the place where the people lusted for flesh?

*Numbers 11:34.*

2. Where did they go from that place?

*Numbers 11:35.*

3. What fault did Miriam and Aaron find with Moses?

*Numbers 12:1.*

4. What showed that this complaint was due solely to envy?

*Numbers 12:2.*

5. What testimony is here thrown in as to the character of Moses?

*Numbers 12:3.*

6. What promise has the Lord made concerning such people?

*Psalms 25:9.*

7. Why will the Lord guide the meek rather than any others?

*See note.*



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8. Although the meek may be despised, of what are they sure at last?

*Psalms 37:11; Matthew 5:5.*

9. Did the Lord overlook the envy of Miriam and Aaron?

*Numbers 12:4, 5.*

10. How did the Lord say He would reveal Himself to a prophet?

*Numbers 12:6.*

11. What showed that Moses was greater than an ordinary prophet?

*Numbers 12:7, 8.*

12. What direct statement have we concerning the high standing of Moses?

*Deuteronomy 34:10-12.*

13. How did the Lord talk to Moses?

*Numbers 12:8; Deuteronomy 34:10.*

14. What punishment was inflicted upon Miriam?

*Numbers 12:9, 10.*

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15. What prayer and confession did Aaron make?

*Numbers 12:11, 12.*

16. Did Moses cherish any resentment in the case?

*Numbers 12:13.*

17. How did the Lord show that Miriam's sin was not a light one?

*Numbers 12:14, 15.*

18. If this envying of Moses had not been checked, what would have been the result?

*James 3:16.*

19. What lesson is this designed to teach us?

**Answer:** *That those whom God places in high position, and honors with His special presence, are not to be lightly spoken against. Not to be afraid to speak evil of dignities is a characteristic of the grossly wicked.*

20. What instruction did Paul give to Timothy, who was himself placed over many churches?

*1 Timothy 5:19.*

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### **NOTES:**

The reason why the Lord will guide the meek rather than any others is because they are the only ones that He can guide. The proud trust to their own judgment, and will not follow the leadings of God's Spirit. And since "it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps," it follows that "pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." But those who "have no confidence in the flesh" (Philippians 3:3) are in a condition to accept the wisdom that comes from above.

God desires to guide all men in judgment, and lead them in the right way; but since He will not force any to go contrary to their wishes, the meek, who distrust themselves, are the only ones whom He can guide. How much better for a man not to lean to his own understanding, when he can have the benefit of God's wisdom. Happy is the man who can say from the heart,

*I'd rather walk in the dark with God,  
Than walk alone in the light.*

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### **LESSON 21: THE BLINDNESS OF UNBELIEF (May 25, 1889)**

1. When Moses, according to the command of the Lord, selected twelve men to spy out the land of Canaan, what directions did he give them?

*Numbers 13:17-20.*

2. What evidence did they find of the fruitfulness of the land?

*Numbers 13:23.*

3. How long were they on their mission?

*Numbers 13:25.*

4. When they returned, what did they say of the fruitfulness of the land?

*Numbers 13:27.*

5. What did Moses afterward say of the land?

*Deuteronomy 8:7-10.*

6. What did the spies say of the people?

*Numbers 13:28, 29.*

7. Notwithstanding the promise of the Lord, that He would bring them into the land, what did the spies say?

*Numbers 13:31-33.*

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8. How did this report affect the people?

*Numbers 14:1.*

9. What foolish and wicked murmuring did they indulge in?

*Numbers 14:2, 3.*

10. What did they propose to do?

*Numbers 14:4.*

11. What report did Caleb and Joshua bring?

*Numbers 14:6-8.*

12. How did they seek to encourage the people?

*Numbers 14:9; 13:30.*

13. How did the people regard them for their truthful report?

*Numbers 14:10.*

14. What proposition did the Lord make to Moses, because of the stubborn unbelief of the people?

*Numbers 14:11, 12.*

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15. How did Moses show his disinterested love for the people and for the honor of God?

*Numbers 14:13-16.*

16. What request did he make?

*Numbers 14:17-19.*

17. What answer did the Lord make?

*Numbers 14:20, 21.*

18. What did the Lord say should become of those who had so often showed their unbelief and rebellion?

*Numbers 14:22, 23; 32:10, 11.*

19. Who only did He say should reach the promised land?

*Numbers 32:12.*

20. How long did He say the people should wander in the wilderness?

*Numbers 14:31-34.*

21. What became of the ten spies who brought an evil report?

*Numbers 14:36, 37.*

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22. When the people heard the Lord's sentence against them, how did they feel?

*Numbers 14:39.*

23. What did they then propose to do?

*Numbers 14:40.*

24. What counsel did Moses give them?

*Numbers 14:41-43.*

25. How much better was their courage now than their cowardice before?

26. What was the result of their presumption?

*Numbers 14:44, 45.*

27. What exhortation, based upon this lesson, is given to us?

*Hebrews 4:1, 2, 11.*

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### **LESSON 22: THE REBELLION OF KORAH (June 1, 1889)**

1. What instance have we already had of envy because of the exalted position of Moses?

2. How did God regard that manifestation?

3. How was rebellion again fomented?

*Numbers 16:1-3.*

4. Against whom were they really rebelling?

*Numbers 16:9-11.*

5. When Moses sent for the conspirators, what did they reply?

*Numbers 16:12-14.*

6. What false accusation did they bring against Moses?

*Numbers 16:12-14.*

7. How did Moses repel their charge?

*Numbers 16:15.*

8. What did the Lord tell the people to do?

*Numbers 16:23, 24.*



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9. Why was this order given?

*Numbers 16:26.*

10. What did Moses say the Lord would do to test the truth of the charges that had been brought against him?

*Numbers 16:28-30.*

11. What was done to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram?

*Numbers 16:31-33.*

12. What was done to their fellow conspirators?

*Numbers 16:35.*

13. What was done to keep this rebellion and its result in mind, and as a warning to others?

*Numbers 16:37-40.*

14. Notwithstanding the fate of the rebellious princes, what wicked charge did the people still bring against Moses and Aaron?

*Numbers 16:41.*

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15. What did the Lord say to this?

*Numbers 16:44, 45.*

16. How quickly was the judgment of God visited upon them?

*Numbers 16:46, 47.*

17. How many perished in this plague?

*Numbers 16:49.*

18. How can you account for such daring rebellion as was manifested by the people?

### **NOTES:**

Such presumptuous rebellion as was manifested by the people on this occasion can be accounted for only by saying that it was caused by the blindness of unbelief. Their hearts had been hardened by the deceitfulness of sin, until they were ready to charge God to His face with injustice.

Such Heaven-daring rebellion seems almost incredible, yet it is often equaled in our day. The Israelites had the same human nature that men have nowadays, and were not sinners above all that have ever lived.

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### **LESSON 23: THE SIN OF MOSES (June 8, 1889)**

1. When the Israelites came to Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, what took place?

*Numbers 20:1.*

2. From what did the people suffer?

*Numbers 20:2.*

3. What did they do and say?

*Numbers 20:3.*

4. What did they charge Moses with doing?

*Numbers 20:4.*

5. What did they say of the place where they then were?

*Numbers 20:5.*

6. Whom did they blame for bringing them out of Egypt?

*Numbers 20:3-5.*

7. Who had really brought them from Egypt?

*Exodus 20:1, 2.*

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8. Then to what was their murmuring equivalent?

**Answer:** *To a denial that God had anything to do with their wonderful deliverance.*

9. What does the psalmist say of them?

*Psalms 106:21, 22.*

10. While the sin of the Israelites was exceedingly great, is it an uncommon one?

11. What did Moses and Aaron do in this extremity?

*Numbers 20:6.*

12. What directions did the Lord give them?

*Numbers 20:7, 8.*

13. When the people were gathered before the rock, what did Moses say?

*Numbers 20:10.*

14. What does the psalmist say of this occurrence?

*Psalms 106:32, 33.*

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15. How did it go ill with Moses?

*Numbers 20:12.*

16. In what particular did Moses and Aaron trespass against the Lord?

*Deuteronomy 32:51.*

17. When Moses allowed the Israelites by their rebellious words to provoke his spirit, what position toward God did he also assume?

*Numbers 20:24; 27:14.*

18. Do we have any intimation that the Lord in any degree excused his sin because he labored under great provocation?

19. In this giving way to anger, of what grace did Moses show a lack?

*1 Corinthians 13:4, 5.*

20. What evidence have we that, although Moses was prohibited from entering the promised land, he repented of his sin and was fully forgiven?

*Deuteronomy 34:5, 6; Jude 9; Matthew 17:1-3.*

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21. Then what must even the best of men say to the Lord?

*Psalms 130:3, 4.*

### **NOTES:**

We are often prone to excuse some sin in ourselves, on the ground that it is the only time we ever committed it, or that we but seldom fall into it, and only under the greatest provocation. Many seem to think that if a person has great provocation he can commit a sin with impunity. But that reasoning would have made it right for the Saviour to yield to Satan's temptations in the wilderness; for no man ever suffered so fierce temptation.

The truth is, there is no excuse for sin, and anger is not admissible under any circumstances. When the translators of our common version of the Bible wrote that charity "is not easily provoked," they were evidently moved by some consideration for the weakness of the flesh. They seem to have the idea that a man might have charity and still be provoked to anger, providing he was not very easily provoked. But they did great injustice to the truth, for the words as Paul wrote them are simply, "is not provoked." True charity does not get provoked under any circumstances.

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The sin of Moses was a great one, even greater than that of the people; for he had all the light that they had, and more. It is true that the people were the cause of his fall, yet that did not in the least relieve him from responsibility. The real cause, after all, was in his own heart,

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otherwise nothing that the people could have done would have moved him.

The Lord cannot tolerate sin, no matter in whom it appears, yet He is "the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:6, 7.

That Moses repented, and was abundantly pardoned, is shown by the fact that after his death he was raised and taken to Heaven, and was commissioned to come on a message of love to Christ. From this we are warranted in concluding that if it had not been for this one sin he would not only have been permitted to enter the land of Canaan, but would, like Elijah, have been translated without seeing death.

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### **LESSON 24: SIN AND ITS REMEDY (June 15, 1889)**

1. What troubled the people of Israel as they journeyed from Mount Hor by way of the Red Sea?

*Numbers 21:4.*

2. What did they at once do?

*Numbers 21:5.*

3. In the face of what especial help from God did they thus wickedly murmur?

*Numbers 21:1-3.*

4. What punishment did the Lord send upon them for their murmurings?

*Numbers 21:6.*

5. When the people confessed their sin, what did the Lord tell Moses to do?

*Numbers 21:7, 8.*

6. What was the result?

*Numbers 21:9.*



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7. By what were those saved who looked upon the serpent?

8. Of what was the lifting up of the serpent a figure?

*John 3:14, 15.*

9. When the people murmured, against whom were they rebelling?

*1 Corinthians 10:9.*

10. Then when the people looked upon the brazen serpent, what did their act signify?

**Answer:** *That they now trusted Christ, their great Leader, and acknowledged that their punishment was due to lack of faith in Him.*

11. Until what time did the children of Israel preserve the brazen serpent?

*2 Kings 18:1-4.*

12. How had they come to regard it?

*2 Kings 18:4.*

13. What did Hezekiah call it?

*2 Kings 18:4, marginal reading.*

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14. In thus worshipping the brazen serpent, what did the people do?

*Romans 1:25.*

15. When people lose faith, what will they inevitably do?

*Romans 14:23 (last part).*

16. How alone can men live righteous lives?

*Habakkuk 2:4; 1 John 5:4.*

### **NOTES:**

The performance of any ordinance by which we are directed to show our faith in God becomes sin whenever faith does not prompt it.

Instead of then being an act of worship to God, it becomes an act of idolatry.

Thus the Lord's Supper has been perverted by the Roman Catholics into the idolatrous mass, the participating in which is generally thought to secure the pardon of sin. As the Jews made an idol of the brazen serpent, which was intended as an instrument of faith, so they often, and especially in the time of Christ and later, regarded their sacrifices much as the Catholics regard the mass.

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### **LESSON 25: THE WAGES OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS (June 22, 1889)**

1. How was Balak, king of the Moabites, affected by the success of the Israelites?

*Numbers 22:1-4.*

2. To whom did he send messengers?

*Numbers 22:5.*

3. What did he want Balaam to do?

*Numbers 22:6.*

4. When the elders of Moab brought the rewards of divination to Balaam, what did he say?

*Numbers 22:7, 8.*

5. What did the Lord tell Balaam?

*Numbers 22:12.*

6. Did Balaam plainly understand that the Lord did not want him to go to curse Israel?

*Numbers 22:13.*

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7. When Balak received Balaam's reply, what did he do?

*Numbers 22:15-17.*

8. What reply did Balaam give to the messengers?

*Numbers 22:18.*

9. Nevertheless, how did he show that he greatly desired to go?

*Numbers 22:19.*

10. How much permission did God give him?

*Numbers 22:20.*

11. Did Balaam go on this permission?

*Numbers 22:21.*

12. Was God pleased with Balaam's course?

*Numbers 22:22.*

13. Relate what followed.

*Numbers 22:23-30.*

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14. When Balaam's eyes were opened, what did he see?

*Numbers 22:31.*

15. What did the angel of the Lord say of Balaam's course?

*Numbers 22:32.*

16. What did he say would have been done to him if the ass had not turned aside?

*Numbers 22:33.*

17. How much more could the Lord have said and done to show that He did not want Balaam to go to Balak?

18. Notwithstanding this, what did Balaam say?

*Numbers 22:34.*

19. What did the angel of the Lord reply?

*Numbers 22:35.*

20. When people show a strong determination to have their own way, regardless of the expressed will of God, how does the Lord deal with them?

*Psalms 81:11, 12; Proverbs 1:30, 31.*

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21. What will be the final consequence to such?

*Proverbs 1:32.*

22. What was the fate of Balaam?

*Numbers 31:6-8.*

23. What was the secret of Balaam's intense desire to comply with Balak's request?

*2 Peter 2:15.*

24. What is said of those who will be rich?

*1 Timothy 6:9.*

25. What of the love of money?

*1 Timothy 6:10.*

26. What is said of those in the church who, like Balaam, are greedy for gain?

*Jude 11-13.*

27. What are the real wages of unrighteousness?

*Romans 6:23 (first part).*

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28. And what is the gift of God?

*Romans 6:23 (last part).*

29. What is indicated by this?

**Answer:** *That while those who die as a punishment for their sins get only what they lawfully deserve, eternal life cannot be earned, but is something infinitely beyond the power of any human being to earn. God does not pay us for what we do, for we cannot do anything that is worth paying for; at the best we are but unprofitable servants. But He gives us all that we have, and all that we can ever receive, because of His own wondrous love and mercy, and the merit of Jesus Christ, in whom we live.*

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### **LESSON 26: SUGGESTIONS FOR QUARTERLY REVIEW (June 29, 1889)**

***ADVISORY NOTE:** It is not expected that the teachers will use just these questions in their review. They are only suggestive, and do not cover nearly all the ground. Some lessons are not even referred to. It would be an impossibility for any teacher to cover in one lesson all the principal points that have been passed over during the quarter, and therefore each teacher should carefully review all the preceding lessons, and select just those points which impress him as being the most important, or containing thoughts most necessary for that special time, and confine his attention to them. Points that received insufficient attention in the first instance may now be dwelt upon at greater length.*

*We would advise that the superintendent or division leader do not go over the same ground that most of the teachers do, but take up some other portion of the review, as by so doing much more ground can be covered.*

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1. By what means was the sanctuary built?
  2. Tell how it was repaired.
  3. What was the result when the people gave willingly?



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4. What enabled them to give so willingly?
5. In order to have our gifts of money acceptable to God, what must we first do?  
*2 Corinthians 8:5.*
6. What is the only kind of giving that God loves or will accept?
7. What was the tabernacle for?
8. In what part was God's presence specially manifested?
9. What was represented by the ark, with the cherubim of glory overshadowing it?

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10. What was signified by the fact that underneath the cherubim of glory was the law of God?

11. What is sin?

12. What is indicated by the fact that immediately above the law which had been transgressed was the mercy seat, and the cherubim between which the glory of God appeared?

**Answer:** *That God sits upon a throne of grace, and delights in mercy, and that wherever there is sin there is the remedy.*

*"Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other."*

*Where sin abounds, grace does much more abound. Whenever a sin is committed, the remedy is immediately at hand.*

13. By what various judgments did God show that it is not a light thing to speak against His servants?

14. On what various instances did the Israelites show their wicked unbelief of God?

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15. What is the foundation of all goodness?

*2 Peter 1:5; Jude 20, 21.*

16. Then what must be the universal besetting sin?

17. To what then must we take heed?

*Hebrews 3:12, 13; 4:1, 2.*

18. What evidence have we that God will not make the slightest excuse for sin, even in His most highly honored and best-beloved servant?

19. By what were the people in those days saved, when they sinned?

