

Challenge of the Daily March Numbers 18-21

I. Maintaining Purity – 18-19

1. Priestly Ministry – 18:1-32
 - Aaron & Levites serve God & tabernacle - 1-7
 - Intercede before God for Israel - 5
 - They share in the offerings brought - 8-19
 - Their inheritance would be in the Lord - 20-24
 - Levites were also to offer tithes to God - 25-32
2. Purification Matters – 19:1-22
 - Procedure with blood of a Red Heifer - 1-4
 - The heifer is to be burned up totally - 5-8
 - Ashes are to be taken outside the camp - 9-13
 - Cases that require ritual of purification - 14-22

II. Dealing with Death - 20

1. About 38 years between Numbers 19 - 20
 - Older generation dies with little comment
 - The younger generation grows up.
 - Narrative resumes as they begin to move
 - They begin to move toward the plains of Moab
2. Miriam dies in 1st month of 40th yr – 20:1
 - Date taken from death of Aaron in 20:23-29
 - That date is established in Numbers 33:38
3. Recurring theme for these 38 years is:
“Death in the Wilderness”

III. Leaders to Die – 20:2-13

1. People complain to Moses & Aaron - 1-5
 - There was no water for them to drink
 - Unhappy with Moses - better off dead or in Egypt
2. Moses and Aaron turn to the Lord - 6
3. Moses told to get water from rock – 7-8
 - Moses is to speak to the rock
4. Moses, in anger, struck rock twice - 9-11
 - In spite of disobedience, God gave water
5. Disobedience will keep them out of land
 - The rock is a picture of Christ - 1 Cor. 10:4
6. Death of Aaron – 20:23-29
 - Death comes on Mt. Hor on the border
 - Aaron's son Eleazer becomes High Priest
 - People mourn Aaron's death for 30 days

IV. Facing Resistance- 20:14-22;21:1-6

1. King of Edom will not give passage - 14-22
 - Descendants of Esau refuse passage in their land
2. Canaanite King, Arad, fought them - 21:1-3
 - God gave them victory over these Canaanites
3. Discouraged because route was hard - 4
4. Complained against Moses of difficulty - 5
5. Complaints brought judgment from God - 6
 - God sent fiery serpents to bite the people

V. Deliverance in Wilderness– 21:7-35

1. People acknowledge sin & request prayer - 7
2. Moses prays, God delivers them – 7-9
 - Moses to make a Brazen Serpent
 - Jesus used this of His death - Jn.3:14,15
3. God again provided water to drink - 10-20
 - People praise God for His provision
4. God defeated Sihon, Amorite king - 21-31
 - He would not give passage & fought against them
 - God gave Israel victory & possession of his land
5. God defeated Og, King of Bashan - 32-35
 - God gave Israel victory & possession of his land