

Old Testament Survey

Session Nine

The Books of Leviticus & Numbers

Storyline of the Pentateuch

Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
1-11: Creation 2080 yrs Fall Flood Babel 12-50: Abraham 300 yrs Isaac Jacob Joseph Abrahamic Covenant dominates	1-13: God's work through Moses to deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage 14-18: Journey from Egypt to Sinai 19-24: Mosaic Covenant 25-31: Moses receives instructions for tabernacle, anointing of priests. 32-34: Golden calf 35-40: Construction of Tabernacle	1-7: Offerings 8-10: Consecration & duties of priests. 11-22: Purity, atonement, sanctification 23-25: Feasts 26-27: Blessings & curses; vows & valuations.		

- ### The Book of Leviticus – General
- The Book of the Called (ויקרא) *Wayyigra*
 - Author: Moses
 - NT (including Jesus) attributes Leviticus to Moses (Mt 8:4; Mk 7:10; Lk 2:22)
 - Date:
 - Moses in Egypt (1527 – 1487 BC)
 - Moses in Midian (1487 – 1447)
 - Moses in the wilderness (1447 – 1407)*
 - Covers: 1447 BC
 - one month between Exodus and Numbers
 - Lev 25:1,2; 26:46; 27:34

Major Themes

- The Presence of the Lord
 - “before the Lord”
 - “I am the Lord your God”
- Holiness
 - The Holy
 - Yahweh (11:44, 45; 19:2; 20:6)
 - Israel (11:44, 45; 19:2; 20:6)
 - Things (2:3, 10)
 - Times (23:2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 21, 24, 27, 35, 36, 37)
 - The Common, Profane (19:8, 12, 29; 20:3; 21:6, 9, 12, 15, 23; 22:2)
 - The Clean and the Unclean (11 – 15) – This is not the same as holy versus common. These are stipulations for what is allowed to come into contact with what is holy.
- The Sacrificial System
 - The Offerings (1-7; 16)
 - The Priests (8-10)

Structure

- Lev 1-10: Israel’s Acceptable Approach to God Through Sacrifice
 - 1-5: The revelation of the offering
 - 6-7: The ritual of the offering
 - 8-10: The priesthood
- Lev 11-27: Israel’s Walk with God in Fellowship
 - 11-16: Holiness demands sanitation (purity of body)
 - 17-27: Holiness demands sanctification (purity of soul)

The Offerings in General

- Total of five offerings
- 3 voluntary
- 2 compulsory
- 3 for acceptance by God
- 2 for atonement to God
- When multiple offerings are given
 - Mandatory offering is given first
 - Voluntary offerings follow in order

The Offering Details

- The Offerings and Their Regulations (1-7)
 - **The Burnt Offering** – A voluntary act of worship; acceptance of the worshipper by atoning for his unintentional sin in general; expression of devotion, commitment and complete surrender to God. Substitutionary. Required unblemished male animal; animal could vary depending on the financial condition of the one who offered. (sweet smelling)
 - **The Meal/Grain Offering** – A voluntary act of worship; recognition of God’s goodness and provisions; devotion to God. Burnt grain offering including salt and no yeast or honey; accompanied by fellowship offering and drink offering; memorialized worshipper before the Lord. Significance not entirely certain; perhaps to express thankfulness and dedication to God. (sweet smelling)
 - **The Peace/Fellowship Offering** – A voluntary act of worship; thanksgiving and fellowship that included a communal meal. Any animal without defect; certain animal parts were consumed on the altar, others were eaten by priests. Expressed joy of fellowship with the Lord. (sweet smelling)

The Offering Details (cont.)

- The Offerings and Their Regulations (1-7)
 - **The Sin Offering** – Mandatory atonement for specific unintentional sin; required confession; brought forgiveness of sin and cleansing from defilement. Made on behalf of individuals or for the assembly as a whole (Day of Atonement). Required animal without defect. Blood sprinkled on altar, part of the sacrifice offered on the altar, part burned outside the camp. (foul smelling)
 - **The Trespass/Guilt Offering** – Mandatory atonement for unintentional sin requiring restitution; required making restitution (pay 20% fine); brought forgiveness of sin and cleansing from defilement. Similar to sin offering; primary difference is requirement to make restitution, either to the Lord or fellow man, for something that has been taken or withheld. Required a ram or a lamb. (foul smelling)

The Priests

- The Consecration & Duties of the Priests (8-10)
 - 8: The consecration of the order of Aaron
 - 9: The inauguration of the office
 - 10: The transgression of the ordinance



The Way of Holiness

Lev 11-27: Israel's Walk with God in Fellowship

- 11-16: Holiness demands purity of the body
 - Instruction on clean versus unclean (11–15)
 - Animals (11, esp. vv. 46 and 47)
 - Child-bearing uncleanness & instructions on circumcision (12)
 - Instructions for priests to deal with various skin diseases and bodily discharges (13–15)
 - Instruction for the Day of Atonement (16)

The Way of Holiness

Lev 11-27: Israel's Walk with God in Fellowship (cont.)

- 17-27: Holiness demands purity of the soul
 - Emphasis on the proper procedure for offering sacrifices (17)
 - Instruction on prohibited sexual practices (18)
 - Instruction on dealing with neighbors and strangers within the land (19)
 - Penalties for breaking various laws (20; 20:22-26 is a key passage)
 - Emphasis on the priests' necessity to be holy (21–22)
 - The Festivals of God's People (23–25)
 - Promises of Blessing for Obedience & Curses for Disobedience; Vows & Valuations (26–27)

Storyline of the Pentateuch				
Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
1-11: Creation 2080 yrs	1-13: God's work through Moses to deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage	1-7: Offerings 8-10: Consecration & duties of priests.	1-12: From Sinai To Kadesh Barnea 13-19: Israel in The wilderness	
	Flood			
	Babel			
12-50: Abraham 300 yrs	14-18: Journey from Egypt to Sinai	11-22: Purity, atonement, sanctification	20-36: Kadesh-Barnea to Moab	
	Isaac	23-25: Feasts		
	Jacob	25-31: Moses receives instructions for tabernacle, anointing of priests.		
	Joseph	26-27: Blessings & curses; vows & valuations.		
Abrahamic Covenant dominates	32-34: Golden calf 35-40: Construction of Tabernacle			

The Book of Numbers – General	
• The Book of the Wilderness (בְּנוֹד בָּרָה) <i>Bemidbar</i>	
• Author: Moses	
– Numbers itself attributes its writing to Moses (Num. 1:1; 33:2)	
• Date:	
– Moses in Egypt (1527 – 1487 BC)	
– Moses in Midian (1487 – 1447)	
– Moses in the wilderness (1447 – 1407)*	
• Covers: 1447-1407 BC	
– from Mt. Sinai to the end of the forty-years "Wandering"	

Major Themes	
• Numbers	
• The Wilderness	
• Rebellion and Its Consequences	
– By Israel	
– By Aaron and Miriam	
– By Korah and Company	
– By Moses	
• Character of God	
– His patience	
– His wrath and discipline	
– His faithfulness to His covenant and His word	
• The Land	

Structure: Three Major Divisions

- 1-12: The Journey from Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea
- 13-19: Israel in the Wilderness
- 20-36: The Journey from Kadesh-Barnea to Moab

Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea

- 1-9: Preparation for the Journey
 - 1-4: Numbering and organization of people
 - 5-6: Instruction on leprosy, adultery, Nazirite vow
 - 7-9: Offerings, setting apart of Levites, Passover observance
- 10-12: The Journey
 - 11: Fire and Quails from God
 - 12: Miriam & Aaron speak against Moses

Israel in the Wilderness

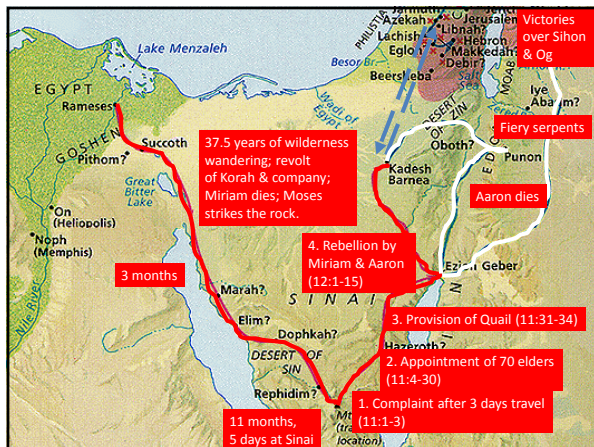
- 13-14: Crisis at Kadesh-Barnea
- 15: Instruction after the Crisis
- 16-17: Rebellion of Korath, Dathan, Abiram & Aaron's staff
- 18-19: Affirmation of Aaron and Sons as Priests, Levites as Helpers

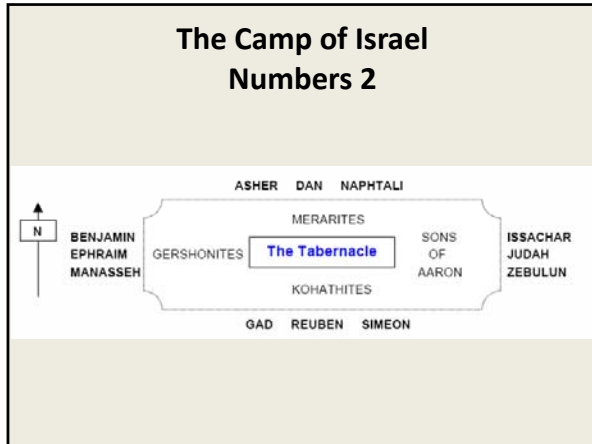
Kadesh-Barnea to Moab

- 20-21: Incidents Enroute to Moab
 - Miriam dies
 - Moses strikes the rock at Kadesh
 - Messengers sent to King of Edom
 - Aaron dies
 - Israel's victory over King Arad and the Canaanites at Hormah
 - Fiery and Bronze Serpents
 - Victories over Sihon and Og

Kadesh-Barnea to Moab (cont.)

- 22-25: Incident with Prophet Balaam & Moab
- 26-27: New Numbering of the People; Joshua Commissioned
- 28-30: Renewal of Instruction for Israel
- 31-36: Preparation for Conquest of Promised Land





The Camp of Israel Numbers 2 (cont.)

East	West
• Judah 74,600	Ephraim 40,500
• Issachar 54,400	Manasseh 32,200
• Zebullun 57,400	Benjamin 35,400
South	North
• Reuben 46,500	Dan 62,700
• Simeon 59,300	Asher 41,500
• Gad 45,650	Naphtali 53,400

Old Testament Survey

End Session Nine

Question Time!
