

## *Exodus Study and Discussion Questions*

### *Lesson Nine: Exploring Canaan and Aftermath – Numbers 1-19*

#### Book of Numbers

- 1) How did the book of Numbers get its name (see Numbers 1:2-3; 3:15-16, 3:40; 4:2-3, 21-23, 29-30 and 26:2-3)?
  
- 2) What were the three main locations where the Israelites camped during the time period covered by the book of Numbers (see Numbers 1:1, 10:11-12 [also 13:26] and 22:1)? How many years altogether did they spend wandering between these locations (see Numbers 14:26-35 and Deuteronomy 1:3, 8)?
  
- 3) Consult Acts 7:23-30 and Numbers 14:26-35. How old was Moses...
  - a) when he left Pharaoh's household and fled into the desert?  
  
when the Lord sent him back to Egypt to deliver Israel?  
  
from the time when Israel left Egypt to the time when they arrived in the Promised Land?
  - b) How does this change your thinking about your usefulness to God in every stage of your life (including your present stage)?

#### Numbers 1-10

- 4) Read Exodus 13:1-2, 15; 32:1-4, 25-29; and Numbers 1:47-53; 3:5-13; 8:15-19. Under what circumstances was the Tribe of Levi set apart from the other tribes, what responsibilities were they given, and what requirement did setting them apart fulfill?
  
- 5) Read Numbers 2:1-3, 9b-10, 16b-18, 24b-25, 31b, 34; 9:15-17, 21-23, and 10:2.
  - a) For what occasions were the tribes arranged?
  
  - b) Give reasons why you think this was helpful.

- c) How did the Lord use the cloud?
  - d) What was the purpose of the trumpets?
  - e) Does God's ordaining of the tribal arrangement, the cloud, and the trumpet blowing tell you anything about Him? If so, what does it reveal?
- 6) All the events that occurred at Sinai prepared the Israelites to set out for the Promised Land. Read (aloud, if possible) the Aaronic Blessing in Numbers 6:22-26.
- a) Why do you think this blessing was especially fitting for Israel at this stage in her history (for one reason, see Exodus 23:27; Numbers 1:3, 10:35; 21:1, 23, 33)?
  - b) Read 1 Peter 2:9. As a royal priest of God, over whom might you pronounce the Aaronic blessing this week?

Skim Numbers 11-12.

- 7) What old sin crept back into the camp of Israel? According to 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, why did God ensure all these incidences were recorded?
- 8) From Numbers 11:10-15 and 12:1, 2, 9-13, what was the general nature of the leadership challenges Moses faced (challenges that have continued to burden leaders of God's work in every age)?
- 9) Read Hebrews 13:7a, 17, 18a. How might you "remember" one of your spiritual leaders or make their work less burdensome this month?

Read Numbers 13-14.

- 10)** What was the goal of the twelve spies, according to Numbers 13:1-25?
- 11)** Which two men showed exceptional faith and courage? How did they do so?
- 12)** Cite the verses that state the results of Israel's unbelief.
- 13)** Recall the serious sin of Israel at Sinai (Exodus 32). After that incident and again after Israel's unbelief in Numbers 14, Moses interceded with God on behalf of the people.
- a)** Which verses in Numbers 14 show that Moses wisely used his previous experience with God as a basis for handling this present crisis (see Exodus 34:5-7)?
  - b)** Read Deuteronomy 4:9. Many places in Scripture (especially in Deuteronomy) exhort us to remember what we have learned. Apparently, the Israelites were not learning their lessons about God. What valuable lesson from the Lord are you eager to prevent from "slipping away from your heart"? How can you "fix" (implant) what you have learned in your heart and mind?

Skim Numbers 16-17.

- 14)** According to Numbers 16:3, Korah, Dathan, and Abiram challenged Moses and Aaron's authority. How did God defend Moses (see Numbers 16:28-33) and Aaron (see Numbers 17)?
- 15)** How personally did the Lord take the people's grumbling against His appointed leaders (compare Numbers 17:5 and 10)? How does Romans 13:1-2 explain this?