The Mixed Multitude Num. 11:1-17, 26-29

Intro: A.-Criterion:
1-Not the place of the people — Summarize Nu. 1-10
2-Not the profit of the people
3-BUT---the Pleasure of the Lord

B.-Murmuring---talking back against their God
1-Brought judgment and death
2-People call for help; Moses prays; Fire stops
3-Sin doesn't stop

I

I.-LUST OF ISRAEL

Explain Ex. 12:38

A.-Origin:
1-Begins with MIXED MULTITUDE--unsaved hangers-on----
2-Mt. 13---tares withthe wheat; Gal. 2:4---False brethren
Jude 4---certain men crept in unawares
3-Origin of trouble in the Ch. is from unsaved people's presence & influence upon unspiritual believers
4-ILLUS--Broken windows in Ch. in years past. No longer. World doesn't throw stones when it is on the inside.

B.-Attitude:
1-Look back to few good things in "good old days"
2-Forgot taskmasters, brick-kiln, slavery, etc
3-Wanted smelly things of the world----spices & condiments
4-"Apple a day keeps the Dr. away; Onion a day keeps everyone away."
5-Despised Manna---Christ---John 6:33-35
6-Forgot God's gracious provision--11:7-9----"Mother Moses Many Ways of Preparing Manna"

C.-Result:
lievers led astray by mixed multitude
p values of older believers
rous harm to NEW believers
No clear cut stand by so-called mature ones
flesh---winked at instead of rebuked — to the Lord
esponsibility--Acts 11:26; 2:47 — to the Ch.
--Regularity is expected
--Ministry--"Attend other churches at least half the time. Do not be narrow. Anyway, you wouldn't want the preacher to think you profited by his sermons"

For the lambs will follow the sheep, you know,
Wherever the sheep may stray;
If the sheep go wrong, it will not be long,
'Till the lambs are as wrong as they.
So, with the sheep, we earnestly plead
For the safety of the lambs,
If the lambs are lost, what a terrible cost
Some sheep may have to pay.
Minnie Lee Bovender

II. LUST OF ISRAEL

A.-God's Man---Moses:
1-Chosen & ordained
2-Empowered & led
3-BUT....now displeased--11:10

B.-Faltering:
1-Complains to God--I'M nothing but a "wet nurse"
--I'm not able to bear these people alone
2-Forgot that God sustains whom He calls
3-O.T. records faults; N.T. doesn't--WHY?--Rom. 15:4
4-Desperation---Kill me---11:15
---Elijah also---1 Kings 19:4

C.-Needed not complaining & murmuring, but prayers of people
-God answers--11:16

III.-LEADERS OF ISRAEL

A.-Call & Empowering (11:16-17, 24-25)
1-Chosen by man; overseen by God----Acts 6:1-6
2-Empowered by the Same Spirit which worked thru Moses
3-Moses was not to be ALONE
4-Their call was as REAL as Moses' call was.
5-Their power was as GREAT as Moses' power was.

B.-Performance: 11:25
1-70 began with a flourish
2-Didn't last long---the "new" wore off soon
3-BUT.... Only 2 out of 70 continued---Poor %---Neh. 3:5
4-These went out where the people were---11:26
5-Joshua's concern for Moses' pre-eminence
6-Moses' attitude---"Don't worry about my honor"

C.-Proper Service:
1-Prayer of God's Servant---11:29
2-ALL the Lord's people
3-God's View---Eph. 4:7, 8, 11, 12, 13
4-Paul's attitude---1 Cor. 14:5
5-Spirit is the power----He is our possession---Jn. 14:16

Concl:---A.-LUST:
1-Unsaved go for the things of the world
2-Unsaved influence older believers
3-Example of older believers influences new believers
4-Need ALL to walk with the Lord & not in lust toward the world & the things of the world

B.-Leader:
1-Can & does fail
2-Needs prayer & help
3-Needs to see everything with "eyes from God"

C.-LEADERS:
1-Run & not be weary; walk & not faint
2-Chosen & Ordained & Empowered to work
3-ALL are to join in that labor
4-Thus----all avoid lusting after the world & flessh & ways of the devil
----not be led astray to follow the mixed multitude.

See De Haan's booklet in Num. folder

"UNBELIEF----GIANTS, GRASSHOPPERS & GOD" Nu. 13 & 14

Intro:---A.-Unbelief
1-Often called by fancy names
2-Easily rationalized
3-Manifold in manifestation
4-Still---Always a denial of the truth & sufficiency of God

B.-World vs. God's Children:
1-World is "reckless" to make money
2-Ventures are what "make the wheels go round"
3-Church--conservative beyond measure — Won't GO on a sure thing!
--bird in hand....
--Usually guilty of "too little, too late"
4-Let us deal with a BIBLICAL EXAMPLE

I.-FORCED SENDING OF SPIES Nu. 13:1-27:

A.-God Knew The Way:
1-Past experience showed He had led in wilderness effectively
2-Hadn't needed Hobab--Nu. 10:29-32
3-ILLUS--Passengers on river-boat in fog. Pilot above the fog

B.-Desire for Spies--De. 1:19-21
1-Arose from the people
2-Pleased Moses
3-Allowed by God--13:1----but not necessary---ILLUS--1 Sam.8:1-10
4-Shows they trusted man's word above God's

C.-Spies--13:1-27
1-Two remembered today; 10 forgotten
2-To see---value of the land; strength of inhabitants
3-Brought back fruit as proof.
4-Admitted the land was JUST AS GOD HAD PROMISED IT TO BE

II.-FORGOT THE POWER OF GOD Nu. 13:28--14:10

A.-"Nevertheless"--13:28-29:
1-Majority report acc. to the sight of the eyes & not of faith
2-Full of fear----Forgot God
3-Unbelief on display
4-Contra Moses---Heb. 11:27

B.-Caleb's Exhortation--13:30-31
1-Trust God....NOW...."We" is Israel Plus God-----Well able
2-Reaction---"We be not able"---"We" is Israel minus God.

C.-Congregation--13:32--14:10
1-In our sight---contra. Josh. 2:8-11
2-WALLS--Jericho; CITIES--Nineveh; GIANTS--Goliath
3-GIANTS---by sight of faithlessness
GRASSHOPPERS---by sight of man
GOD---Difference between sucess & failure is HERE God
4-Fear for selves & children---Charges of unfaithfulness against
5-Want to go back to Egypt---Open rebellion
---Ex. 32-Calf; Nu. 14.-Captain
6-No word of God's SUFFICIENCY
7-Opposition to Caleb---6 million against 2 men of God

III.-FORFEITED THE REST OF GOD

A.-God's Attitude 14:10-12:
1-Glory appears
2-Wrath displayed
3-Threat of destruction---Ps. 106:24-27

B.-Moses' Intercession 14:13-19:
1-Pleads Promises & God's Honor
2-Not a self-seeker
3-Seeks patience & pardon to be continued from the past (EX.32)

C.-Answered Prayer 14:20:
1-Pardon granted & Glory promised-----BOTH ARE UNCONDITIONAL PROMISES OF GOD---Both are sure.
2-Curse on "responsible ones" of cong. 14:23-39
3-Only exceptions---Joshua & Caleb
--Young ones---contra 14:3
4-LESSON--Heb. 3:8-19---Failure to enter into rest thru unbelief
5-Exhortation---Heb. 4:1-2, 9-11
---Acc. to your faith, so be it

IV.-FALSE REPENTANCE OF ISRAEL

A.-Too Late:
1-Obedience is punctual
2-Disobedience is late-----sin & presumption in God's sight

B.-Motive:
1-Not faith, but fear
2-Not trust, but presumption
3-False repentance---no real change of heart

C.-Battle:
1-An Israelite without God on his side is not match for an Amalekite
2-Badly beaten when working in own strength

D.-Faithful ones---Joshuah & Caleb---lived on to REAP according to their faith & faithfulness.

Concl: A.--Problem:
1-Unbelief---Heb. 3:19
2-Trust in flesh & men & not in God
3-Fear of man

B.-Solution
1-Bold trust
2-Working faith
3-Leads to REST
4-No "HALF-WAY HOUSE"

DEALING WITH DEFILEMENT — Numbers 19:1-22

or "The Red Heifer Ordinance" — Heb. 9:12-15

INTRO: A.-Background Of Information:

1-To understand the meaning of "the water of purification" one needs to remember the relation between sin & death as set forth in the Scriptures:
- --Rom. 6:23--"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life thru Jesus Christ our L
- --1 Cor. 15:56--"The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law."
- --Rom. 5:12--"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"
- --Gen. 2:17--"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

2-THEREFORE, in a system of symbols, as the O.T. revelation is, representing the relation of men to God it was natural that the contact with the dead made one "unclean before God" & unfit to approach the Tabernacle---
Thus, CEREMONIALLY DEFILED — UNFIT FOR: (a) Fellowship (b) Service

3-Other realms of "uncleanness"--childbirth
- --leprosy
- --contact w/ unclean beasts

4-Such contact was not sinful itself

5-It involved no moral fault

6-Might even be demanded by duty or affection, as in the burial of a loved one, birth of a child, etc.

7-ILLUS--Roger Reynolds--"After a week in the business w world you not only need a bath to get the stink (smell) of the world out of your hair; your suit cleaned to get that stink (smell) out of your suit; but also a good spiritual bath to "freshen you up" for God!"

8-Such contact, in the O.T., TYPIFIED the effects of sin which:---interrupts communion
- ---separates one from fellow-worshippers
- ---makes service unacceptabe activity of the flesh
- ---requires cleansing for restoration

B.-Purpose Of This Revelation And Ceremony:

NB.

1-Deals with a serious subject--THE HENOUSNESS OF SIN: sin in a believer!

2-Presents a scrupulously detailed ceremony of cleansing
- --to restore a believer to fellowship
- --to reinforce an awareness of the separating power of sin
- --to register a scrupulous necessity to avoid defilement

3-"Picture-Book" form of what is doctrinally & succinctly set forth in 1 John 1:9

PROP:

4-Marvelously presented picture of cleansing as the Spirit takes the Word to show us our sinfulness, & to show us the cleansing power of the blood--whereby we gained initial forgiveness--as we are cleansed from contact with the defilement of a "dead" world as we walk on our pilgrim pathway to heaven.

5-Blood of Christ--Offered once
--Sufficient for all time
--Sufficient for all sins
**Past, Present & Future!
**1 Jn. 3:5--"And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins..."
--Col. 2:13--"...having forgiven you all trespasses;"

C.-The Ritual:

1-For the removal of such ceremonial uncleanness a unique & elaborate ritual was prescribed. A red heifer was chosen & was killed without the camp as an offering for sin. The blood was sprinkled 7 times toward the Tabernacle; not toward the altar. The entire heifer--along with cedar, hyssop & scarlet--was then burned outside the camp.

2-When the sacrifice & these accompaniments had been consumed with fire, the ashes which remained were "laid up without the camp in a clean place" & kept for use in ceremonial purification.

3-Application was accomplished by disolving a portion of the ashes in a vessel of pure water & by sprinkling on the unclean person this "water of separation " that ended the separation & defilement caused by contact with the dead.

4-Let's look at the details which are full of significance

5-C.H.MACKINTOSH--"The thoughtful reader of Scripture will not pass over any expression, how trivial soever it may seem to be. Such an one will ever bear in mind that the book which lies open before him is from God, & therefore perfect--perfect as a whole --perfect in all its parts. Every little word is pregnant with meaning; each little point, feature, & circumstance contains some spiritual teaching for the soul. No doubt, infidels & rationalists altogether fail in seizing this weighty fact, &, as a consequence, when they approach the divine volume, they make the saddest havoc. They see flaws where the spiritual student sees only gems; they see incongruities & contradictions where the devout, self-distrusting, Spirit-taught disciple beholds divine harmonies & moral glories." NUMBERS, Pp. 355-56

I.-THE BEAUTY OF THE ANIMAL:

A.-Five Necessary Requisites (19:2):

1-"RED"--A rare animal
--Hard to get a perfect, fine & even-colored specimen that's only red — BEAUTIFUL
--No more than 2 white or 2 black hairs were allowed

2-"HEIFER"--Female animal required
--Showing affection, tenderness & heart yearning

3-"WITHOUT SPOT"--Outside is clear & clean
--No birthmark or deformity
--NATURE'S best offering

4-"WHEREON IS NO BLEMISH"--No internal mar or scar
--No acquired faults
--LIFE has been perfect

5-"UPON WHICH NEVER CAME A YOKE"--no yoke of bondage
--no unwilling servitude

ACTS were perfect in life
6-History says only 9 such animals in all of Israel's history
7-Beautiful & explicit "TYPE" of Christ = "Divinely purposed illustration"
8-Only "yoke" upon Christ (Mt. 11:29) is of His implicit & willing obedient subjection to the Father
9-Poem:

"Touched with a sympathy within,
He knows our feeble frame;
He knows what sore temptations mean,
For He has felt the same.

"But spotless, undefiled, & pure,
The great Redeemer stood,
While Satan's fiery darts He bore,
And did resist to blood."

B.-Blood Of The Heifer:
1-Beautiful & valuable animal---YES!
2-But only efficacious when the blood was shed
--19:4
--Rom. 5:10--"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son,..."
3-Sin offering so sacrifice took place "outside the camp"(Lev. 4:21)
4-Blood was sprinkled or applied:
--7 times prefiguring perfection
--Now--Heb. 9:12--"Neither by the blood of goats & calves, but by His own blood He entered in once to the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."
--Sprinkling was to "present" the sin offering
--God has accepted that offering
--No need or reason for us not to be satisfied too!
5-Blood offering gains our acceptance
6-Eph. 2:13-15--"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For He is our peace, who hath made both one, & hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in His flesh the enmity..."
7-Regardless of the state of our "FEELINGS", our acceptance is sure!
* 8-It was no accident for the blood to be shed
9-Rom. 5:6-8--"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"
10-ILLUS--"I spilled the milk".....an accident
"He shed His blood.....an offering--ON PURPOSE

II.-THE BURNING OF THE ANIMAL:

A.-People Involved In The Burning:
1-Took 3 clean men--1 to kill
--1 to burn
--1 to collect ashes & apply them
--each had to be "clean"

2-Reminds of Gal. 6:1-2--"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in a spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, & so fulfill the law of Christ."
3-To help another, you must be clean in every way!
4-This is an absolute necessity!
5-Unless you are clean---GET CLEAN & KEEP HANDS OFF of others, for you'll do more harm than good
6-WHO? — Pastor, Elders — YOU ALSO!

B.-Ingredients Of The Burning:
1-ALL parts of the heifer--no partial salvation or cleansing
2-Cedar--strength, majesty & beauty of man — "Cedars of Lebanon"
3-Scarlet--both sin (Isa. 1:18)
--and the blood that cleanses us (1 Jn. 1:7
4-Hyssop--weakness & frailty of man — Used in Passover rite
5-ALL to be consumed
6-Reduced to ashes
7-A sin offering--for "a purification for sin" (19:9)
8-"The ground is level at the foot of the cross" & demands that all frailty, sin, or strength be cast aside from being either a crutch to lean on or an excuse to hide behind.

C.-Mixture After The Burning:
1-Water & ashes of heifer for purification from defilement
2-Cleansing achieved--not by availability
--but by application NB
3-ASHES speak of Christ's death; God's wrath against sin is "fully burned out" in Christ
4-WATER speaks of the Spirit--Jn. 7:37-39
--Person Who applies Christ's death to us
5-WATER also speaks of the Word--Eph. 5:26
--Jn. 15:3--"Now are ye clean thru the Word which I have spoken unto you."
--Medium by which Christ's death is revealed to us
6-MUST be applied to be effective
7-ILLUS---Passover blood had to be on the door

MIXTURE
- Ashes of Christ's death
- Water of the Word's truth
- Water of the Spirit's ministry

III.-BENEFIT OF THE HEIFER:

A.-Open to Whom?: 19:10
1-Addressed to ISRAEL--19:2, 10
2-Also addressed to "stranger" or "proselyte" among them/
3-As in message on Day of Pentecost--Acts 2:39--"For the promise is unto you, & to your children, & to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."
4-Unlimited cleansing is now available
5-Heb. 9:12--"Neither by the blood of goats & calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."

B.-Necessity Of This Provision:
1-Ritual is not included in Leviticus which deals with worship
2-But included in Numbers which deals with our "wilderness journey"
3-Pre-eminently a "type" dealing with the walk of the be-

NB

liever thu a life in a world of defilement with spiritual death & wickedness.

4-Necessitated the warning of Isa. 1:15-16--"And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;"

5-C.H.MACKINTOSH--"It is a solemn thing to have to do with God --to walk with Him, from day to day, in the midst of a defiled & defiling scene. He cannot tolerate any uncleanness upon those whom He deigns to walk, in whom He dwells. He can pardon and blot out; He can heal, cleanse, & restore; but He cannot sanction unjudged evil or suffer it upon His people." NUMBERS, P. 379-80.

6-This ordinance recovered a believer to fellowship after separating contact with evil had defiled his ability to have fellowship with God.

7-Pilgrim is thus retrieved from (defilements + from) entanglements on his earthly journey

8-Scofield note, Page 192--blue portion

C.-Results Of Application:

1-Contagiousness of defilement if (Miriam + Aaron) not cleansed--19:22

2-ILLUS--Chapter 12's sin of envy led to Chapter 16's rebellion

3-Oh, that goodness were as communicable as evil!

4-Cleansing from defilement when applied:

--"He shall be clean"--19:12

--dealt only with believer's flesh being purified

--Heb. 9:13-14 (READ)

--Now "much more" the blood of Christ applied cleanses the conscience, which had been defiled by dead works of sin & spiritual uncleanness

5-Seen in Galatians 1:4--"Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world..."

--Let us never forget that the very same work that has forever put away our sins has delivered us from this present evil world.

--Christ has not only delivered us from the consequences of our sins, but also from the present power of sin & from the claims & influences the Scripture calls "THE WORLD."

--This present deliverance results in our ability to freely worship & serve our God

6-Mechanics.....1 John 1:9

7-Exhortation

--Heb. 13:13--"Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach."

--C.H. MACKINTOSH--"There is immense power in these words. They should rouse our whole moral being to seek more complete identification with a rejected Saviour. Shall we see Him die outside, while we reap the benefits of His death & remain within? Shall we seek a home & a place & a name & a portion in that world from which our Lord & Master is an outcast? Shall we aim at getting on in a world which could not tolerate that blessed One to whom we owe our present & everlasting

felicity? Shall we aspire after honor, position, & wealth where our Master found only a manger, a cross, a borrowed grave? May the language of our hearts be, 'FAR BE THE THOUGHT!' and may the language of our lives be, 'FAR BE THE THING!' May we, by the grace of God, yield a more hearty response to the Spirit's call to "go forth".

D.-Failure To Be Cleansed:
1-"Cut off" (19:13, 20) if neglected the provided cleansing
2-Deals with loss of fellowship, not physical life unless it goes on to become a sin unto death
3-Ps. 66:18
4-We need daily cleansing from defilement & must come to the Precious blood of purification--which fulfills the O.T. water of purification--or we cannot stand in the presence of a holy God.
5-This deaily cleansing from sin is beautifully taught in Jn. 13, where Jesus washed the feet only, which had been contaminated by the dust of the highway
6-We need daily to resort to Him; & though we go to Him 70 times 7 occasions (Mt. 18:22) we may unhesitatingly count on His forgiveness.
7-And, such forgiveness will make sin increasingly abhorrent
8-But--"If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me."Jn.13:8
9-Failure to be cleansed leads to shipwreck of faith.

CONCLUSION: A.-Point Of Ritual Of The Red Heifer:
1-Confession of defilement from the world
2-Cleansing from defilement thru "purification"
3-As pre-requisite to being fitted for further:
--joy to self
--pleasingness to God
--usefulness in service
4-Only the CLEAN are in FELLOWSHIP....and any good to God, man, or self!

B.-Warnings To The Believer:
1-Pardon, healing of soul & restoration
--God can provide freely
--BUT, He cannot sanction unjudged evil
--"Be ye holy, for I am holy."
2-Not a fresh sacrifice of Christ in view
3-Not a fresh sprinkling of Christ's blood proposed
4-But a FRESH REMEMBRANCE of a ONCE FOR ALL sacrifice of Christ that is already accomplished
5-Cleansing being available:
--not to lead us to carelessness
--C.H.MACKINTOSH--"How should it act upon our consciences? Should it lead us to think little of sin? Should it cause us to walk carelessly & indifferently?? Should it have the effect of making us light & frivolous in our ways? Alas! for the heart that can think so. We may rest assured of this, that the man who can draw a plea from the rich provisions of divine grace for lightness of conduct or levity of spirit, knows very little, if indeed he knows any thing at all, of the true nature or proper in-

fluence of grace & its provisions. Could we imagine for a moment that the ashes of the heifer or the water of separation would have had the effect of making an Israelite careless as to his walk? ASSUREDLY NOT! On the contrary, the very fact of such careful provision being made, by the goodness of God, against defilement, would make him feel what a serious thing it was to contract it (defilement). Such, at least, would be the proper effect of the provisions of divine grace." NUMBERS, Pp. 387-88

--Induce a HOLY HORROR of sin!

--C.H.MACKINTOSH--"The heap of ashes laid up in a clean place, gave forth a double testimony; it testified of the goodness of God, and it testified of the hatefulness of sin. It declared that God could not suffer uncleanness upon His peple; but it declared also that He had provided the means of removing it. It is utterly impossible that the blessed doctrine of the sprinkled blood, of the ashes, & of the water of separation can be understood & enjoyed without its producing a holy horror of sin in all its defiling forms. And may we further assert that no one who has ever felt the anguish of a defiled conscience could lightly contract defilement. A pure conscience is far too precious a treasure to be lightly parted with, & a defiled conscience is far too heavy a burden to be lightly taken up. But, blessed be the God of all grace, He has met all our need, in His own perfect way, & He has met it, too, not to make us careless but to make us watchful." NUMBERS, P. 388

--"My little children, these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous: and He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world." 1 Jn. 2:1-2

Lessons:

1. Defilement — Ever-present
   — Contageous
2. Cleansing - Available
   - Purchased at cost of death
3. Need for — Application of the "Brew"
   — Help of a "clean man" is needed

Westbrae 1/14/68- "Blessed Be The Fountain" No. 97
"There Is A Fountain" 115
"Nothing But The Blood" 130

Num. 20:1-13 "That ROCK Was Christ"

Intro: A.-Easter Congregation hardened to a Resurrection message which is traditional. Perhaps the ROCK OF AGES will break thru into your thinking & this Resurrection Day will be your SALVATION DAY.

B.-Place-----Desert
Need------Water
Leader----Moses
People----Israel

I.-SITUATION

A.-People:
1-Miriam---Sweet singer of early Israel is dead
2-Aaron----Present & partaker of Moses' sin, though silently
3-Moses----Remember that he was a Statesman, Deliverer, Soldier, Lawgiver, Historian, Faithful, & a Prophet
---Yet, Here he yields to sin.
4-Israel---Chiding & murmuring against God & Moses.

B.-Problem:
1-Water supply needed
2-People accuse Moses.
3-Real fault for being in the Desert is the people's, because of rebellion at Kadesh-Barnea. (Nu. 13 + 14)
4-Reaction of Moses& Aaron---Didn't answer back at the people.
---Took it directly & immediately to God.

C.-Instruction From God To Moses: Ex 17:5-6

1-Rock had already been smitten-
2-Told to SPEAK to the Rock now
3-Told to expect water to flow
4-Told to hold the Rod of God.
5-Told to supply Israel's need.

5 And the LORD said unto Mō'-ses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Is'ra-el; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.
6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Hō'-reb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Mō'ses did so in the sight of the elders of Is'ra-el.

II.-WHAT HAPPENED???

A.-Actions of Moses & Aaron:
1-Gathered all Israel before the Rock
2-Complained at Israel
3-Moses claims to be working a miracle--"must we"
4-Smites the Rock twice.

B.-Action of God: (Grace)
1-God is gracious to them
2-God does provide the water
3-Provision is abundant----God took care of both His own people & His own Glory here.

C.-Attitude of God: (Justice)
1-God calls it UNBELIEF**** 20:12
2-God calls it REBELLION*** 27:14
3-God calls it FAILURE TO SANCTIFY HIM AS GOD ***20:12
4-Sentence:::::--Moses & Aaron not to enter the Promised Land
--Moses not to lead Israel into the Land
--Severity is because of SERIOUS OFFENCE.

III.-WH Y SO SERIOUS?????

A.-Who the "ROCK" Represented:
1-1 Cor. 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." --Type or Illustration of Christ who when He had been SMITTEN ONCE was sufficient for all

1Pet 3:18 ONCE---No repetition

Rom 6:9-10

Heb 9:26,28

2-David's ?Testimony:

--Ps.40:2 "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, & set my feet upon a Rock, and established my goings."

--Ps.18:1,2,31--"I will love thee, O Lord, My strength. The Lord is my ROCK, and my Fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, & my high tower. For who is GOD save the Lord? Or who is a ROCK save our God?

--Ps.42:9 "...God my rock."----ILLUS--A street preacher in London was preaching to a crowd that had gathered around him. It was at the time of the Shamrock races, & everyone was talking of the event. A ruffian on the edge of the crowd thought he would have a little fun so he called in, "Mr. Preacher, What do you know about the Shamrock?" The preacher never paused, but went right on. A second time the disturber called in, "I say, Mr. Preacher, what do you know about the Shamrock?" Still the preacher paid no heed, but preached right on. Finally the third time, not to be silenced, the ruffian called again, "Mr Preacher. I'M asking you what you know about the Shamrock!" This time the preacher paused. The crowd became very still. Pointing upward with one hand, he said, so clearly & distinctly that everyone could hear him, "On CHRIST the SOLID ROCK I stand; all other rocks are---SHAM ROCKS!"

B.-Christ's own testimony:

1-Mt.7:24-25--"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a ROCK: and the rain descended, & the floods came, & the winds blew, & beat upon the house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a ROCK."********

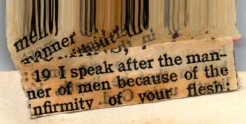
2-True that, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ." 1Cor. 3:11

3-House of Life built upon THE ROCK is the only SURE ---ILLUS Nothing makes up for the lack of a good foundation. On the ocean graveyard of Sable Island, eighty miles from the American coast, the US Gov'T erected a lighthouse. It was 100 ft. high, & many thousands of dollars were spent in building it, & all that was possible to the highest of engineering skill was done to make it a permanent work. HOWEVER---they built it upon the SAND, & they had hardly more than completed it & moved their construction equipment off the island, when the waves overturned the foundations & DOWN IT CAME TUMBLING. There is no substitute for a sure foundation---for TIME & for ETERNITY "and upon THIS ROCK I will build my Church--Mt. 16:18.

4-"Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God hath raised from the dead, even by Him doth this man stand here before you whole. This (Jesus Christ) is the stone (ROCK) which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." 4:[illegible]-12 Acts

5-Ps.62:5-8 "My soul, waith thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him. He only is MY ROCK and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation & my glory: THE ROCK of my strength, & my refuge is God. Trust in Him at all times; ye people pour out your heart before Him: God is a refuge for us."

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but quickened by the Spirit:



CONCL:---Once Smitten Rock---Picture of Christ--Slain for our sins, but now alive from the grave.
---Wounded for our transgressions

Trust Him alone to be your SURE ROCK in God's sight.

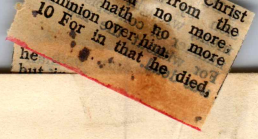
Ex.33:21-22--"And the Lord said, Behold, there is a place by me, & thou shalt stand upon a rock: and it shall come to pass while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by."

ILLUS---HAI.***Years ago, while working among the Laguna Indians, we were askedto speak at a little village called Pawate. It was in the days before automobiles, & we rode in large wagons drawn by horses for some 14 miles over rough roads until we reached this village. We had a meeting in the afternoon, & Indians from all about gathered. We started back at 4:30 or 5 o'clock because we were to have a meeting at Casa Blanca that night. We had not gone very far when we saw a terrible storm was about to break over us. Soon we could see that the rain was pouring down at a distance & driving rapidly toward us. I said, "We are certainly going to get soaked." Our driver replied, "I hope not. I think we can make the great rock before the storm reaches us. There is a great rock ahead; and if I can make it, we will be sheltered." We hurried on & soon saw a vast rock rising right up from the plain, perhaps forty or fifty feet in height, covering possibly an acre or more of ground. As we drew near, we saw a great cave in the rock. Instead of stopping to unhitch the horses, our driver drove into the cave, & in another minute or two, the storm broke over the rock in all its fury. While the storm raged outside, one of the Indians struck up, in the Laguna tongue, "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee," & we realized the meaning of the poet's words then as perhaps never before.

Are You Safe in the Rock, Christ Jesus who is alive from the grave? A terrific storm is brewing + only those are safe who are Safe IN HIM

How about YOU?

Benediction



"Balaam" Numbers 22-25 Read 22:1-22

Intro: A.-Outstanding Man:
1-Feared God & worshipped Gold
2-Prophet & sorcerer
3-Pronounced blessings on Israel & gave the counsel by which they were led astray
4-Prayed to "die the death of the righteous" & died in disaster and disgrace

B.-Double-Minded Man--Jas. 1:8:
1-Not a fake!!! Reality was satanic in power
2-Contradictions-----YES
3-Words of Christ--"Ye cannot serve God & mammon" Jas.3:10-11

I.-THE COVETOUS PROPHET

A.-Character:
1-The Judas of the O.T.
2-Tried to serve two masters
3-Tampered with his conscience to gain position, fame & reward

B.-Actions:
1-Heard God's word--22:12
2-Knew proper limitations--22:18
3-Wanted to go to Balak for reward--22:19
4-Returned to God for MORE word--22:19
5-God gave him more rope to hang himself--22:20
6-Balaam & his ass:
--more stupid than his beast of burden
--Which the greater miracle?--God speak thru an ass or thru a heathen prophet???
--Ass spoke contrary to nature; Balaam spoke contrary to his own purpose.
7-Verdict---22:32---Perverse before me

II.-THE SUBLIME PROPHECIES

A.-Four Prophecies--On 4 Mts. on 4 sides of the camp:
1-23:8-10---Could not curse Israel
2-23:18-24--God's nature--23:19; Rom. 11:29
--Had to bless Israel--23:20
--Work of God--not man--23:23
3-24:3-9-----Purity Of Israel--24:5
--C.H.M.--Pp.419-20---Rom. 8:1, 31-32
--Victory for Israel--24:8
*--God DISCIPLINES the state of his children; but their standing is perfect and is not subject to CONDEMNATION
4-24:15-19---Future----Star, Sceptre, Dominion

B.-Reactions:
1-Balak---Filled with disgust & vindictiveness--24:10-11
2-Balaam--Astonished & disappointed
3-Israel--Oblivious to what goes on
4-God-----Sovereign

III.-THE PROPHET'S END:

A.-Attitude:
1-22:34--"I have sinned"---admission, but no repentance
2-23:10--wants to "die the death of the righteous & be like Is."
--doesn't want to pay the price---1 Tim. 6:6-12
--bartered soul for money

B.-Position:
1-To see---but not now---24:17
2-Behold---but not nigh--24:17
3-Indicates he will be in HELL----Phs. 2:9-11

C.-Death:
1-"returned to his place"---24:25
2-So also Judas--Acts 1:25
3-Dies with the enemies of God--Num. 31:8

IV.-THE PROPHET'S WARNING

A.-The WAY of Balaam: 2 Pet. 2:15
1-Prophet for hire
2-Unsaved--2 Pet 2:1-3
3-Makes merchandise of his gifts & talents
4-Seeks wages of unrighteousness----servants of men, satan, world
5-Hireling---John. 10:11-14

B.-The ERROR Of Balaam: Jude 11
1-Saw evil & natural weakness in Israel
2-Reasoned that a holy God must curse them
3-Wanted to be on the profit bandwagon & so prostituted himself
4-Blind to God's ways----Rom. 3:26
5-Ignorant of imputed righteousness
6-Took the "man's eye view". Walked by SIGHT and not by FAITH.

C.-The DOCTRINE Of Balaam: Rev. 2:14
1-Failing in cursing, he taught a doctrine to Balak which did succeed in corrupting Israel
2-Broke down separation---Numb. 25--Idolatry, Fornication, & MIXED MARRIAGE---2 Cor. 6:14
3-Displeasing in Israel & in the Church--Jas. 4:4; 1 Cor. 10:8
4-Brought a plague---sin unto death for believers
5-Couldn't curse, but brought a plague

Concl: A.-Beward:
1-Center not in men
2-Test leaders by the WORD---Isa. 8:20; Num. 22:18
3-Know their end

B.-Heed Warnings:
1-Milestone of Warning in O.T. & N. T.
---Prophet for hire
---Worldly wisdom
---Doctrine of lack of separation.

----their need is

"Shall Ye Sit Here???" Numb. 32:1-23; esp 32:6

Intro: A.-"We have all eternity to celebrate the victories, but only a few hours before sunset to win them." Amy Carmichael

LINDQUIST QUOTE (1)

B.-Two attitudes of Believers:
1-32:11---"They have not wholly followed me..."
2-32:12---"They have wholly followed the Lord..."

"SHALL YOUR BRETHREN GO TO WAR AND SHALL YE SIT HERE?"

I.-THE BURNING QUESTION-----32:6

A.-Occasion For The Question 32:1-5
1-Sight of the eyes--32:1
2-Lethargy---didn't want to fight
3-Selfishness---wanted to get the good at an easy price
4-Wanted to STOP SHORT---32:5 ← World border choice
5-How much better to have "the lord shall choose for me"

Possessions possessed + controlled them

2 Kings 22:13 Much Good but failure in part is still SIN

B.-Reason For The Question: 32:7-15
1-Discouragement thus to be inflicted on others
2-Detrimental to the plan of God
3-Warning that this was the SIN of their fathers at Kadesh
4-Persistence will cost them life & land both

-Left Egypt
-Crossed Red Sea
-Led in Wilderness
-Rebelled against total Commitment
-Wondered rest of their lives

C.-Sacrifice Involved In The Question 32:16-19
1-No compromise possible
2-No reservations allowed
3-Had to go along ALL THE WAY to victory---32:27

D.-Challenge Contained In The Question 32:20-23
1-Inescapable
2-Irresistable
3-Failure is SIN and will "find you out"---32:23

In Time
In Body
In Conscience
In Eternity

1 Sam. 15:13-14

II.- THE BURNING QUESTION APPLIED

A.-Occasion For the Question:
1-Some few have gone
2-Most prefer to sit & stay
3-ILLUS---Mr. Ni, an ex-Buddhist leader, was converted to Christ under the ministry of Hudson Taylor in China. Near the close of the meeting, after Mr. Taylor had finished his message in which he had exalted Christ as the Savior, Mr. Ni rose from his place and testified to the audience: "I have long sought the TRUTH, but without finding it. I have traveled far and near, but have never searched it out. In Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism, I have found no rest. But I DO FIND REST in what I have heard tonight. Henceforth I am a believer in Jesus.

He became a zealous Christian. Later, as he was talking to Hudson Taylor, he asked: "How long have you had the Glad Tidings in your country?"

Mr. Taylor replied: "some hundreds of years."

"What!!! hundreds of years? My father sought the truth & died without finding it. Oh why did you not come sooner?????

Hundreds of years have gone by since the CHURCH was entrusted with the glorious Gospel of life and light, yet the millions of heathen cry out in despair: "Oh, why did you not come sooner? Why do you not send more laborers to tell us the truth?" They live and they die without hearing the truth BECAUSE THE LABORERS ARE SO FEW.....!

...Rom. 10:13-15

AND — finances so short AND — prayers so feeble!

4-Occasion of the Question is the FAILURE of our FATHERS to do God's bidding---As in Numb. 32:8

B.-Reason For The Question:

Would You Like To Trade Places?

Demonism Superstition False Religion & Fear

1-Is it all right to leave the heathen as he is?
2-Lost & condemned & in superstition & Bondage & headed for hell---their need is Christ.

3-God's Traffic Light has only one color & it says GO!!! Mt. 28:19
-----Because God intends Christians to evangelize
-----Because without Christ they are lost now & for eternity
-----Because our fathers have failed — FEW were faithful — Apostles / MANY were unfaithful
-----Because the heathen call for help--Acts 16:9 — Come over + help us.
-----Because God desires them all to hear---1 Pet. 3:9

-ILLUS 2 (sheep)

"The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance"

C.-Sacrifice Involved In The Question:
1-Love self or souls the most?
2-Deny comforts or Christ?
3-Will of parents on earth or in Heaven?
4-Praying and giving must become adequate
5-Church has put other things ahead of God's command
6-Older Christians haven't held this before others as THE goal of life for young people. — To do the will of God
7-Sacrifice of ALL expected — none to "poop out" cp 32:27 note

D.-Challenge Contained In the Question:
1-We are (ALL) saved to do Missionary activity — A. H. Strong quote - P. 1178
2-"It was a Jew who brought the Gospel to Rome; a Roman who took it to France; a Frenchman who took it to Scandinavia; a Scandinavian who took it to Scotland; a Scotsman who evangelized Ireland, and an Irishman who regained Scotland from paganism by missionary conquest. No people ever received the Gospel except at the hands of an alien."
3-Command is to GO !!!
4-Water that remains still for a long time becomes putrid. A BELIEVER & a CHURCH that remains idle & doesn't reach out loses its zest & becomes distasteful to God & Man.
5-God's way---Jn. 7:38--FLOW....out — SIT.... SOAK... SOUR...!

Concl:
A.-Shall Ye Sit Here?
1-And let others go???
2-And not help????
3-And watch multitudes die LOST??? — Gal. 6:2
4-And languish at ease???

-ILLUS 3
B.-Characterization: — Wanting the choices + rewards NOW
1-Either 32:11 or 12 — Willing to take God's choice + wait for His rewards
2-Which is it for YOU

ILLUS 4
3-God Needs a MAN to take the MESSAGE.
4-Will YOU go?
5-2 Cor. 5:14-15

6-YOUR PLACE — Preciousness of going on w/ God
Praying? — YES
Giving — YES
Going — YES
All 3
Geography is NOT the issue

Perils of Selfish Choice
1- Most exposed to foreign attack
2- Sense of separation from the fellowship of the godly
3- Development of worship which is schismatic
4- Misunderstandings develop