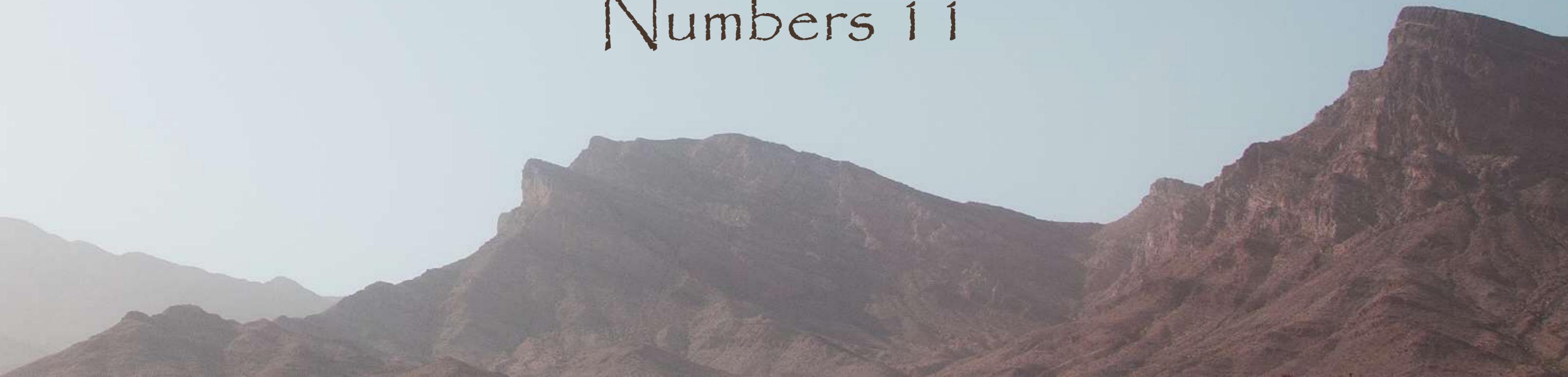


NUMBERS

Walking with God Through the Wilderness

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

Numbers 11



The Theological Center to the Holiness Laws

A Vows and Modifications - due to timing of Jubilee: Leviticus 27

B Levites: Census - Numbers 1:1 to 5:4

C Special Situations Involving Gifts to Tabernacle: Numbers 5:5 to 6:21

X-CENTER - Priestly, Aaronic Blessing: Numbers 6:22-27

C1 Special Tribal Gifts to Tabernacle: Numbers 7:1-89

B1 Levites: Special Status: Numbers 8:5-26

A1 Passover and Modification - due to timing of Passover: Numbers 9:1-14

The Theological Center of the Wilderness Journey

- A Journey Begins: Departure from Sinai (10:11-36)
- B Complaint about Hardship, Manna and No Food (11:1-35)
- C Miriam Punished for her Sin (with Aaron) (12:1-16)
- D Rebellion at Kadesh (in Wilderness of Zin) (13:1-14:45)
- E Ritual Regulations (15:1-36)
- F Holiness of Aaron Above Levites Challenged (15:37-16:50)
- X CENTER - Aaron's Rod Budding (17:1-28)
- F1 Holiness of Aaron above Levites Explained (18:1-32)
- E1 Ritual Regulations (19:1-22)
- D1 Rebellion at Kadesh (in Wilderness of Zin) (20:1-21)
- C1 Aaron Punished for his sin: death (20:22-29)
- B1 Complaint about Hardship, Manna and No Food (21:4-9)
- A1 Journey Ends: Arrival at Plains of Moab (21:10-20)

I. THE COMPLAINT AT TABERAH



A. THE PEOPLE COMPLAIN

Numbers 11:1,

And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD:

and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled;
and the fire of the LORD burnt among them,
and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.

B. THE PEOPLE CONSUMED - CREMATED

Numbers 11:1,

And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD:
and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled;
and the fire of the LORD burnt among them,
and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.



C. THE PEOPLE CRY OUT FOR HELP

Numbers 11:2,

And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD,
the fire was quenched.



D. THE PEOPLE CONSIDER THE LESSON

Numbers 11:3,
And he called the name of the place Taberah:
because the fire of the LORD burnt among them.

TABERAH MEANS "BURNING"

Deuteronomy 9:22,
And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibrothhattavah,
ye provoked the LORD to wrath.



II. THE COMPLAINT AT KIBROTHHATTAVAH



A. THE RIFFRAFF COMPLAIN

Numbers 11:4,

And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting:
and the children of Israel also wept again, and said,
Who shall give us flesh to eat?



B. THE REMEMBRANCE FLAWED

Numbers 11:5-6,

We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick:

⁶ But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.



C. THE REMINDER OF THE MANNA

Numbers 11:7-9,

⁷ And the manna was as coriander seed,
and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium.

⁸ And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it:
and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil.

⁹ And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night,
the manna fell upon it.



D. THE REACTION OF GOD AND MOSES

Numbers 11:10,

¹⁰ Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families,
every man in the door of his tent:
and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly;
Moses also was displeased.



III. THE COMPLAINTS OF MOSES



A. MOSES COMPLAINS ABOUT HIS CALLING

Numbers 11:11-12,

¹¹ And Moses said unto the LORD,

Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant?

and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight,

that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me?

¹² Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers?



B. MOSES COMPLAINS ABOUT HIS INABILITY TO FEED AND LEAD

Numbers 11:13-14,

¹³ Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people?
for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat.

¹⁴ I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.



C. MOSES COMPLAINS ABOUT HIS LIFE

Numbers 11:15,

And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand,
if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness.



IV. GOD'S SOLUTIONS



A. HE WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY HELPERS

Numbers 11:16-17,

¹⁶ And the LORD said unto Moses,

Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel,

whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them;

and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation,

that they may stand there with thee. ¹⁷ And I will come down and talk with thee there:

and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them;

and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee,

that thou bear it not thyself alone.



B. HE WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSITIES -FOOD

Numbers 11:18-20,

¹⁸ And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat. ¹⁹ Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days; ²⁰ But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt?

OUR RESPONSIBILITY - TRUST AND OBEY

Numbers 11:21-23,

²¹ And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month. ²² Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

²³ And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.



THE LEADERSHIP PROVIDED

Numbers 11:24-25,

²⁴ And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.
²⁵ And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.



Leadership Provided - Joshua's Complaint

Numbers 11:26-29,

²⁶ But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp. ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them. ²⁹ And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

THE FOOD PROVIDED

Numbers 11:30-32,

³⁰ And Moses gat him into the camp, he and the elders of Israel. ³¹ And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth. ³² And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp.



“The Graves of Lust” - “Gluttons Cemetery”

Numbers 11:33-35,

³³ And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague. ³⁴ And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah: because there they buried the people that lusted. ³⁵ And the people journeyed from Kibrothhattaavah unto Hazeroth; and abode at Hazeroth.



Why Complaining Provokes God to Anger

1. Complaining is irrational and inconsistent with the nature of God - is a denial of God's goodness
2. Complaining is being ungrateful for God's leading and provisions
3. Complaining is rebellion - pride
4. Complaining illustrates an inflated view of self and a deflated view of God
5. Complaining is classic unbelief in God's Ability and Power to Provide
6. Complaining is contagious
7. Complaining discourages God's leaders

Christ in Numbers 11 - the Manna

John 6:31-35,

Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. ³² Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. ³⁴ Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. ³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.



Prayer to Receive Salvation from the Lord

Dear God,

I know that I am sinner and that I need your pardon. I humbly come to the cross and ask for your blood to cleanse me from all my sin. Please save me by your grace. I want my name to be found in the Book of Life.

Amen.

