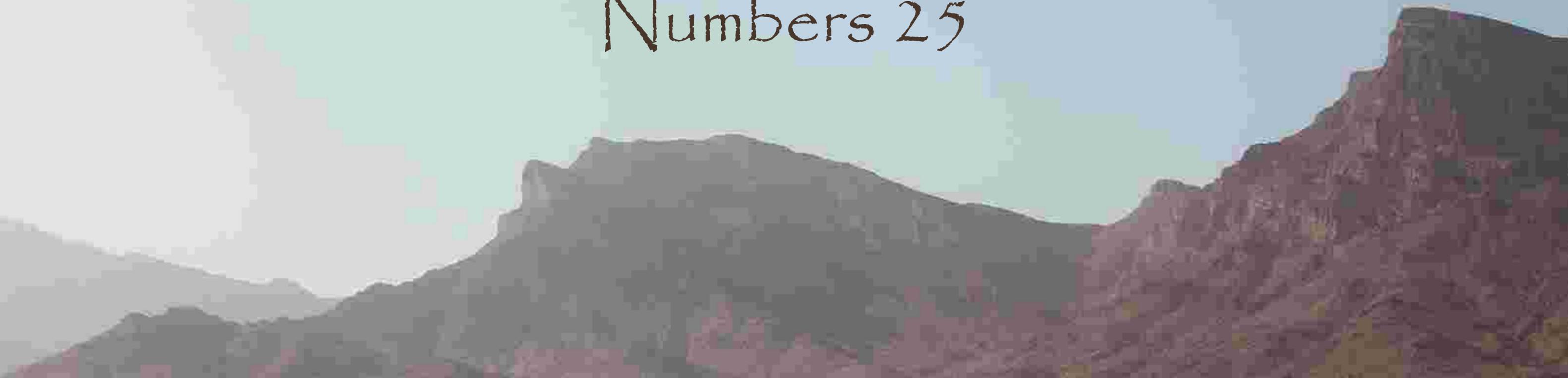


# NUMBERS

Walking with God Through the Wilderness

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

Numbers 25



# 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

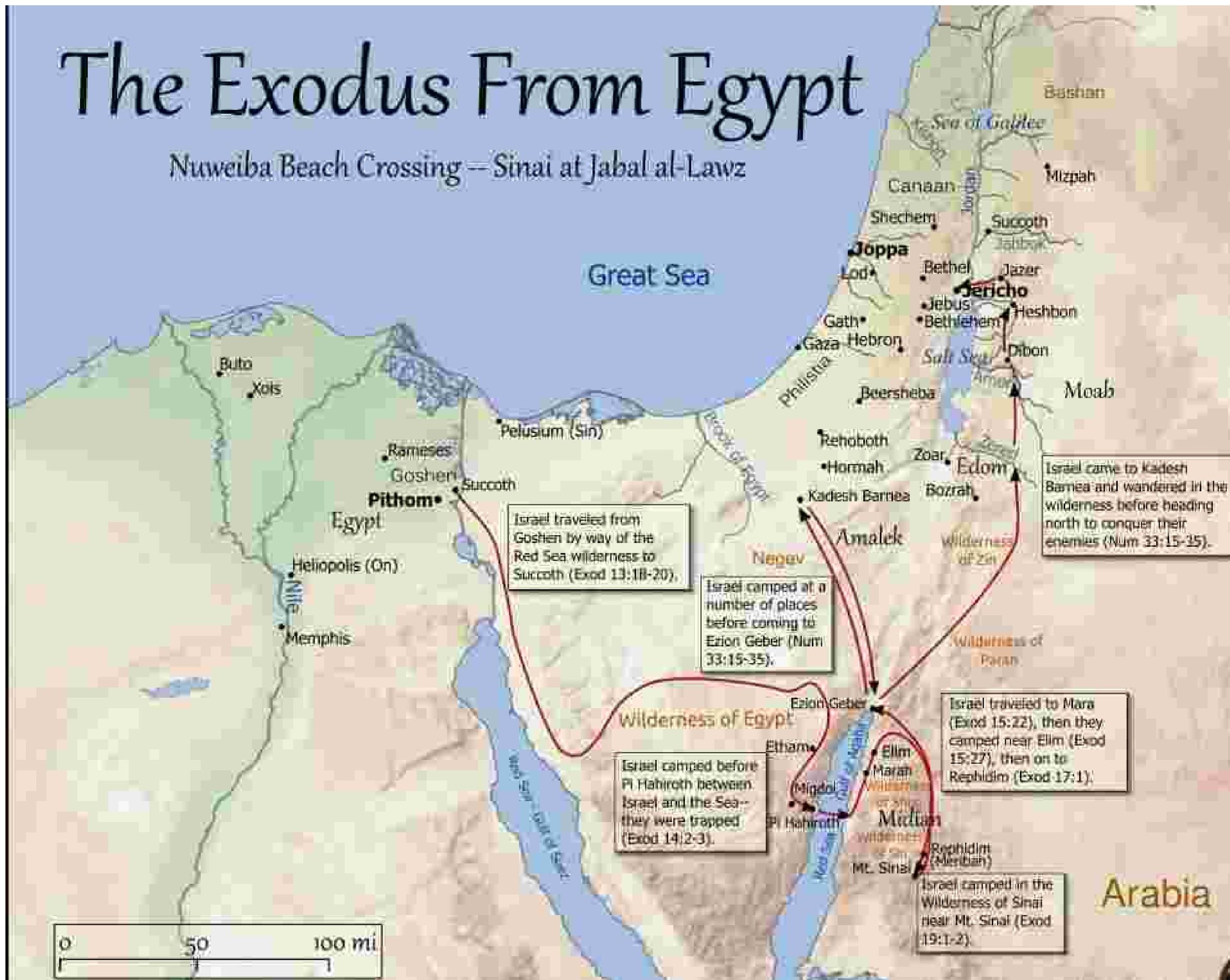
- A Journey Begins: Departure from Sinai (10:11-36)
- B Complaint about Hardship, Manna and No Food (11:1-35)
- C Miriam Punished for her Sin (with Aaron) (12:1-16)
- D Rebellion at Kadesh (in Wilderness of Zin) (13:1-14:45)
- E Ritual Regulations (15:1-36)
- F Holiness of Aaron Above Levites Challenged (15:37-16:50)
- X CENTER - Aaron's Rod Budding (17:1-13)
- 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 (21:10-35)

# The Victory in the Plain of Moab

- A Victory over Sihon and Og: Numbers 21:21-35
- B Yahweh Stops Moab from Harming Israel: Numbers 22:1-24:25
- C Moses Asks Judges to Execute Idolaters: Numbers 25:1-18
- D Lists: Census Figures for 12 Tribes: Numbers 26:1-27:11
- E Joshua and Eleazer to Lead into Canaan: Numbers 27:12-23
- F Offerings and Gifts to God: Numbers 28-29
- X-CENTER-Victory over Midian: Numbers 31:1-24
- F1 Offerings and Gifts to God: Numbers 31:25-54
- E1 Joshua and Eleazar Lead Transjordan Tribes: Numbers 32:1-42
- D1 Lists - 42 States of Journey: Numbers 33:1-36:13
- C1 Moses takes Wise Leaders and Judges: Deuteronomy 1:1-18
- B1 Yahweh Stops Israel from Harming Moab: Deuteronomy 1:19-2:15
- A1 Victory over Sihon and Og: Deuteronomy 2:16-3:29

# The Exodus From Egypt

Nuweiba Beach Crossing – Sinai at Jabal al-Lawz



# The Apostasy at Baal-Peor

1. This is Israel's ultimate act of rebellion in the desert wanderings.
2. It takes place in the 40th year of the wilderness journey, while the nation is staging to enter into the Promised Land.
3. Balaam could not curse Israel. He did notice that their strength rested in their relationship with Yahweh. He noted that Israel was a separate and upright nation. Israel's power was related to its purity and obedience to God.
4. Israel's nadir marks the end of the first generation.

# The Golden Calf Incident and the Baal-Peor Incident

1. In both stories, the people worship and make sacrifices to another god (Exodus 32:6; Numbers 25:2).
2. Both stories involve foreigners, either the gold from the Egyptians for the calf idol (Exodus 12:35; 32:2-4) or the women of Moab and Midian (Numbers 25:1-2, 6).
3. In the aftermath of the golden calf story in Exodus 34:15-16, God commands Moses and the Israelites to avoid exactly what happens in Numbers 25. Numbers 25 displays the intermingling of sexual intercourse, and the worship of foreign gods, using the Hebrew word ZANA, in 25:1.
4. The Levites kill 3,000 of those guilty of apostasy in worshipping the golden calf (Exodus 32:28). The “Judges” or leaders of Israel are instructed to kill any of the people who are yoked to Baal Peor (25:5).
5. Because of their obedience in carrying out God’s punishment against the idolaters, the Levites are ordained as priests to God (Exodus 32:25, 29). In Numbers 25, the priest Phinehas executes God’s punishment on the sinners, and a special covenant with Phinehas is established (25:6-13).
6. After the golden calf incident, Moses “makes atonement” for Israel (32:30). The priest Phinehas “makes atonement” for Israel in the Baal Peor episode (25:13).
7. A plague is sent as punishment in both the golden calf story (Exodus 32:35) and the Baal Peor story (25:9).

# THE WHOLE CAST - THE "ACTORS" IN CHAPTER 25

## ISRAEL

## ISRAEL'S ENEMIES

God

Satan  
Baal  
Other gods

Moses (Joshua and Caleb)  
Heads of Tribes (i.e. Salu)  
Judges

Balak - King of Moab  
Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba - Kings of Midian  
Balaam

(High Priest Eleazar)  
Phinehas - son of Eleazar  
Congregation Weeping at Tabernacle

Priests of Baal  
Priestess of Baal

1st Generation (census - chapter 1)  
2nd Generation (census - chapter 26)  
24,000 men killed by plague for their idolatry

The People of Moab and Midian  
Daughters/Women of Moab - immoral  
32,000 women of Moab not yet sexually active

ZIMRI  
(The son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among  
the SIMEONITES)

COZBI - "my lie, deception"  
(The daughter of Zur, he was head over a people,  
and of a chief house in Midian)

# I. The Wiles of the Devil

Ephesians 6:11-12,

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2 Corinthians 2:11,

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

## II. The Whoredom Committed with the Moabite Women

Numbers 25:1-3,

And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. <sup>2</sup> And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. <sup>3</sup> And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

Psalms 106:28,

They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor,  
and ate the sacrifices of the dead.



# SUBMIT TO GOD - PRAY - RESIST - FLEE

Matthew 6:13,

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Proverbs 7:8,

Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

Proverbs 7:26-27,

For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her.

<sup>27</sup> Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

### III. The Way to Propitiate the Wrath of God

Numbers 25:4,  
And the LORD said unto Moses,  
Take all the heads of the people,  
and hang them up before the LORD against the sun,  
that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.

## IV. The Words of Instruction to the Judges

Numbers 25:5,

And Moses said unto the judges of Israel,  
Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.

## V. The Weeping of the People at the Tabernacle

Numbers 25:6,

And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.



## VI. The Wickedness of Zimri and Cozbi

Numbers 25:6,

And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.



## VII. The Wow of what Phinehas did!

Numbers 25:7-9,

<sup>7</sup> And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; <sup>8</sup> And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. <sup>9</sup> And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

## VIII. The Words of Recognition from God

Numbers 25:10-11,

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

<sup>11</sup> Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.

## IX. The Work of Phinehas Rewarded by God

Numbers 25:12-13,

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:

<sup>13</sup> And he shall have it, and his seed after him,  
even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood;  
because he was zealous for his God,  
and made an atonement for the children of Israel.

## X. The Wicked Identified

Numbers 25:14-15,

<sup>14</sup> Now the name of the Israelite that was slain, even that was slain with the Midianitish woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among the Simeonites.

<sup>15</sup> And the name of the Midianitish woman that was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur; he was head over a people, and of a chief house in Midian.

# XI. The Warning to be Pro-Active Against Sin

Numbers 25:16-18,

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,  
<sup>17</sup> Vex the Midianites, and smite them: <sup>18</sup> For they vex you with their wiles,  
wherewith they have beguiled you in the matter of Peor,  
and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister,  
which was slain in the day of the plague for Peor's sake.

# SPIRITUAL WAR STRATEGY

1. IDENTIFY YOU HAVE AN ADVERSARY THAT NEEDS TO BE DEFEATED - PUT TO DEATH
2. ASK GOD TO FORGIVE YOU OF YOUR SIN AND LOSSES
3. SUBMIT TO GOD - FOLLOW RIGHTEOUSNESS
4. PRAY TO BE DELIVERED FROM TEMPTATION
5. FLEE YOUTHFUL LUSTS - AVOID AT ALL COSTS CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY
6. BUILD ACCOUNTABILITY AS NEEDED

# Prayer to Receive Salvation from the Lord

Dear God,

I know that I am sinner and that the wages of sin is death. I humbly come to the cross and ask for your blood to cleanse me from all my sin. I believe your Son was raised from the dead. I ask you Lord to give me everlasting life. Amen.