

THE BIBLE YEAR (2023-2024)

Class #5: The Wandering

(Numbers)

REVIEW/QUESTIONS

OVERVIEW OF THEMES IN THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

THE PURPOSE/REASON FOR NUMBERS

IMPORTANT PASSAGES:

Numbers 1-4. Census

Numbers 5:11-31. The Torah and Women's Rights

Numbers 6. The Nazarite Vow

Numbers 6:22-27. The Aaronic blessing

Numbers 7 - 12. Altar Furnishings & Dedications/Complaints

Numbers 13. The 10 spies and 2.

Numbers 14 - 17. Rebellions-Repentence-Repeat. Anthropomorphic.

Numbers 15:37ff. Tassels - "Tallith"

Numbers 19. Red heifer (Hebrews 13:11-12)

Number 21. Bronze Serpent/Fiery Snake/Symbolism

Numbers 22-24. Balaam. (Ancient Middle Eastern Storytelling)

Numbers 26 - 27. 2nd Census/Inheritance for Women

Numbers 27 - 34. Joshua/Vows/Reuben & Gad

Numbers 35. Cities of Refuge

CLOSING PRAYER

THE BIBLE YEAR (2023-2024)

Class #6: Deuteronomy

Opening Prayer/Introductions/Questions

Review: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers

Overview

- 4 types of law/commandments
 - “Statute” (hoq)
 - “Ordinance”
 - “Law”- Torah
 - “Commandment” (mitzvah)
- Martin Luther -Law/Gospel
- Other

Lesson on Deuteronomy

- Three sermons delivered by Moses on the plain of Moab just prior to the Israelites’ entrance into Canaan (1:6-4:43; 4:44-28:68; 29:1-30:20).
- Significant Passages
 - Deuteronomy 5:6-21 (10 Commandments)
 - Deuteronomy 6 (*Shema*)
 - Deuteronomy 10. Love the foreigners in your midst.
 - Deuteronomy 11. Phylacteries.
 - Blessing and a curse.

Next Week and Closing Prayer

THE BIBLE YEAR (2023-2024)

Class #7: Joshua/Conquest

OPENING Prayer/Introductions/Questions

REVIEW: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers

OVERVIEW

- Joshua = “Yeshua”
- Power of “Land”
- Conquest and War - Augustine’s *Just War Theory*

LESSON

Chapter 1 - courage

Chapters 2, 6: Rahab and Conquest of Jericho

Chapters 8-10: Conquests in the South

Chapters 11-12: Conquests in the North

Chapters 14-20: Distribution of Lands to Tribes

Chapters 23-24: Farewell and Covenant at Shechem

SUMMARY - WHEN WAS IT WRITTEN?

It is generally agreed by scholars that Joshua reached its final form during the Babylonian exile in the sixth century B.C.E., though the book obviously contains older material. The many occurrences of the phrase “to this day,” to refer to structures or practices existing in preexilic Israel, would argue that some “edition” of the book was completed prior to the exile (see 4:9; 5:9; 7:26; 8:28-29; 9:27; 13:13; 14:14; 15:63; 16:10). The use of the phrase would also imply that the author is writing for an audience living well after the time of Joshua. Many scholars place this first “edition” of Joshua in the reign of King Josiah, in the last half of the seventh century B.C.E.

