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PICTURE OF THE MAP
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In the Wilderness: The Book of Numbers

[#27 in Series] (Numbers 15–25) *Forty Years in the Wilderness: Part 12*
Enemies Without & Within: A Call to Faith – Numbers 21

Sermon Outline – November 8, 2015

Children's Sermon: Enemies of God's Kingdom

Matthew 10:28

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

- ❖ What is the worst/best thing a person can take from us/give to us?
- ❖ What can God take from us/give to us?

Review

Notes:

From Kadesh to the Plains of Moab (20:1-22:1)

Chapter 20: The Death of Miriam & Aaron (Census Cpt. 26)

Chapter 21: God Delivers Israel: A Call to Faith

Key/Legend:

Israel "in the wilderness"	We are "in the wilderness"
Canaanites/Israel's Enemies	World Opposed to God
Destruction of Canaanites	Final Judgment
Promised Land	Kingdom of Heaven

A New Generation

Key Point

Yahweh should be trusted to continue to deliver Israel from her enemies both without and within.

Battles Won (Chapter Bookends)

Canaanite King Destroyed (1-3; **Hormah** – Ban)

King Sihon Defeated (21-30)

King Og Defeated (31-35)

³⁴ But the Lord said to Moses, "Do not fear him, for *I have given him into your hand*, and all his people, and his land. And you shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites...

Deliverance from Unbelief

ⁱ Duguid, I. M., & Hughes, R. K. (2006). *Numbers: God's presence in the wilderness* (p. 263). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

The Bronze Serpent

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. *And the people became impatient on the way.* ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and *we loathe this worthless food.*”

- ✓ Fiery serpents (The wages of sin...)
- ✓ The people: “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” (Repentance)
- ✓ A Bronze Fiery Serpent on a Pole
 - God’s victory over the snake!
 - Snakes and Egypt
 - Snakes and the Devil

“It was not the Lord who had brought them into the wilderness to die, as they alleged (v. 5). Their death was not due to his power failing to give them that which he had promised. On the contrary, death in the wilderness was the result of their own sin and that of their forefather, Adam. It was their refusal to submit to the Lord that led to bondage to Satan, who is the real hard taskmaster. ... The transfixed serpent on the standard thus demonstrated in visual terms the defeat of Israel’s mortal enemies, Egypt and Satan, overcome by the power of the Lord.

✓ Look and Live!

“The judgment by the fiery serpents would similarly eliminate any from the new generation who were lacking in faith, for those who refused to look to the Lord through the bronze serpent would die. Only those who believed could enter the land, for only those who believed would live.”ⁱ

Mercy & Joy

Travel Log & the Song of the Well (10-20; [See Map](#))

...¹⁶ And from there they continued to *Beer; that is the well* of which the Lord said to Moses, “Gather the people together, so that I may give them water.”¹⁷

Then Israel sang this song: “*Spring up, O well!—Sing to it!*—

Key/Legend:	
Snake on a Pole	Jesus on the Cross
Rescue by Faith	Rescued by Faith
Rescued from <u>unbelief & death</u> to enter the Promised Land	Rescued from <u>unbelief & eternal death</u> to the KOH/G. (Rejoice!)
This is worth singing about!	This is worth singing about!

How Get into God’s Kingdom?

John 3:5

Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is *born of water and the Spirit*, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Ezekiel 36:25–27

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And *I will put my Spirit within you*, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

John 3:14–15

¹⁴ And *as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness*, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have **eternal life**.

Key Idea

When we, by God’s gift, look to Jesus, raised up for us, we find rescue from death and inherit eternal life & joy!

How Do I Know if I Have This Life? (Am I Trusting Jesus?)

John 3:20–21

²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates *the light* and does *not come to the light*, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But *whoever does what is true comes to the light*, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been *carried out in God.*”