

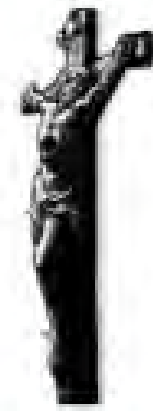
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The Crisis of Snakes & Crosses

Series:  
Battles of the Bible  
Numbers 21:1-35

March 9, 2022 / 6 Adar II 5782



- 1. The first military victory: a picture of making and fulfilling vows (v.1-3).**



## **Numbers 21:1 (TEV)**

<sup>1</sup> When the Canaanite king of Arad in the southern part of Canaan heard that the Israelites were coming by way of Atharim, he attacked them and captured some of them.

## **Numbers 21:1 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup> And *when* king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south, heard tell that Israel came by the way of the spies; then he fought against Israel, and took *some* of them prisoners.



## **Numbers 21:2 (TEV)**

<sup>2</sup> Then the Israelites made a **vow** to the LORD: "If you will let us conquer these people, we will unconditionally dedicate them and their cities to you and will destroy them."

## **Numbers 21:2 (KJV)**

<sup>2</sup> And Israel **vowed a vow** unto the LORD, and said, If thou wilt indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.



## **Numbers 21:3 (TEV)**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD heard them and helped them conquer the Canaanites. So the Israelites completely destroyed them and their cities, and named the place **Hormah**.

## **Numbers 21:3 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup> And the LORD hearkened to the voice of Israel, and delivered up the Canaanites; and they utterly destroyed them and their cities: and he called the name of the place **Hormah**.



**2. The bronze snake: a picture of unbelief and of Christ the Savior (v.4-9).**

The first is the gravity of Israel's sin (you'll see it in verses 4 and 5).



## Numbers 21:4 (TEV)

<sup>4</sup> The Israelites left **Mount Hor** by the road that leads to the Gulf of Aqaba, in order to go around the territory of Edom. But on the way the people lost their patience .

## Numbers 21:4 (KJV)

<sup>4</sup> And they journeyed from **mount Hor** by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

The first is the gravity of Israel's sin (you'll see it in verses 4 and 5).



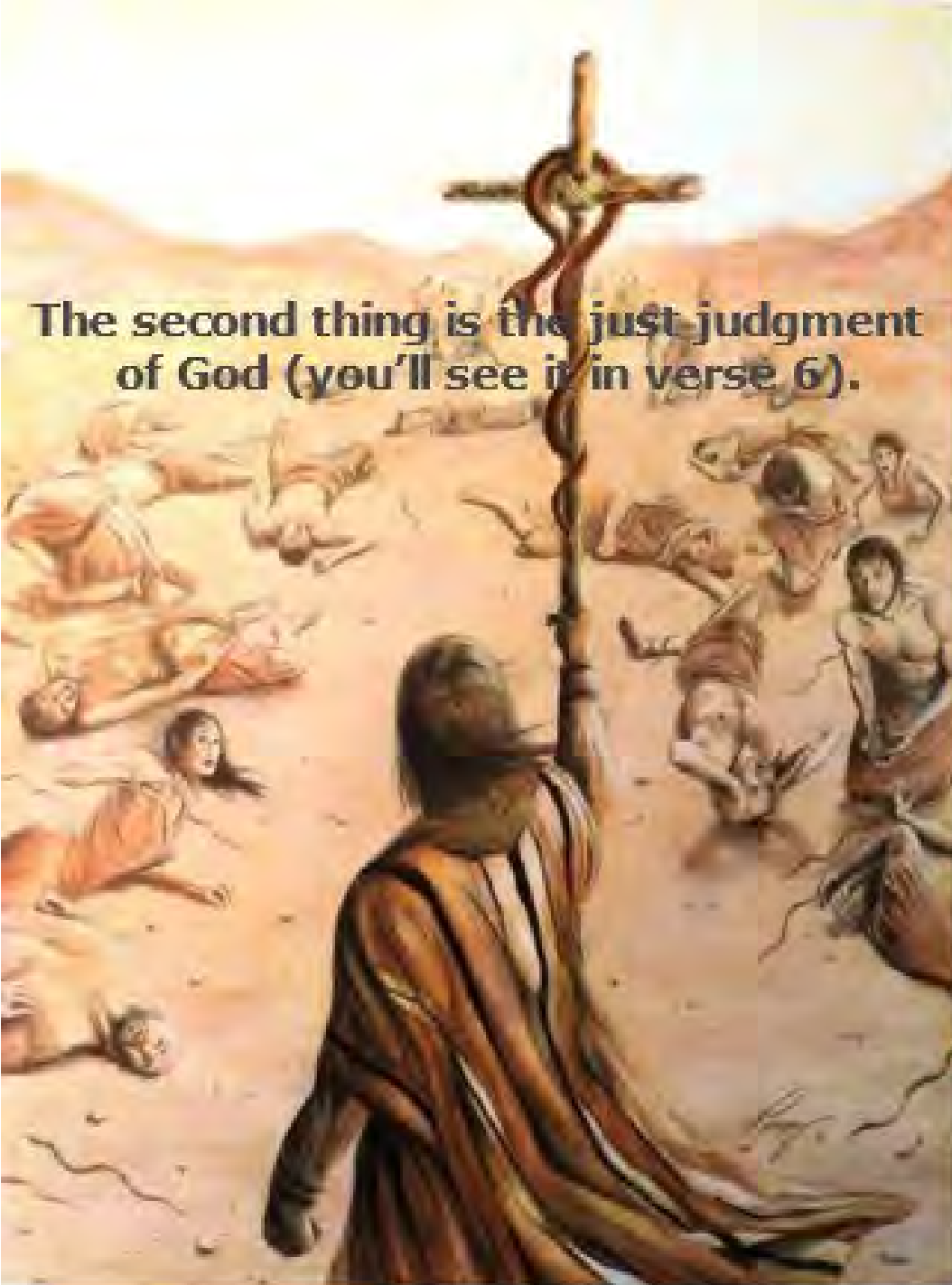
## **Numbers 21:5 (TEV)**

<sup>5</sup> and spoke against God and Moses. They complained, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We can't stand any more of this miserable food!"

## **Numbers 21:5 (KJV)**

<sup>5</sup> And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for *there is no bread, neither is there any water*; and our soul loatheth this light bread.





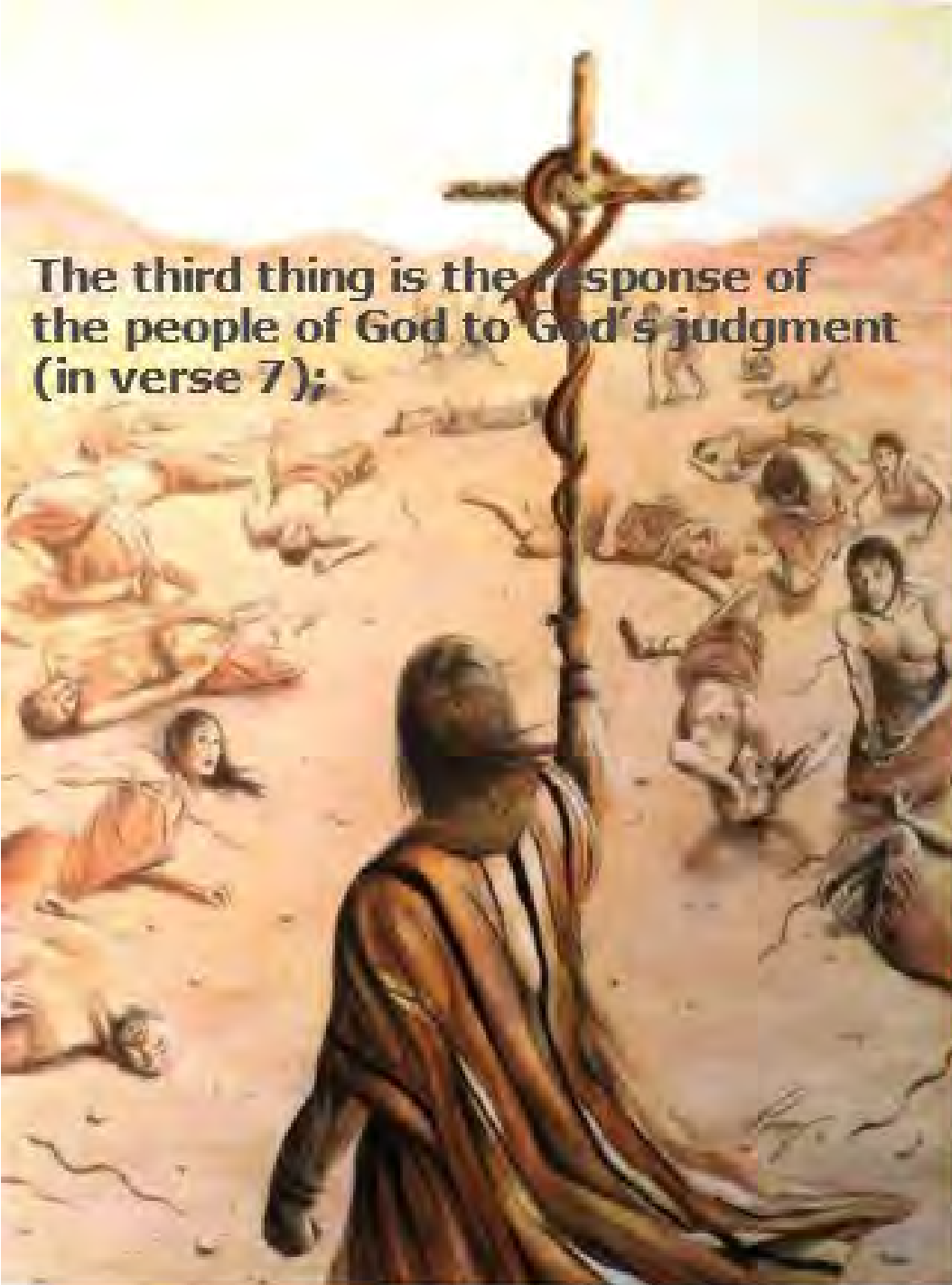
The second thing is the just judgment of God (you'll see it in verse 6).

## Numbers 21:6 (TEV)

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD sent **poisonous snakes** among the people, and many Israelites were bitten and died.

## Numbers 21:6 (KJV)

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD sent **fiery serpents** among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.



The third thing is the response of the people of God to God's judgment (in verse 7);

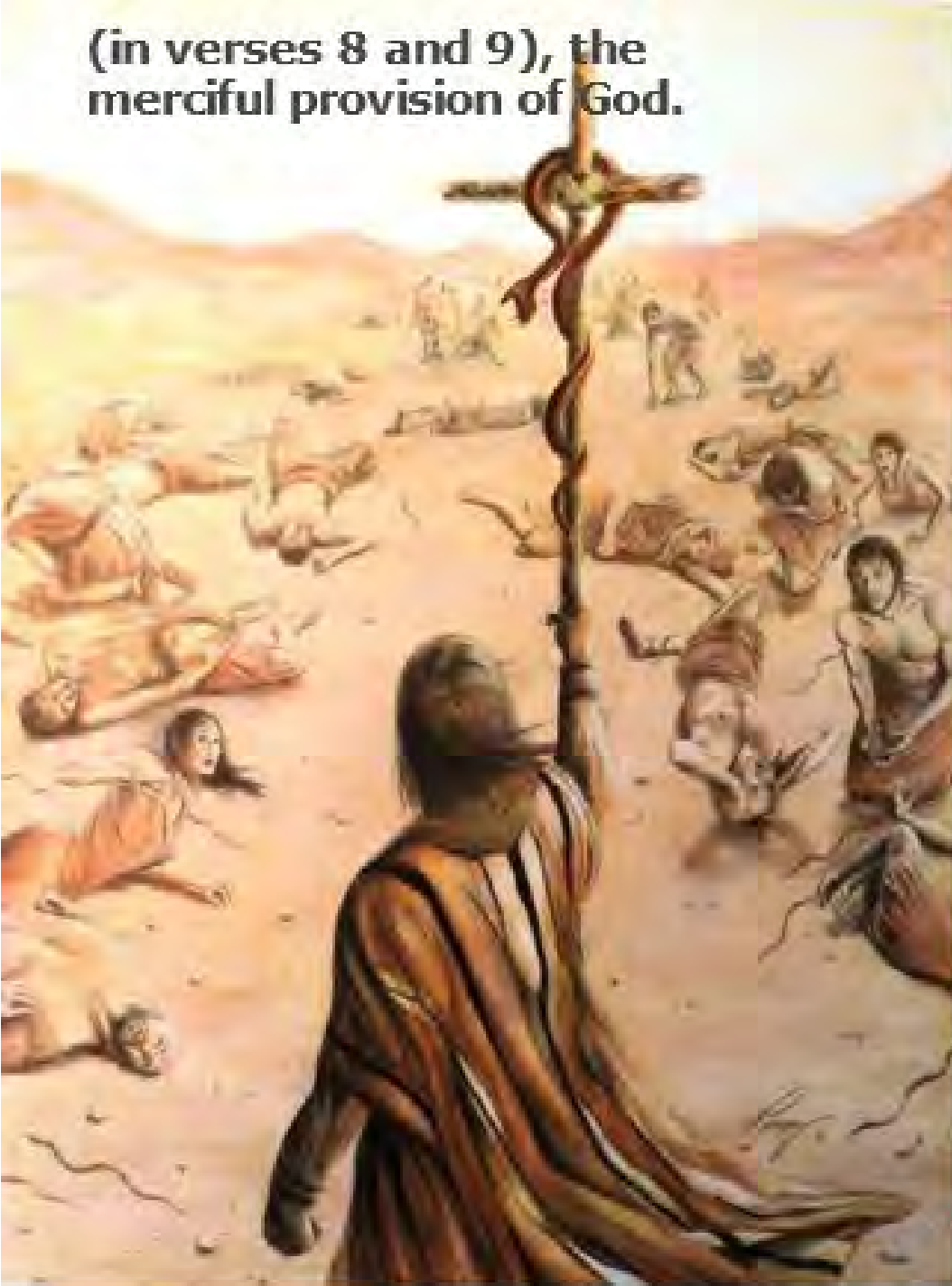
### **Numbers 21:7 (TEV)**

<sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Now pray to the LORD to take these snakes away." So Moses prayed for the people.

### **Numbers 21:7 (KJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. **And Moses prayed for the people.**

(in verses 8 and 9), the merciful provision of God.



## Numbers 21:8 (TEV)

<sup>8</sup> Then the LORD told Moses to make a metal snake and put it on a pole, so that anyone who was bitten could look at it and be healed.

## Numbers 21:8 (KJV)

<sup>8</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

(in verses 8 and 9), the merciful provision of God.



## **Numbers 21:9 (TEV)**

<sup>9</sup> So Moses made a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Anyone who had been bitten would look at the bronze snake and be healed.

## **Numbers 21:9 (KJV)**

<sup>9</sup> And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.



**3. The march around Moab: a picture of progress—marching forth from place to place in a spirit of strong assurance (v.10-20)**



## **Numbers 21:10 (TEV)**

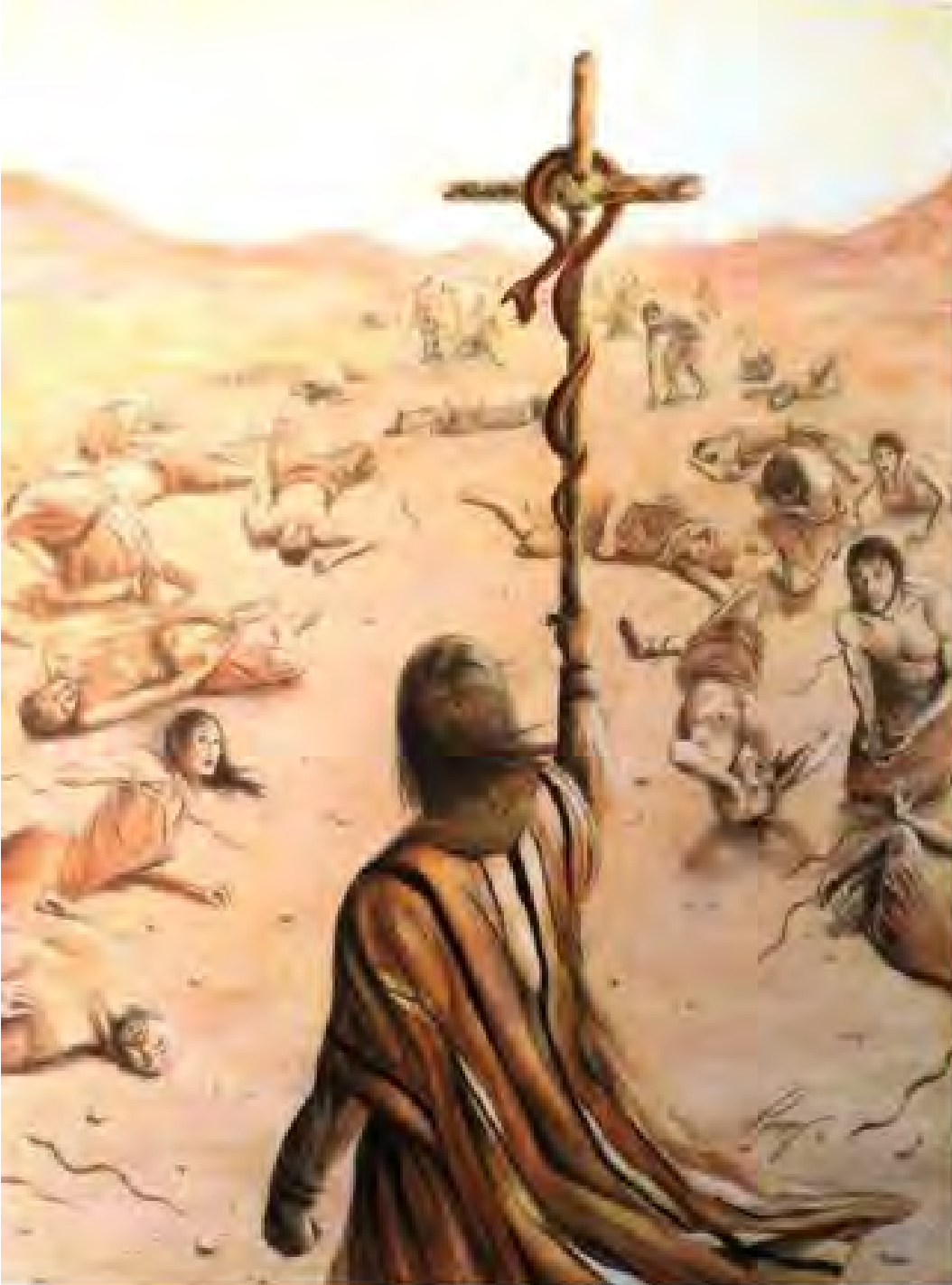
<sup>10</sup> The Israelites moved on and camped at Oboth.

He's guiding His people in verse 10 -15

## **Numbers 21:10 (KJV)**

<sup>10</sup> And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in Oboth.

**verses 10-15, where we have the sense of movement**



## **Numbers 21:11 (TEV)**

<sup>11</sup> After leaving that place, they camped at the ruins of Abarim in the wilderness east of Moabite territory.

He's guiding His people in verse 10 -15

## **Numbers 21:11 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup> And they journeyed from Oboth, and pitched at Ijeabarim, in the wilderness which *is* before Moab, toward the sunrising.

verses 10-15, where we have the sense of movement



## **Numbers 21:12 (TEV)**

**12** Then they camped in Zered Valley.

He's guiding His people in verse 10 -15

## **Numbers 21:12 (KJV)**

**12** From thence they removed, and pitched in the valley of Zared.

verses 10-15, where we have the sense of movement





## **Numbers 21:13 (TEV)**

<sup>13</sup> From there they moved again and camped on the north side of the Arnon River, in the wilderness which extends into Amorite territory. (The Arnon was the border between the Moabites and the Amorites.)

He's guiding His people in verse 10 -15

## **Numbers 21:13 (KJV)**

<sup>13</sup> From thence they removed, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, which *is* in the wilderness that cometh out of the coasts of the Amorites: for Arnon *is* the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.



## **Numbers 21:14 (TEV)**

<sup>14</sup> That is why *The Book of the LORD'S Battles* speaks of ". . . the town of Waheb in the area of Suphah, and the valleys; the Arnon River,

He's guiding His people in  
verse 10-15

## **Numbers 21:14 (KJV)**

<sup>14</sup> Wherefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, What he did in the Red sea, and in the brooks of Arnon,

**verses 10-15, where we have the sense of movement**



## **Numbers 21:15 (TEV)**

<sup>15</sup> and the slope of the valleys that extend to the town of Ar and toward the border of Moab."

He's guiding His people in verse 10 -15

## **Numbers 21:15 (KJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And at the stream of the brooks that goeth down to the dwelling of Ar, and lieth upon the border of Moab.

**verses 10-15, where we have the sense of movement**



## **Numbers 21:16 (TEV)**

<sup>16</sup> From there they went on to a place called Wells, where the LORD said to Moses, "Bring the people together, and I will give them water."

He's providing for His people in verses 16 -20

## **Numbers 21:16 (KJV)**

<sup>16</sup> And from thence *they went* to Beer: that *is* the well whereof the LORD spake unto Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water.

verses 16-20, which celebrates the Lord's provision of water for the people of God



## **Numbers 21:17 (TEV)**

<sup>17</sup> At that time the people of Israel sang this song: "Wells, produce your water; And we will greet it with a song—

He's providing for His people in verses 16 -20

## **Numbers 21:17 (KJV)**

<sup>17</sup> Then Israel sang this song, Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it:

verses 16-20, which celebrates the Lord's provision of water for the people of God



## **Numbers 21:18 (TEV)**

<sup>18</sup> The well dug by princes And by leaders of the people, Dug with a royal scepter And with their walking sticks." They moved from the wilderness to Mattanah,

## **Numbers 21:18 (KJV)**

<sup>18</sup> The princes digged the well, the nobles of the people digged it, by *the direction of the lawgiver*, with their staves. And from the wilderness *they went to Mattanah:*

He's providing for His people in verses 16 -20



## **Numbers 21:19 (TEV)**

<sup>19</sup> and from there they went on to Nahaliel, and from Nahaliel to Bamoth,

He's providing for His people in verses 16 -20

## **Numbers 21:19 (KJV)**

<sup>19</sup> And from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth:

**verses 16-20, which celebrates the Lord's provision of water for the people of God**



## **Numbers 21:20 (TEV)**

<sup>20</sup> and from Bamoth to the valley in the territory of the Moabites, below the top of Mount Pisgah, looking out over the desert. He's providing for His people in verses 16-20

## **Numbers 21:20 (KJV)**

<sup>20</sup> And from Bamoth *in* the valley, *that is* in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh toward Jeshimon.

verses 16-20, which celebrates the Lord's provision of water for the people of God





- 4.** The military victory over Sihon, the king of the Amorites: a picture of God's protection when attacked by enemies (v.21-32).



## **Numbers 21:21 (TEV)**

**21** Then the people of Israel sent messengers to the Amorite king Sihon to say:

verses 21-35, we see the Lord fighting for His people

## **Numbers 21:21 (KJV)**

**21** And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting for His people.



## **Numbers 21:22 (TEV)**

<sup>22</sup> "Let us pass through your land. We and our cattle will not leave the road and go into your fields or vineyards, and we will not drink water from your wells; we will stay on the main road until we are out of your territory."

## **Numbers 21:22 (KJV)**

<sup>22</sup> Let me pass through thy land: we will not turn into the fields, or into the vineyards; we will not drink of the waters of the well: *but* we will go along by the king's *high way*, until we be past thy borders.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:23 (TEV)**

<sup>23</sup> But Sihon would not permit the people of Israel to pass through his territory. He gathered his army and went out to Jahaz in the wilderness and attacked the Israelites.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord fighting for His people

## **Numbers 21:23 (KJV)**

<sup>23</sup> And Sihon would not suffer Israel to pass through his border: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and went out against Israel into the wilderness: and he came to Jahaz, and fought against Israel.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:24 (TEV)**

<sup>24</sup> But the Israelites killed many of the enemy in battle and occupied their land from the Arnon River north to the Jabbok, that is, to the Ammonites, because the Ammonite border was strongly defended.

## **Numbers 21:24 (KJV)**

<sup>24</sup> And Israel smote him with the edge of the sword, and possessed his land from Arnon unto Jabbok, even unto the children of Ammon: for the border of the children of Ammon *was* strong.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:25 (TEV)**

<sup>25</sup> So the people of Israel captured all the Amorite cities, including Heshbon and all the surrounding towns, and settled in them.

## **Numbers 21:25 (KJV)**

<sup>25</sup> And Israel took all these cities: and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all the villages thereof.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:26 (TEV)**

<sup>26</sup>Heshbon was the capital city of the Amorite king Sihon, who had fought against the former king of Moab and had captured all his land as far as the Arnon River.

## **Numbers 21:26 (KJV)**

<sup>26</sup> For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and taken all his land out of his hand, even unto Arnon.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:27 (TEV)**

<sup>27</sup> That is why the poets sing,  
"Come to Heshbon, to King  
Sihon's city! We want to see it  
rebuilt and restored.

## **Numbers 21:27 (KJV)**

<sup>27</sup> Wherefore they that speak in  
proverbs say, Come into  
Heshbon, let the city of Sihon  
be built and prepared:

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.



verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:28 (TEV)**

<sup>28</sup> Once from this city of Heshbon Sihon's army went forth like a fire; It destroyed the city of Ar in Moab And devoured the hills of the upper Arnon.

## **Numbers 21:28 (KJV)**

<sup>28</sup> For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, *and* the lords of the high places of Arnon.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



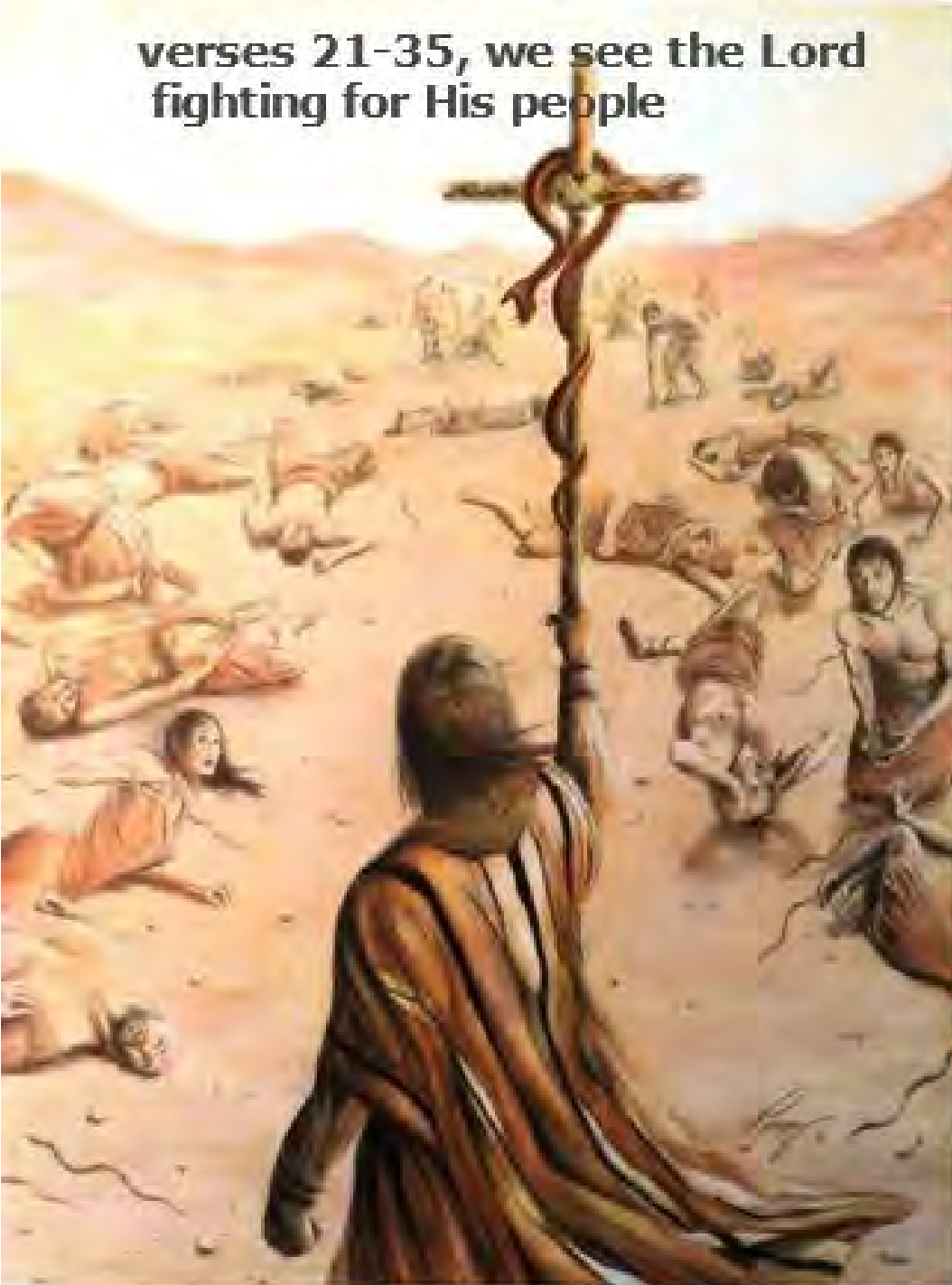
## **Numbers 21:29 (TEV)**

<sup>29</sup> How terrible for you, people of Moab! You worshipers of Chemosh are brought to ruin! Your god let the men become refugees, And the women became captives of the Amorite king.

## **Numbers 21:29 (KJV)**

<sup>29</sup> Woe to thee, Moab! thou art undone, O people of Chemosh: he hath given his sons that escaped, and his daughters, into captivity unto Sihon king of the Amorites.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:30 (TEV)**

<sup>30</sup> But now their descendants are destroyed, All the way from Heshbon to Dibon, From Nashim to Nophah, near Medeba."

## **Numbers 21:30 (KJV)**

<sup>30</sup> We have shot at them; Heshbon is perished even unto Dibon, and we have laid them waste even unto Nophah, which *reacheth* unto Medeba.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:31 (TEV)**

**31** So the people of Israel  
settled in the territory of the  
Amorites,

## **Numbers 21:31 (KJV)**

**31** Thus Israel dwelt in the  
land of the Amorites.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



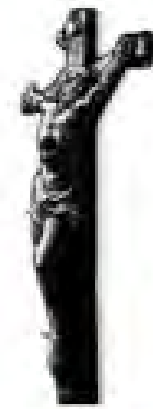
## **Numbers 21:32 (TEV)**

<sup>32</sup> and Moses sent men to find the best way to attack the city of Jazer. The Israelites captured it and its surrounding towns and drove out the Amorites living there.

## **Numbers 21:32 (KJV)**

<sup>32</sup> And Moses sent to spy out Jaazer, and they took the villages thereof, and drove out the Amorites that *were* there.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.



**5.** The military victory over Og, the king of Bashan: a picture of victory through the power of God (**Genesis 15:16; Psalm 136:19**) (v.33-35).

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:33 (TEV)**

<sup>33</sup> Then the Israelites turned and took the road to Bashan, and King Og of Bashan marched out with his army to attack them at Edrei.

## **Numbers 21:33 (KJV)**

<sup>33</sup> And they turned and went up by the way of Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he, and all his people, to the battle at Edrei.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.

verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:34 (TEV)**

<sup>34</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Do not be afraid of him. I will give you victory over him, all his people, and his land. Do to him what you did to Sihon, the Amorite king who ruled at Heshbon."

## **Numbers 21:34 (KJV)**

<sup>34</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Fear him not: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.



verses 21-35, we see the Lord  
fighting for His people



## **Numbers 21:35 (TEV)**

<sup>35</sup> So the Israelites killed Og,  
his sons, and all his people,  
leaving no survivors, and  
then they occupied his land.

## **Numbers 21:35 (KJV)**

<sup>35</sup> So they smote him, and his  
sons, and all his people, until  
there was none left him alive:  
and they possessed his land.

verses 21-35, which recount the Lord fighting  
for His people.