



Numbers – Study Guide



Bible Reading (Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)	Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)
Numbers ☐ 3:40-51 ☐ 6:22-27 ☐ 9:15-23 ☐ ch. 13 ☐ ch. 14 ☐ ch. 16 ☐ 21:4-9 ☐ 22:1-23:26 ☐ ch. 25 ☐ 27:12-23 ☐ 33:50-56	Ch. 8 ☐ Literary Structure ☐ Disobedience in the desert

Study Guide for Numbers

Chapter 3:40-51

- What was counted in this section? Why?
- What does this section say about the Levites and their relationship to God? What is significant about this?
- What was the significance of the redemption money? Why was it collected? What does this teach us?

Chapter 6:22-27

- Describe the priestly blessing in your own words. What does each phrase tell us about what God desires for His people and how He plans to provide it? How should we respond?

Chapter 9:15-23

- What is the general teaching of this section? How did God lead the people during this time? What does this demonstrate about how the people were dependent on God? What difference does this make?

Chapter 13

- For what purpose/task were these men chosen? Why was that necessary? What specific instructions were they given?
- Where did they explore? How does Numbers describe what they saw?
- What did they report to the people? What did they report about the land? What did they report about the people?
- What did Caleb suggest they do in response? Why?
- What did the others conclude and say to the people? How can we explain the difference in these conclusions? What can we learn from this?

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Chapter 14

- What did the people conclude, based on the report given them about the land? How did they respond? What did they want to do?
- How did Moses and Aaron respond to what the people were doing and saying?
- What did Joshua and Caleb say to the people? On what did they base their confidence? How did the people respond?
- How did God respond to the rebellion of the people? What did He say about the people? What did He threaten to do? How is this similar to earlier episodes in the Pentateuch?
- How did Moses respond to God's threat? How is this similar to earlier episodes in the Pentateuch? What did Moses ask God to do? What reason did he give for this? Who was he quoting when giving this reason? What can we learn from this? How does it apply?
- How did God respond to the request of Moses? What punishment did He pronounce on the people? How was Caleb singled out in this? Why?
- What did God say about grumbling? How did God differentiate between the parents and the children? Why?
- What happened to the men who spread the bad report about the land? Why?
- How did the people respond when they heard about God's announced punishment? Was this a good response? Why or why not? What happened as a result of this?

Chapter 16

- What did Korah, Dathan, and Abiram do? What reason did they give for what they did?
- How did Moses respond? What did he tell the men to do? What did Moses say to warn and rebuke these men?
- Why did Moses become angry? What did he say to the Lord about this?
- What happened when they all appeared before the Lord? How did Moses warn the assembly? What did Moses tell the people about what was about to happen? What were they supposed to conclude, based on what would happen? Why was this important for them to know at that time? What should we learn from this?
- What happened to Korah and the others? What does this tell us about how God evaluated their attitude and behavior in this entire episode? What should we learn from this?
- What reminder was given to the people by the bronze utensils taken from the dead men? What did this warn future generations against?
- How did the people respond to this whole episode? What did God threaten to do in response? How did Aaron stop the plague?
- What does this entire chapter demonstrate about the spiritual state of the people at that time? What was the main problem? What should have been better? What lessons should we learn to protect ourselves from similar problems?

Chapter 21:4-9

- What did the people do in this episode? How did God respond? What did the people ask Moses as a result?
- What did God instruct Moses to do? Why? What was the result of this? Can you remember the New Testament reference to this event? What does this illustrate?

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Chapter 22:1-Chapter 23:26

- Why were the Moabites afraid of the Israelites? What did Balak, the king of Moab do? What did the messengers ask Balaam to do?
- How did Balaam respond to the messengers? Why? What had happened in the meantime to make him respond in this way?
- What did the second round of messengers say to Balaam? How did Balaam respond?
- What happened while Balaam was travelling? Why did the donkey do what it did? How did Balaam respond? What was unusual about the fact that Balaam's donkey spoke to him? What did the donkey say?
- What did the angel of the Lord say to Balaam? How did Balaam respond? What did the angel warn Balaam to do?
- What did Balak say to Balaam when they met? What did Balaam say in return?
- What did they do to prepare to hear from God?
- What was the general content of the oracle that God gave Balaam? Was this what Balak was desiring to hear? Why or why not? How did he respond?
- What did the first oracle say about Israel and their destiny?
- What did they do to prepare to hear from God a second time?
- What was the general content of the second oracle that God gave Balaam? Was this what Balak was desiring to hear? Why or why not? How did he respond?
- What did the second oracle say about Israel and their destiny? What did it say about God Himself? How did this answer what Balak was desiring to hear and accomplish by hiring Balaam?
- What is the point of this entire episode? What does this say about God's character and His plans for His people? What difference does this make?

Chapter 25

- What did the men of Israel do? Why? Why was this a problem?
- How did God respond to this? What did He tell Moses to do?
- What did Phineas do? Why? Did God judge this to be a good thing? How do we know? What did God do to Phineas as a result?
- How did God treat Israel as a result of what they did at Peor? How did God treat Midian as a result of what they did at Peor? What lessons should we learn from this? How do they apply in our own culture?

Chapter 27:12-23

- What did God tell Moses to prepare for? Why?
- What did Moses ask God for? Why was this important?
- How did God answer Moses's request?
- How was this provision made known publicly? Why do you think it was important to do all this publicly for all the people to see? What can we learn from this?

Chapter 33:50-56

- What did God command the people to do when they entered the land? Why was it important for them to follow this command? What warning did God give them if they failed to follow this command? What can we learn from this?

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Study Guide for Textbook chapter 8

Contents of the Book of Numbers

Literary Structure

- What are the three parts of Numbers? What does this tell us about the content and message of this book?
- What kinds of material are mixed together in the book of Numbers? What function does each serve in the overall message?
- What do we learn from the contrast between the holy and the profane in Numbers? What difference does this make?
- What does the textbook conclude about the organization of Numbers? Do you agree? Why or why not?

Disobedience in the Desert

- How does the textbook describe the journey of chapters 11 and 12? How does 11:1 summarize the experience of those chapters? Why does the textbook say this section is ironic? What is ironic about it?
- What do these chapters tell us about the Israelites? What does this tell us about human nature in general? How can we guard against this in our own lives?
- What was “Israel’s ultimate failure” according to the textbook? How did this happen? What can we learn from this?
- What punishment did God pronounce as a result of this? How is this seen in the rest of Numbers?
- What point does the textbook make about the laws on offerings to be observed in Canaan? Why is this important to the message of Numbers? What does this tell us about God and His purposes?
- How did the rebellion under Korah threaten Israel and God’s purposes? How was it dealt with?
- What point does the textbook make about the laws regarding uncleanness? Why is this important?
- What does the textbook emphasize about Moses’s sin? What can we learn from this?
- What lesson does the textbook suggest we learn from this entire section? What difference does this make?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter