



# Numbers – Textbook Reading



## Textbook Reading

(Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)

Ch. 8

- ☐ Literary Structure
- ☐ Disobedience in the desert

## 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**