

Study Series: Numbers

Question about Numbers 22:2–36:13

1. Why did King Balak and the Midianite leaders hire the prophet Balaam? (22:2–24:25) Did Balak get what he expected from Balaam? Summarize the key points of Balaam's four messages.
2. What happened at the Acacia camp that made the LORD angry with the Israelites? (Chapter 25) Which of the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 20:1-17) was being broken here? How was the problem resolved and what was the lasting effect of the sin committed by the Israelite men?
3. Forty years passed between the first census of the Israelite people (Chapter 1) and the second census (chapter 26). What had happened to the older generation of Israelites that came out of Egypt?
4. Who were the daughters of Zelophehad, and what did they want? (27:1-11) What was God's response to their request? How was this ruling adjusted later? (Chapter 36)
5. How important was offering sacrifices to God to the Israelites in daily life, worship and special festivals? (Chapters 28,29) How important in daily life are offerings, worship, and religious ceremonies today?
6. Describe the Israelites' battle with the Midianites (Chapter 31). What happened to the Midianites' lands? What is your reaction to the concept of a "Holy War"? Explain.
7. What did the men from the tribes of Reuben and Gad want, and how did Moses respond to what they asked for? (Chapter 32) What other tribe was included in Moses' decision?
8. Why were towns given to the Levites? (35:1-8) What were the Safe Towns, and what did they have to do with the laws about accidental killing or murder? (35:9-15)