

Journey into Freedom

Lesson 17

Numbers 20:1-13, 20:14-29 (read only), 21:1-9, 21:10-35 (read only)

Bible Text New International Version	Observations What does the text say?	Interpretation & Questions What does it mean to all Christians?
<p>Numbers 20:1-13</p> <p>Water From the Rock</p> <p>¹ In the first month the whole Israelite community arrived at the Desert of Zin, and they stayed at Kadesh. There Miriam died and was buried. ² Now there was no water for the community, and the people gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron. ³ They quarreled with Moses and said, "If only we had died when our brothers fell dead before the LORD! ⁴ Why did you bring the LORD's community into this wilderness, that we and our livestock should die here? ⁵ Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? It has no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!" ⁶ Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown, and the glory of the LORD appeared to them. ⁷ The LORD said to Moses, ⁸ "Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink." ⁹ So Moses took the staff from the LORD's presence, just as he commanded him. ¹⁰ He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" ¹¹ Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. ¹² But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them." ¹³ These were the waters of Meribah,^[a] where the Israelites quarreled with the LORD and where he was proved holy among them.</p>		
Application What does it mean to me?		
<p>Footnotes:</p> <p>a. Numbers 20:13 <i>Meribah</i> means <i>quarreling</i>.</p>		
<p>Summary:</p>		

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READ ONLY: Numbers 20:14-29		
Numbers 21:1-9 Arad Destroyed ¹ When the Canaanite king of Arad, who lived in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming along the road to Atharim, he attacked the Israelites and captured some of them. ² Then Israel made this vow to the LORD: “If you will deliver these people into our hands, we will totally destroy ^[a] their cities.” ³ The LORD listened to Israel’s plea and gave the Canaanites over to them. They completely destroyed them and their towns; so the place was named Hormah. ^[a] The Bronze Snake ⁴ They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, ^[a] to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!” ⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.		
Application What does it mean to me?		

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Footnotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Numbers 21:2 The Hebrew term also refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verse 3.b. Numbers 21:3 <i>Hormah</i> means <i>destruction</i>.c. Numbers 21:4 <i>Or the Sea of Reeds</i>		
Summary:		
READ ONLY: Numbers 21:10-35		

Scriptures:

1 John 1:8-9

Hebrews 8:12

Question:

Describe a part of your life journey when your own sin caused you and/or others to suffer. How did you see God working through those consequences?

