

- EPOCH TWO - DELIVERANCE



GOOD NEWS & BAD NEWS

The story of Genesis is one of understanding our roots. If the Living God is who He says He is, the implications are massive. Implicit in an understanding of our ORIGINS is our need for DELIVERANCE. The Good News means little if we are not acquainted with the Bad News.

Through Adam and Eve we were created to live forever. That was changed when our parents rejected God's Word in exchange for the serpent's word. If we are to once again acquire eternal life, it will be done through faith in the One whom God has sent.

MY WORLDVIEW Do I believe that God is my Father? Do I believe that I was born separated from God? Do I believe that I am lost apart from God's intervention in my life? Do I believe that my Father cares enough about me to search for me and deliver me?



NOTICE THE KEY PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE TIME-LINE

Tower

Joseph

It is easy to think that God is not going to come through. It is clear from Scripture and from life experience that all men and women die. Whether Adam and Eve, Noah and his family, the people in the wilderness, Moses himself, or you and me - one fate awaits all men.

of the people!

But it becomes clear in the God Story that there is more to life than living and dying - there is reward and hope as well. This is the outcome of faith. We have meaning for more than our 80 or so years of life upon this earth. The Law and the prophets lay the foundation for this understanding. Life is good, but what good is life lived apart from God?

Israel saved Joseph's bones and buried them in the promised land (see Exodus 13:19 and Joshua 24:32). While Joseph may have been buried in an Egyptian coffin - his life and death are a picture of the delivering redemption that is on the horizon!

EXODUS Exit Deliverance from Bondage Law Exposited Tabernacle Constructed 1:9-22;12:51 20:1-17 25:1-22 1-12 13-24 25-40

"God's sovereign redemption." 12:51

Bondage is the Bad News. God's Law is the Good News. God is among us!

LEVITICUS Worship

	Way of Access	
Sacrifice	Priests	Ceremony
1:4;2:13;7:37-38	9:23-24; 10:10,11	16:29-34
1-7	18-10	11-16

 Way of Fellowship

 Separation
 Observances

 18:3-5; 19:36-37
 23:44; 25:8-12

 17-22
 23-27

God's Holiness Revealed! 11:44

You may come **near** to Me. You may **know** Me.

NUMBERS Wander

	Journey I)repared	
Warriors	Levites	Purity	Worship
1:2,3,19	3:12,13; 4:49	5:6,7; 6:21	10:13,35,36
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-10

Journey Wanderings

Sinai to Moab	Events at Moab
12:1-3; 14:22-33	25:1-3; 26:64,65
10-21	22-36

"God's people as they walk!" 33:1

40 day journey = 40 years.
Because of **unbelief** (Hebrews 3)

DAY EIGHT 8

DAY NINE ()

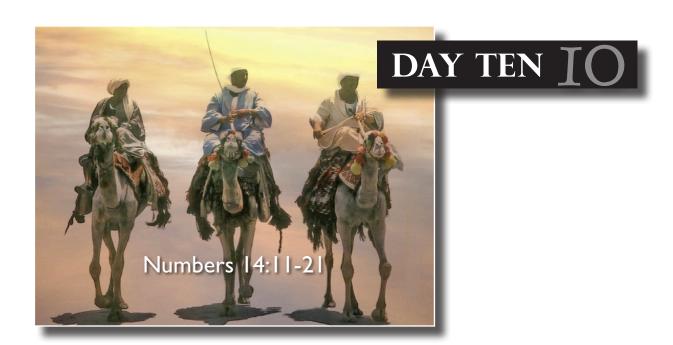
The Lord God has remembered His people in Egypt. He has provided deliverance through Joseph, and now has brought His people out of Egypt with a "mighty hand."

The book of Exodus not only describes this process for the Jews, but also for all who call upon God to deliver us into eternal life. He leads them out through the fire and the cloud.

Because this generation has grown up in Egypt and does not know the Lord, He gives them His Law at Mount Horeb to explain who He is. Yahweh then provides a meeting place called the Tabernacle, where His people can experience His presence.

The priesthood is established in Leviticus to help the Hebrews draw close to their Deliverer. Faith is God's desire for His people, just as it is today.

If you take the time to read and note each of these section passages in your bible, you will establish a solid, basic understanding of His "Torah" or Law. And you will also move deeper insight into how God has chosen to deliver mankind!



IT IS NO WONDER WE WANDER

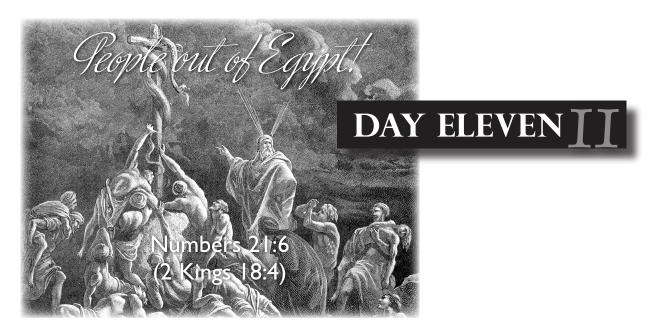
The best way to summarize the events and teaching of the book of NUMBERS is to consider chapter 14.

What was the complaint of the people, and what was their solution to their concerns?
What is the significance of Joshua and Caleb's place in the story?
What do we learn about Moses from the events of this chapter?
What was God's issue with the people and the situation?

MY WORLDVIEW

It appears that all grumbling is evidence of a lack of faith (Hebrews 3). Would I consider myself a grumbler? How do I avoid succumbing to negativity and cynicism? Do I have the same spiritual disposition as Moses?

You may also wish to read about Korah's rebellion in NUMBERS 26.

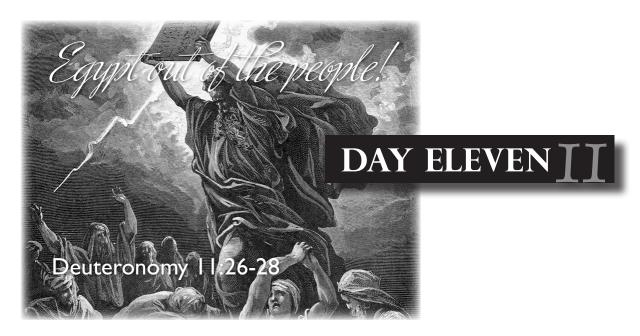


READ NUMBERS 21:1-10

Why were the people upset?
What was God's response to their complaining?
Why was it so harsh?
What does this incident have to do with what Jesus says in JOHN 3:14,15?
What happened in 2 KINGS 18:4 that relates to this story?

MY WORLDVIEW

There are clear priciples in these first five books of Moses that help us to live in a way that pleases our Father. He also opens the door to eternal life. Cool.



THE GRACE OF LAW

God's Law is not antithetical to His grace - it is a part of His grace. Read DEUTERONOMY 11:26-28.

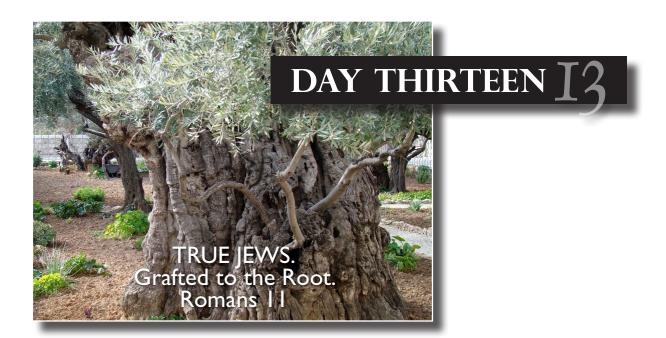
What was the purpose of His Law?
What were the upsides of following His Law?
The downsides of ignoring it?
GALATIANS 5 places the Law into the context of a person who has encountered the Son of God and found life in His Name. What is specifically explained about the purpose of the Law?

Standards DEUTERONOMY Three Discourses: MOSES COVENANT HISTORICAL LAW REVIEW EXPOSITED RATIFIED GOODBYE 5:29; 6:12 30:11-20 34:6-12 1:26; 4:39 27-30 4-26 31-34 1-4

God's faithfulness and instruction! 10:12

This is Who I Am. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Matthew 22:36-40 DAY TWELVE 12

THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS
Read DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9. What do we learn about His intention for generations?
Read MATTHEW 22:36-40 and compare it to either list of the "ten commandments" from either EXODUS 20 or DEUTERONOMY 5. What similarities do you see?
Deuteronomy means "second law." What happened to the first set of tablets? Why?
MYWORLDVIEW
What place do the commandments of God play in my life? In the lives of those who lead my country? In the lives of my co-workers or fellow-students?



Read ROMANS 2:29. Paul was a dedicated Jew. But Paul knew that it was not enough to be connected to God through any blood or social status. Jesus had revealed to him (and throughout all of scripture) that the Good News belonged to the Gentile as well as the Jew.

READ ROMANS 11. What is the result of the Jews rejecting the Messiah, the Son of God? How should I feel about being a "wild branch" that has been "grafted in" to the true root? How important is it to continue in His kindness, and what do you think this means? What were Paul's feelings and conclusion about God's plan for the Jews and the Gentiles?

MY WORLDVIEW

Gratefulness is one of the true signs of spirituality. Would I consider myself a grateful person? Would grateful be a word others would use to describe me?



We just read ROMANS 2:29 (read it again if you need a refresher). Now read COLOS-SIANS 2:11. Circumcision was the outward sign of the covenant made with Abraham, and with the Hebrew people.

What is the "true circumcision?"

The Law is pretty poorly represented among most modern Gentile believers. Considering how much time was spent by the apostles explaining the link between what Moses said and what Jesus lived and taught, it is incredible that we are so far off base. Read DEUTERON-OMY 30. Was it possible to interact with the Law in such a way as to be right with God?

What do you think that Jesus meant in MATTHEW 5:17 as He explains righteousness through these "beatitudes?"

MY WORLDVIEW

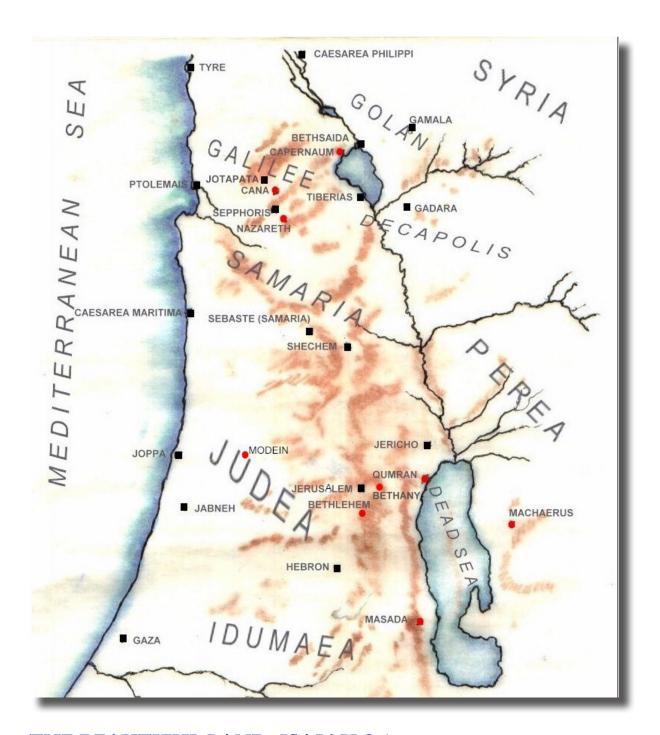
It is easy to live in a world where accountability is non-existent. Do I feel accountable to my Creator for how I choose to live my life?



READ NUMBERS 16 Who was a "son of Levi?" Why were the people upset with Moses?
Why was this situation a dangerous one for the people? For the purposes of God?
Why was the result so harsh?
READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-14 What insight do we receive as Paul looks back on the events of the book of Numbers?
MY WORLDVIEW Am I a grumbler? Do I think that there are situations that merit grumbling?

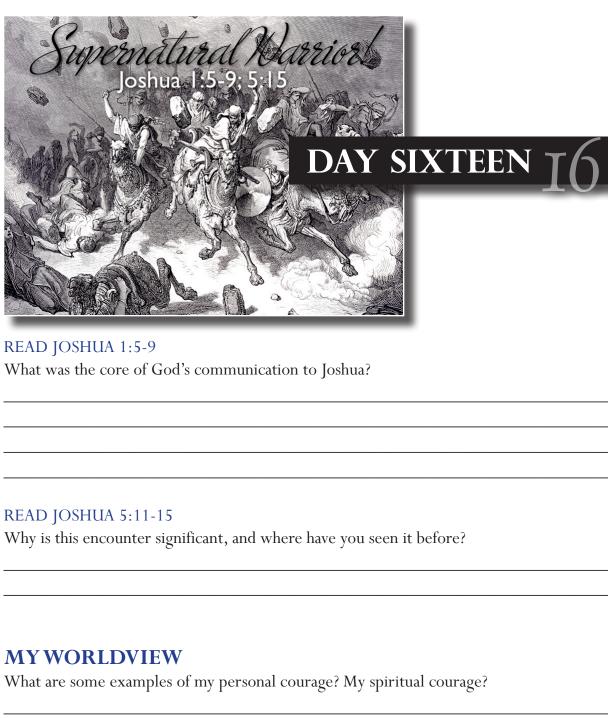
Conquest JOSHUA LAND LAND **CONTESTED** Joshua DIVIDED Goodbye 1:5-9; 5:14,15 13:1; 14:5-9 6:10; 7:5; 9:14 DAY SIXTEEN 22-24 1-12 12-21 "The land flowing with milk and honey!" 11:23 We are more than conquerors! Romans 3:37-39; John 16:33 READ THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE Why was "the land" so important to the Jews? What is your sense for the type of leadership that Joshua provided? **READ ROMANS 8:37-39** Why is war and conquering so important to the Jews? To God? READ JOHN 16:33 Why is trouble such a big part of our lives? **MY WORLDVIEW**

Am I someone who overcomes? Do I view life like a war with a series of battles?



THE BEAUTIFUL LAND: ISAIAH 9:1

Some basic geography is a helpful backdrop for understanding the Promised Land. Note the location of the Sea in Galilee, where Jesus spent much of His public ministry. Find Nazareth where He grew up - just west of that sea. Now trace the Jordan River, flowing out of the Sea of Galilee downward to the Dead Sea. Look to the left and you will find Jerusalem, Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, and Hebron - where King David ruled. South is Masada, a site with amazing history. For our current purposes note the city of Jericho at the top of the Dead Sea. This is the city mentioned in the book of Joshua. The Living God led the children of Israel in their first "military" campaign to secure the Promised Land - a land flowing with milk and honey - as well as giants to overcome!



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I feel I have experienced a "take my shoes off" moment when:

DAY SEVENTEEN 17

JUDGES

Cycles

Climate

for Compromise

Climate for Testing

No Leader (1:1) No Persistance (1:27) No Knowledge (2:10) No Power (2:20-23) No Perspective (8:22-23) No Appreciation (8:33-35) No Loyalty (10:13) No Conscience (19:22-30) No Choice (20:3,18) No Understanding (21:3)

1-2

No Commitment (2:1-3)

3-18

Every man did what was right in his own eyes! 17:6

SIN - SERVITUDE - JUDGEMENT

Othniel, Ehud, Shagmar Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech Tola, Yair, Jepthah Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

Samson Eli Samuel

Take the time to observe each of the references in the overview chart of the book of Judges.

What were the problems? Why did the cycles perpetuate?

Note the list of the Judges. Samson is one of the most familiar, and Eli and Samuel will come into focus as we transition to the time of the Kings of Israel. With which judge are you most familiar?

MY WORLDVIEW

In what areas am I susceptible to compromise?

In what areas have I found cycles in my own life that I just can't seem to shake?

Love Story Ruth and her: Resolve Unselfishness Appeal Reward 2:11-12 1:15-17 3:9-11 4:11,22 2 3 4

Under whose wings you have come to take refuge! 2:12

DAY SEVENTEEN

I John 4 - God IS love.

The book of RUTH is a high point during the very dark days of the judges of Israel. Because

Ruth is a Gentile, her faith in placing herself under the wings of the Living God is even more special and astonishing. Ruth is mentioned in the lineage of Christ!
READ AND NOTE THE REFERENCES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE
What do you learn about love? Disappointment? Reward?
READ 1 JOHN 4
What was the Apostle John's (and Jesus') take on the subject of love?
MYWORLDVIEW
Finish this sentence. "I have found that love"
Do I feel I have found refuge under His wings? In what ways? In what areas do I still have need?

DAY SEVENTEEN 17

The Fire & the Cloud!

LEVITICUS You belong to Me.

NUMBERS Will you Walk or Wander?

DEUTERONOMY I am with you JOSHUA I will carry you JUDGES Faith will fail/I Am faithful RUTH I Am your refuge.

We have encountered the first eight books of the "Old" testament, including the five books of Moses (the Pentateuch). The graphic above walks through the spiritual unity woven through these books.

Am I confident in my origins? Where faith and science and anthropology come together?

Do I feel directable by God?

SPIRITUAL SITUATION CLARIFICATION

My sense of belonging to Him is (high) (tepid) (cold).

I feel more like I am (walking) or (wandering).

I (sense) or (do not sense) that God is with me.

I am (confident) (not confident) that He is able and interested in carrying me when I need to be carried.

I am (confident) (not confident) that God's faithfulness overrules the times my faith fails.

I feel I have found a refuge in Him (true) (false).