

Aharon Dies, The Serpent Raised, Sichon & Og Smitten, The Donkey Speaks, & Ardor of Pinechas

Numbers 20:11-25:18

Reading Questions

1. After Mosheh struck the rock instead of speaking to it, what nation did Yisra'el need to pass through, what was that nation's response, and how did Yisra'el deal with their response?
2. Besides Mosheh, who else was penalized for Mosheh striking the rock instead of speaking to it?
3. How many days did the house of Yisra'el weep over the one penalized?
4. What was Mosheh commanded to make?
5. What book is mentioned in this reading?
6. What two kings were smote by Yisra'el in this reading?
7. Who is Balaq and who is Bil'am?
8. On the way to Balaq, who spoke to Bil'am?
9. Why did Balaq keep asking Bil'am to go to a new location to do offerings after Bil'am already said once or twice Yisra'el was blessed?
10. Who received a covenant of peace with **יהוה** and why?

Reading Answers

1. Edom – They did not let Yisra'el pass through. They said, “You do not pass over” and came out against them with many men and with a strong hand (Numbers 20:20). Yisra'el turned away from Edom (Numbers 20:21).
2. Aharon (Numbers 20:23-24)
3. Thirty Days (Numbers 20:29)
4. A fiery serpent on a pole (Numbers 21:9).
5. The Book of the Battles of **יהוה** (Numbers 21:14)
6. Sichon King of the Amorites and Og King of Bashan (Numbers 21:21-35)
7. Balaq is the king of Mo'av (Numbers 22:4) and Bil'am is the one he sent for with divination fees (Numbers 22:7).

8. Bil'am's donkey spoke to him (Numbers 22:28-30), as well as the Messenger of יהוה (Numbers 22:32-35)
9. It seems Balaq (and others mentioned in other parts of Scriptures) had, as many people do today, false superstition/false beliefs, and a lack of understanding as to who יהוה is and that יהוה is the Almighty One of the entire universe, not just one hill or mountain, or part of the world. Some lack the understanding or belief that יהוה alone is the only true Elohiym who created everything.
10. Pinechas, son of El'azar, son of Aharon the priest, for being ardent for his Elohiym and making atonement for the children of Yisra'el by thrusting a spear through a Yisra'elite man and a Midyanite woman who should not have been together. It appears according to Numbers 25:1-3, 17-18 that the Midyanites played a part in causing the Yisra'elites to whore with the daughters of Mo'av.

Reading Notes

- One possible reason for turning away peacefully from Edom could be due to Deuteronomy 23:7 which states not to loathe an Edomite because he is our brother.
- Regarding making the bronze serpent, some bring up the question about this in light of Exodus 20:4 which states to not make a carved image. While some may view making the bronze serpent as contradictory, I do not view this as a contradiction because the commandment in Exodus 20:4 says to not make it "for yourself" (KJV "unto thee"). Making something because יהוה says to make it is not making it for ourselves, but in obedience to a commandment which is different. This is why the Keruvim in Exodus 25 and the serpent made by Mosheh are different. However, when the serpent had not been used any longer for the right purposes, it was broken down in 2 Kings 18 by ChizqiYah, King of Yehudah.
- Note the Messianic prophesy in Numbers 24:17-19, part of which is talking about a Star and also the Scepter. Related verses are posted below.

Related Verses

Recounting Aharon's Death: Numbers 33:37-39

Bronze Serpent Taken Down: 2 Kings 18:4

Relating The Serpent On Pole To Messiah: Zechariah 12:10, John 3:14-15, 6:40, 12:32, Romans 8:3, 2 Corinthians 5:21

Star Related To Messiah: Matthew 2:9, 2 Peter 1:19, Revelation 22:16

Relating The Scepter To Messiah: Genesis 49:10, Psalms 110:1-2, Hebrews 1:8

Law About The Edomite: Deuteronomy 23:7

Recounting Taking Land From Sichon & Og: Psalms 135-136 (and other Psalms)

Teaching Referring To Bil'am: 2 Peter 2

What Bil'am Taught Balaq: Revelation 2:14

Available Online @ WYLH.org

Joined To Ba'al Pe'or: Joshua 22:17, Psalms 106:28-29, Hosea 9:10
Covenant of Peace With Pinechas: Psalms 106:30-31