



Pastor Scott Velain

Numbers Chapter 20 And 21

Spiritual Discernment

Last week during our study into Numbers chapter 19 we made mention of how important it is to understand the Scripture that we are reading through spiritual eyes and not to just read the Scripture by the letter as we would a novel or a fictional writing.

As we have said before, often times people will speed read through the Bible thinking that because they read every letter of the Bible that they are somehow blessed with an abundance of wisdom and knowledge. But the truth of the matter is, that the blessings that come from reading our God breathed Scripture only come to those who understand and accept what it is that they are reading. I'd like us to take just a moment before we move into our study in Numbers chapter 20, and I would like us to remember once again what the apostle Paul tells us in **Romans chapter 7 verses 12 through 14. (scrn 1)**

The Law Is Spiritual...

Rom 7:12 So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Rom 7:13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.



The apostle Paul says some extremely important things here in Romans chapter 7 that most modern-day professing Christians completely misunderstand and foolishly overlook.

One of the very first things that the apostle Paul tells us here in Romans chapter 7 verse 12 is that the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. And I like to stop right here for just a moment before we continue on this evening.

How many times have you heard someone who professes to be a Christian... attempting to proclaim that the law of God is a curse? Have you ever heard that before? Because I know that I have. In fact... the very idea that the law of God has become a curse seems to have become the mantra of most of today's modern day denominational empires. The very idea that the law has become a curse to all that keep it is nothing more than the devils "do as thou wilt is the whole of the law" repackaged and resold under another banner.

The truth of the matter is, that you will not find anywhere in either the Old Testament or the New Testament anyone calling the law of God a curse. It is simply not found anywhere within Scripture any more than the first day of the week

Sunday Sabbath is found anywhere in the Scripture. There is not one iota of evidence anywhere found within our God breathed Scripture that tells us that God's law is a curse. And I would like to address this once again right here before we move forward in our study this evening because we need to teach and re-teach this most important principle every so often as we venture through the Bible so that we don't lose anyone that may just be coming on board.

Most of the wolves in sheep's clothing who preach and teach that God's law is a curse will attempt to use Galatians chapter 3 as the foundation for their denominational dogma. And so, we must turn to Galatians chapter 3 and study it so that we can take this foundation for their man-made denominational dogma away from them and replace it with the truth because we are commanded to worship our Father in heaven in both spirit... and truth, not in denominational dogma and man-made philosophy. Let's turn very quickly this evening to **Galatians chapter 3 verses 10 through 14 (scrn 2)**

Redeemed From The Curse of The Law...

Gal 3:10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

Gal 3:12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."

Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

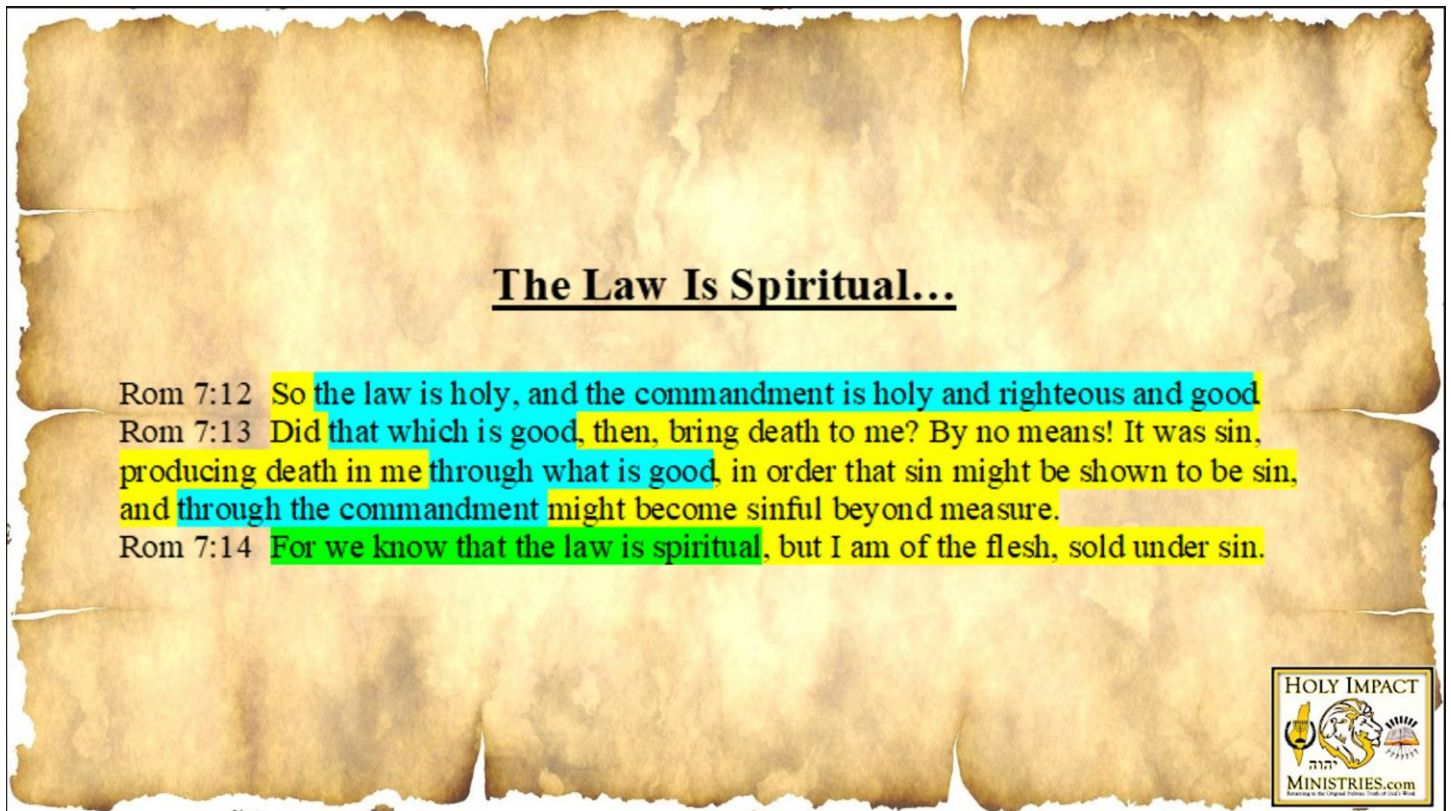
Gal 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.



Now... upon reading these five isolated Scripture that have been conveniently cherry picked out of the Bible for the purpose of deceiving the ignorant and the unstudied... many wolves in sheep's clothing will thoroughly convince their congregations as well as their denominational charters... that the law of God is a

curse. But before we jump on that bandwagon and start running for the goalpost like a wide receiver for the Dallas Cowboys... it's important to know what the rest of the Bible says along with the rest of what the apostle Paul says within the confines of our God breathed Scripture.

First of all... What did we just hear the apostle Paul tell us in Romans chapter 7?
(scrn 3 SHOW)



Does the apostle Paul not clearly tell us here in Romans chapter 7 verse 12 that the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good? And if this be so... how then can the law be a curse? How can the law be holy and righteous and good and yet... be a curse? The commonsense answer to that question is that it cannot. And I would like us to continue on here in Romans chapter 7 verse 13 as we make note of what else Paul says about the law. In Romans chapter 7 verse 13 the apostle Paul tells us and I quote, “did that which is good... (Get that my friends... that which is good... still talking about the law)... then bring death to me? Paul says by no means!

And so, the apostle Paul tells us very clearly right here in Romans chapter 7 that the law which is holy and righteous and good did not bring death to him but rather... it

was sin that brought death to him. And therefore, if this is true, and we know that it is... the law is not a curse but rather... Holy and righteous and good. It is not the law that brings death to us even though it is written that the wages of sin is death... it is clearly not the law that brings death but rather it is “sin”... that brings death. And what is the biblical definition of “sin”? (scrn 4)

“SIN” Is The Transgression of The Law!

1Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.



Therefore... once again, it is not the law that brings death. It is the transgression of the law that brings death. And why? Because the wages of sin... which is the transgression of the law... is death. Understanding this most important biblical concept... let's now move back to **Galatians chapter 3 (scrn 5 SHOW)**

Redeemed From The Curse of The Law...

Gal 3:10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

Gal 3:12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."

Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

Gal 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.



Paul says here in Galatians chapter 3 verse 10 that all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse for it is written, "cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law and do them." So, what is Paul saying here? He just got done telling us in Romans chapter 7 that the law is good and holy and righteous. And now... Paul seems to be telling us that anyone who relies on the law is under a curse. How can both be true? The answer to that question is... They cannot both be true... unless... unless we are confused about exactly what it is that the apostle Paul is trying to tell us here in the book of Galatians.

What the apostle Paul is telling us here in Galatians chapter 3 is that if you think that you can earn your way into the gates of heaven by keeping the law... you are sadly mistaken. Why? Because it is not by our works that we are saved. It is by the grace of Yehovah God that we are saved. It is written in both Exodus chapter 33 of the Old Testament and in Romans chapter 9 of the New Testament that God has mercy on whom God has mercy and that he has compassion on whom it is that he has compassion. And therefore... no one can earn their way into his kingdom by simply keeping the letter of the law. What Paul is trying to stress here is that we are not justified by the law... apart from faith. Does this mean that the law is now a curse? Absolutely not! Paul just got done telling us in Romans chapter 7 that the law is good and holy and righteous.

You see back in Paul's time there was a huge gap between those who were keeping the law in order to earn their right to enter the kingdom and those who truly understood what "faith" was, and understood that we do not keep the law of God in order to earn our way into his kingdom... we keep the law of God because the "faith" that we have in him... fuels our good works, and obedience to him justifies the love that we truly do have for him. You see it's not about honoring him with our lips while our hearts are far from him. When we honor him with our lips... while our hearts are far from him we worship him in vain. Especially when we're teaching as doctrines... the commandments of men!

The point that needs to be understood here is that those who were keeping the law of God without faith in his Son... were still under the curse of the law. Why? Because without faith in his only begotten Son you do not have the blood of the Passover Lamb of God covering your sins.

We must understand the fight that the Apostle Paul was fighting in his day. He himself was a Pharisee among Pharisees who had always been taught and believed that it was obedience to the law that saved you and gave you the right to be called the children of God. But the truth is, that this was never the case even back in the days of Moses. Those who love Yehvoah God keep the law because they love him, not because they're trying to earn their way into his kingdom. And his commandments are not a burden to us because they are written across our hearts and in our minds just as Yehvoah God himself promised us that they would be back in Jeremiah chapter 31 of the Old Testament and again in Hebrews chapter 10 of the New Testament. And for those of you out there who do not know where to find the biblical definition of the love of God... all you need to do is to turn to **1st John chapter 3 verse 5. (scrn 6)**

The Biblical Definition of The Love of God:

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

1Jn 5:3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.** And his commandments are not burdensome.

Is this what your Pastor is teaching?



The point in all of this is that there is nothing that we can do on our own accord that can earn us the right to enter his kingdom. We are all in debt, every single one of us. We can never repay what God has given us in our Messiah. We owe him everything including the very breath of life that is in our lungs. No amount of work that we might muster will ever earn us the right... to enter his kingdom. We are indeed saved by the grace of God and by the grace of God alone however... this does not negate or do away with his law... his Torah... his spoken word. Our faith exemplifies his law... his Torah... his spoken word! Our faith establishes his law... his Torah... his spoken word! Our faith exalts his law... his Torah... his spoken word and why? Because we love him... not because we're trying to earn things from him... but because we love and respect him for who he is and what he has already given us even while we were sinners. This my friends... is the true biblical definition of "faith". Having faith is not just saying with your lips that you have faith while your heart is far from him. The Apostle Paul says many things about the law. Let's take a look at just a few things that were written by the very hand of the Apostle Paul; (scrn 7)

What Paul Said About The Law of God...

Rom 2:13 For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.

Rom 3:31 Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Rom 7:12 So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Rom 7:25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Rom 8:6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Rom 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Act 21:23 Do therefore what we tell you (Paul). We have four men who are under a vow;

Act 21:24 take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.



Once again, is indeed written within the confines of the New Testament that the apostle Paul always lived in observance of the law even after the death, burial, and resurrection of our Messiah when he was found in Acts chapter 21 going to the temple and offering sacrifices. But you see, the wolves that are standing behind the pulpits of today's modern-day empires will never teach these things. And because they never teach these things... those who sit in a modern day church pew without studying to show themselves approved as they are commanded... will all too readily drink the proverbial Kool-Aid mixed for them by the devil himself who wants nothing more than for you and for your children and for your children's children to believe that the law... the Torah... the spoken word of God is nothing more than a curse. And why? Because the devil himself believes that the law... the Torah... the spoken word of God is nothing more than a curse. (scrn 8)

Redeemed From The Curse of The Law...

Gal 3:10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

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Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

Gal 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.



In Galatians chapter 3 verse 13 the apostle Paul tells us very clearly that our Messiah redeemed us from **the curse of the law** by becoming a curse for us. The **curse of the law** was **the penalty of the law**. It was **the penalty of the law** that said that the wages of sin is death. It was **the penalty of the law** that our Messiah nailed to the cross moving it out of the way so that we could return to his Father in heaven. Nowhere in any Scripture found anywhere in your Bible are we ever told that the law of God is a curse. If the law of God is a curse, then Paul is cursed because it is clearly written in Acts chapter 21 verse 24 that Paul himself always lived in observance of the law. **Romans chapter 7 verses 24 and 25 (scrn 9)**

I (Paul) Myself Serve The Law of God!

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Rom 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.



How many times do we need to hear that the apostle Paul himself always lived in obedience of the law? How many times do we have to hear the apostle Paul himself tell us that we do not overthrow the law by our faith but that we uphold the law? How many times do we need to hear the apostle Paul tell us that the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good? How many times do we need to hear the apostle Paul tell us that the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law?

The truth of the matter is that we should only need to hear these things once and it should be the end of the matter. It is only because we have allowed ourselves to be pre-programed by today's modern-day Pharisees and scribes who hail to no one other than the Pope of Rome who is the originator of this chaos and confusion that we are blinded to the truth and no longer have the eyes to see nor the ears to hear what our God breathed Scripture has told us from the very beginning. Which brings us right back to the point that I was originally trying to make in **Romans chapter 7 (scrn 10)**

The Law Is Spiritual...

Rom 7:12 So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Rom 7:13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.



The apostle Paul tells us here in Romans chapter 7 verses 12 through 14 that the law is holy and that the commandment is holy and righteous and good. He then goes on to ask the question of whether or not the law **which is good**... brought death to him. And Paul once again proclaims that it was not the law **that was good** that brought death to him but rather it was the transgression of the law that brought death to him (also known as “sin”). But what I really want to focus on here this evening is found in Romans chapter 7 verse 14 where the apostle Paul once again tells us that the law is spiritual.

The law was never meant to be a tool that would cause us to be puffed up and full of vanity. The law was never meant to be a tool that gave us the right to enter the kingdom of heaven by force. The law was never meant to be a tool that we would be used to blackmail God into allowing us into his kingdom. No one can say, “I kept the law so I have earned **my right**... to enter the kingdom of God.”

What our Father in heaven has told us... what he has spoken to us... what he has given to us through his Torah... which is his law... is a gift that keeps us far away from sin and transgression. It hedges us in as a flock... and keeps us far away from the serpent that deceived Adam and Eve in the first place. It is through our Father’s Torah (which is his law)... which is his spoken word, that we are cleansed and

purified to this very day. It is the commandment of Yehvoah God himself to listen to... and obey his only begotten Son which whom he is well pleased with! It is the law of our Father in heaven... it is his Torah... it is what God himself has spoken... that our Messiah became in the flesh through his obedience. And this is exactly why our Messiah commands us to pick up our crosses and to follow him and to do as he did and to walk as he walked! Not to walk as the church walks, not to walk as man walks, not to walk as a Rabbi, or a Pope walks... but to walk as **HE... HE....** walked. So that we also... would become the law... the word of God... made flesh. This is the whole objective of going down into the watery grave of baptism and being raised up a new creature... a new creation leaving the old lawless person in the grave. This my friends is the quintessential definition of “being saved”. Not says I... but says our God breathed Scripture. And it is this law, this Torah, this spoken word that just as the apostle Paul tells us... is spiritual. And it can only be understood and accepted by those who are... Spiritual. **John four:23-24 (scrn 11)**

God Is SPIRIT!

Joh 4:23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

Joh 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”



My friends I tell you the truth... the hour is no longer coming. The hour is indeed here when true worshipers will indeed worship the Father in both spirit and in truth. God himself is “spirit” he speaks spiritually because he is “spirit”. And those who do not see spiritually... will never understand what is written within the confines of our God breathed Scripture. And this is exactly why today’s modern-day version of

Christianity is nothing more than a demonically inspired doctrine of demons that comes directly from the devil's church who is Roman Catholicism and her popery.

And so now... that we know and understanding these Biblical truths... we are now well armed and able and ready to move into Numbers chapter 20. And so, let us begin by reading for ourselves the 20th chapter of the book of Numbers so that we can know exactly what it says and just as importantly... what it does not say.

Numbers chapter 20 E1

The Death of Miriam

Num 20:1 And the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.

The Waters of Meribah

Num 20:2 Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

Num 20:3 And the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD!

Num 20:4 Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle?

Num 20:5 And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink."

Num 20:6 Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them,

Num 20:7 and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 20:8 "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle."

Num 20:9 And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

Moses Strikes the Rock

Num 20:10 Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"

Num 20:11 And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

Num 20:12 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."

Num 20:13 These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the LORD, and through them he showed himself holy.

Edom Refuses Passage

Num 20:14 Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom: "Thus says your brother Israel: You know all the hardship that we have met:

Num 20:15 how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we lived in Egypt a long time. And the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our fathers.

Num 20:16 And when we cried to the LORD, he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt. And here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your territory.

Num 20:17 Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard, or drink water from a well. We will go along the King's Highway. We will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory."

Num 20:18 But Edom said to him, "You shall not pass through, lest I come out with the sword against you."

Num 20:19 And the people of Israel said to him, "We will go up by the highway, and if we drink of your water, I and my livestock, then I will pay for it. Let me only pass through on foot, nothing more."

Num 20:20 But he said, "You shall not pass through." And Edom came out against them with a large army and with a strong force.

Num 20:21 Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory, so Israel turned away from him.

The Death of Aaron

Num 20:22 And they journeyed from Kadesh, and the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came to Mount Hor.

Num 20:23 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron at Mount Hor, on the border of the land of Edom,

Num 20:24 "Let Aaron be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land that I have given to the people of Israel, because you rebelled against my command at the waters of Meribah."

Num 20:25 Take Aaron and Eleazar his son and bring them up to Mount Hor.

Num 20:26 And strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron shall be gathered to his people and shall die there."

Num 20:27 Moses did as the LORD commanded. And they went up Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.

Num 20:28 And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain.

Num 20:29 And when all the congregation saw that Aaron had perished, all the house of Israel wept for Aaron thirty days.

The first thing that we see here in Numbers chapter 20 verse one, is that the whole congregation came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month. What's important to understand here is that the first month would have been some time around our

modern-day month of April which in the Bible is called the month of “Abib” which means “ripened barley”. And it was in this first month of God’s new year that Miriam the sister of both Moses and Aaron died.

But instead of mourning the death of Miriam... the assemblies of the house of Israel once again raised up against Moses and Aaron. Imagine that...

Once again, the narcissism and the vanity of the house of Israel was beginning to get the better of them. And they started whining and bellyaching about figs and pomegranates and no water to drink. At this point in time Moses and Aaron once again head for the entrance of the tent of meeting where Yehovah is already there waiting for them. And Yehovah then gives Moses a staff and tells him to assemble the congregation along with his brother Aaron. And he tells Moses to tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. And I want us to pay particularly close attention to verse eight and the specific instruction that Yehovah gives to Moses concerning this rock that is to bring forth water.

Here in Numbers chapter 20 verse eight Yehovah commands Moses and Aaron to **tell the rock...** once again... **to tell the rock...** to yield its water. The instruction was not to strike the rock and force it to give water. But what happens? In verse 11, Moses lifts up his hand and strikes the rock with his staff not once... but twice. And it is for this very reason that Yehovah tells Moses that he will not bring the house of Israel into the land that Yehovah has promised them.

Now... I want to stop right here for just a moment because there are far too many who will ultimately read through these very Scriptures and never understand the crime that Moses committed here in Numbers chapter 20 because once again... they have no spiritual eyes to see spiritual things.

We must remember what we just talked about concerning the law being “spiritual”. Why is that a big deal? It’s a big deal because everything that our Father in heaven ever did... everything that he ever commanded... everything that he ever brought forth... had everything to do with pointing directly to his only begotten Son who he would send to reveal his unfolding plan of salvation for the world.

If you have been with us for any length of time during our study into the Torah of our Father in heaven, you already know why Yehovah led the house of Israel across the sea to save them from wicked Egypt. Yehovah took the house of Israel through

this particular route specifically so that he could baptize them through the watery grave of baptism. It was again... a representation of what was to come and the importance of what was to come.

Everything that our Father in heaven ever did... everything from the tabernacle to the sanctuary, to the sacrifices that were commanded, to the shewbread, to the uniform of the high priest, to the offerings, the altar, the lampstand, everything... all pointed directly to the arrival of his only begotten Son who would ultimately bring his chosen set apart remnant people back to him. A prophet likened unto Moses in Deuteronomy chapter 18, that would just like Moses... save his people from evil.

And this rock that was to bring forth life-giving water was another shadow picture... another reality of duality... another sign for the house of Israel to understand that it would be God's only begotten Son, who would be the cornerstone... a stone of stumbling... a rock of offense... that he would set in Zion. It would be this rock... this cornerstone... that would give life-giving water to the world. A water that would cause them to never be thirsty again. **John 4:7-16 E2**

Joh 4:7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."

Joh 4:8 (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)

Joh 4:9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

Joh 4:10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

Joh 4:11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

Joh 4:12 Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

Joh 4:13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,

Joh 4:14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Joh 4:15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

Joh 4:16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."

You see, what our Father in heaven was doing was trying to give us another example of what was to take place in the future. That rock that Moses struck

represented the only begotten Son of God. That rock that Moses struck not once but twice... forcing it to give water... ruined the spiritual message that Yehovah was trying to convey to the house of Israel and to us today in our time.

Do you see why Yehovah was so upset with Moses for striking the rock? Do you see why Yehovah punished Moses by not allowing him to enter into the land that he was giving the house of Israel? Do you see the **spiritual implications** of what is going on here in Numbers chapter 20? Because I tell you the truth... there are many who do not see and there are many who do not hear because they cannot see... and they cannot hear. They don't read and they don't study and they don't pray over what they're reading. They don't ask for discernment that comes from God and only God. And this is why things like this are not only missed... but completely ignored and passed over as riddles and rhymes that they do not understand.

This is no small lesson that we are learning here this evening. This was no small lesson for Moses who should have known better. And as much as we love Moses, and as much as we appreciate all that he has done, and as much as Yehovah loved Moses and appreciated all that he had been through... this transgression could not go unpunished. And so it was that Moses was not allowed to enter into the promised land that Yehovah had promised to Abraham Isaac and Jacob. At least... not at that moment.

But I would submit to you that there are even bigger implications to this particular lesson for us as modern-day Christians. How many times have we read what Yehovah God has instructed us to do... and yet... maybe did it a little differently? How many times have we thought that telling a little white lie in order to get out of work was no big deal? How many times have we thought that breaking his Sabbath just this once would be okay? And more than this... how many modern-day wolves in sheep's clothing are standing behind our pulpits today willfully and intentionally following the Pope of Rome and her first day of the week Sunday Sabbath and her Good Friday and her Easter and her Christ mass and her advent and her Lent and her All Saints Day while completely and utterly ignoring the Sabbath and the feast days and the appointments of the one true Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that our Messiah died in order to bring us back to?

When we profane his Sabbaths... when we profane his feast days... when we profane his commandments and precepts, we fall right into the same trouble that Moses fell into by not keeping Yehovah's instructions.

This is exactly why the world will know the wrath of God. This is exactly why we as his children must walk through the same fire and testing that our Messiah walked through. This is why it is written that only those who endure... only those who endure... to the end... will be saved. Only those who conquer as our Messiah conquered... will be saved... will be granted to eat from the tree of life... will not be hurt by the second death... will receive some of the hidden manna and be given a white stone with a new name... will be given the morning star... will never have their names blotted out of the book of life... will become a pillar in the Temple of God... will sit down on our Messiah's throne with him just as he sat down on his Father's throne with him.

Let us not be so quick as to point the finger at Moses. But let us first... examine ourselves in the mirror.

This particular lesson that we are learning here this evening is indeed a rather humbling one. And as important as it is I fear that the majority of those who hear it will completely and utterly miss it.

My heart aches for those that we cannot reach. My heart aches for those who don't have the eyes to see nor the ears to hear. My heart aches for those who will hear this teaching and utterly reject it because of their own willful and intentional narcissism and vanity. My heart aches for those who think that they can straddle the fence and live in a lukewarm state. My heart aches for the wandering generality that has made themselves friends of the world. And the reason that my heart aches for them... is because I know what they are missing.

I know what they have lost and cannot find. And I know the feeling of being lost and not being able to find the way. I know what it feels like to not have the eyes to see or the ears to hear. I know what it feels like to be filled with narcissism and vanity. I know the shame that it brings. I know what it feels like to think that you can straddle the fence and live in a lukewarm state of mind. I know what it feels like to be a wandering generality. I know why it is that our Messiah told us to pray for our enemies. I know why it is that our Father in heaven does not even want one to perish.

But it is because our Father does love us that he allows us to choose. It is because he does love us that he allows us for a time... to be... a wandering generality. It is

because he does love us... that he allows us to experience what life is like without him so that he can show us... what life is like with him.

And although this lesson is somewhat of a difficult lesson to learn... it will be a lesson not soon be forgotten. Keeping this in mind, it is not without rhyme or reason that the very next thing that we read about in Numbers chapter 20 is the king of Edom who refused to allow the house of Israel pass through their land.

We see something here in Numbers chapter 20 verse 14 that is extremely important for us to catch. It is written that Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom. And he sent them with a specific message that read, "thus says your brother Israel; you know all the hardship that we have met, our fathers went down to Egypt, and we lived in Egypt a long time. And the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our fathers." And the message goes on to tell the story of the house of Israel coming up out of the land of Egypt by the hand of Yehovah at which time the messengers ask the king of Edom for permission to pass through the land of Edom.

What's important to notice here is that the messengers call the king of Edom their brother. The people of Edom were descended from Esau the brother of Jacob and therefore Edom truly was the brother of the house of Israel. In order to get a better idea of why it is that the house of Israel did not fight against Edom when Edom rejected their request to pass through their land... we can turn to **Deuteronomy chapter 2 verses one through 8 E3**

Deu 2:1 "Then we turned and journeyed into the wilderness in the direction of the Red Sea, as the LORD told me. And for many days we traveled around Mount Seir.

Deu 2:2 Then the LORD said to me,

Deu 2:3 'You have been traveling around this mountain country long enough. Turn northward

Deu 2:4 and command the people, "You are about to pass through the territory of your brothers, the people of Esau, who live in Seir; and they will be afraid of you. So be very careful.

Deu 2:5 Do not contend with them, for I will not give you any of their land, no, not so much as for the sole of the foot to tread on, because I have given Mount Seir to Esau as a possession.

Deu 2:6 You shall purchase food from them with money, that you may eat, and you shall also buy water from them with money, that you may drink.

Deu 2:7 For the LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your going through this great wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing."

Deu 2:8 So we went on, away from our brothers, the people of Esau, who live in Seir, away from the Arabah road from Elath and Ezion-geber. "And we turned and went in the direction of the wilderness of Moab.

There is a whole study that we could do on Edom who are the people descended from Esau who was the bother of Jacob. But for time's sake what's important to take away from Numbers chapter 20 is the fact that the people of Edom who lived in the hill country of Mount Seir were indeed brothers of the house of Israel. Once again Esau was the brother of Jacob which made Edom and the house of Israel brother nations.

Of course, we see here in Numbers chapter 20 that the king of Edom denied the house of Israel their request to pass through the land of Edom and although the house of Israel did not attack Edom here in Numbers chapter 20, we find later in second Chronicles chapter 25 that Yehovah does eventually allow Israel to attack Edom later on in the future. And later on, in the book of Ezekiel chapter 35 Yehovah tells Edom that he is going to destroy them and make them desolate because they rejoiced when the inheritance of Israel became desolate. And so, as we walk through our Father's Torah, we're going to learn more about the descendants of Esau who were basically the brothers of the house of Israel and the separation of these two brothers.

But until then, because we have come to the end of our time this evening... I will do as I always do, and I will once again ask that everyone within the sound of my voice would please take what you have heard here this evening to your own prayer closet. Bow your head and bend your knee and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here this evening be true or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door and on his door alone, and the proper door will be opened to you. And if you will do that... and if you will stay the course to the end... you and I will surely walk through the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.