

Numbers 21

Good evening, church.

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas this year.

This evening we will continue our study of the Book of Numbers.

The Book of Numbers started out with a Census and a command from the Lord for the Nation of 2 million plus people to organize into tribal units.

The first few chapters of Numbers were full of hope and excitement as the multitude of slaves were preparing to set out from Mt. Sinai.

They were freed from the bondage of Pharaoh and the misery of brickmaking.

And they were setting out as a free people, with a powerful God who was in the midst of their camp.

As they organized and prepared themselves to take the promises of God, the atmosphere was contagious as they wondered what lay ahead for them.

Then the moment came, all was ready, the camp was in order.

And at the second Passover, after 11 months of preparation, they began their battle march toward the Promise Land.

Now as God led them, He did not take them through the easiest route, but through the unforgiving wilderness.

The people almost immediately grew weary and started complaining about the manna, and demanded meat.

And God sent a torrent of quail, for which the people lost all dignity at ate them like ravaging beasts.

While the meet was still in their teeth, God struck them with a plague.

Then even Aaron and Miriam sought to complain against their own brother and his leadership ability.

And God dealt harshly with Miriam for her challenge to Moses' leadership.

After much rebellion, complaining and hostility.

The people arrived at the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh Barnea, and finally they are at the cusp of taking the promise land.

All they have to do is go in by faith and take what God has given them.

But after 12 spies return with their report ten of them report the hostility that awaits them.

The people's hearts once again turn against Moses and their God.

For which that was the final straw for God, and that generation of Jews would die in the wilderness, and be turned away from the Promise Land.

For 38 more years, Moses led the biggest funeral procession in history.

Last time we were together, all of that rebellious generation was all but gone, and the Nation once again goes from wondering in the wilderness to marching toward the promises of God.

However, during the staging of this march, back in Kadesh Barnea, Moses, the meekest man who ever lived, was pushed to his breaking point at the complaints and disbelief of the people.

He in his anger misrepresents God, and will not be able to lead the people into the Promise Land.

Shortly after that, they encountered hostility from the Edomites, Jacob's brother, Esau's descendants.

Moses avoids confrontation with them and will begin to move around their territory to find another way into the Land of Canaan.

We left off right after this great error, and at the end of chapter 20 Aaron has just died.

The Book of Numbers started with great highs and hope, and soon became despairing and full of valley lows.

Here in Chapter 21 with the old rebellious generation gone, the narrative will once again start to ascend to the mountain peaks of obedience and faith.

We will see tonight a change of heart in the people as they choose to sincerely repent of their wrong doings.

They will learn as their parents did not, through mistakes, and they will choose the path of obedience.

This younger generation now enters into its school of hard knocks.

Let us pick up our reading in Numbers Chapter 21...

Canaanites Defeated at Hormah

21:1 The king of Arad, the Canaanite, who dwelt in the South, heard that Israel was coming on the road to Atharim. Then he fought against Israel and took some of them prisoners. 2 So Israel made a vow to the Lord, and said, "If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities." 3 And the Lord listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. So the name of that place was called Hormah.

Now this is a refreshing change of pace for the Book of Numbers.

Not just for the fact that Israel finally gets a victory after so much defeat.

But more importantly we see this younger generation going to God in the midst of trial instead of rebelling against Him.

The Hebrew army is trying to circumvent Edom, and now they can no longer run, they face the army that comes out to meet them

We see God allows a mild defeat from the king Arad from Canaan.

God allows Arad to take to take some Jews prisoner.

And this is the first time, we see the people coming before the Lord, to petition Him for help.

They have learned from their parents mistakes, and they ask God to grant them victory.

They promise to utterly destroy king Arad's Canaanite cities.

This means they will complete devote these cities to the Lord and take none of the spoil.

The Canaanites were horribly wicked, and their religious practices were barbaric and satanically influenced.

Unlike with the Edomites, God wanted the Canaanites wiped out, for they were completely corrupted and defiled.

No grace was offered to this king and his people.

God grants the first victory here to the Hebrew army, the first victory that was won by faith.

And this younger generation is now battle tested, and their faith is emboldened.

They will now continue their journey around Edom to avoid conflict with their brethren.

Now imagine after this great victory, the young warriors are now set toward conquest.

Yet the Lord will take them back toward Egypt and the Red Sea to maneuver around Edom.

And these young warriors have to be restrained for more travel.

It turns out to be all too much for them, and they began to complain.

The Bronze Serpent

4 Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." 6 So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.

Oh, no, don't they know what happened every time their parents complained against the Lord, His glory would appear and judgment would be meted out.

Notice this is the same trial God put their parents through.

He tested their faith in the harsh wilderness.

And the younger generation here mimics their parents complaining.

I imagine they heard these kinds of murmurings their whole lives.

Understand if you are a murmurer, your children will be murmurers.

They murmur against God's supernatural blessing, and provision.

In the monotony of the daily march, they lost sight of the promises of God, that they would indeed enter into the land flowing with milk and honey.

Perhaps after that first victory they were anxious to taste the delicacies of their new land.

And here once again they are relying on the manna to sustain them.

And they are so familiar with the blessing of God, they call it worthless bread.

They totally disregard the fact that this heavenly food is what has provided nutrition for them for the last 40 years.

It has given them enough nutritional value to maintain optimum health and vitality.

They forget the fact, that they didn't have to till the ground, and work to get this nutrition.

God miraculously put enough out every day for them to gather six days, and on Friday they could gather enough for two days.

Anybody else walking in on that deal might perhaps marvel and rejoice at the amazing provision of God.

But here their blessing is despised and they long for more.

Jesus explained for us today... **Matt 4:4 "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"**

The Word of God is our bread from heaven, and the Word of God has led every Revival and movement of God, but something happens over time.

The very thing that brought revival and nourishment to believers, after a while becomes despised.

A new believer rejoices at hearing and reading from the Bible, they marvel how it speaks to every part of their lives.

In the beginning it is miraculous and speaking to their hearts.

I cannot tell you how many older more mature Christians today despise the Word of God, and its daily nourishment.

They have forgotten the joy of how God uses it to speak to their life, and it collects dust on the shelf.

To them it has become worthless and good for nothing, they have no time to read.

And the church at large, now considers this book worthless and they have turned to programs and methods.

The church has forgotten the value of feasting on this bread of heaven, and now has turned to fleshly motives, and as Egypt represents the world, the church

longs for the world's ways, entertainment, philosophy, and thrills.

May it never be said of us...?

Warren Wiersbe explains, "The way we treat the Word at the beginning of each day reveals whether or not we are yielded to Him and want to obey Him. To enter a new day without first feeding on the heavenly manna is to invite disappointment and defeat."

And I have to agree, perhaps you are in a lull in your Christian walk and service.

It might be as simple as revitalizing your devotional life to the Lord.

I have to read His Word each morning.

If I do not, my whole day is set in a wrong direction.

I often think, how does reading the Words of this ancient manuscript have such an impact on my day?

I marvel at the power of this daily manna, and the impact it has on my life.

Tuesday morning, I woke up feeling sick, the kids were high energy, and I was super low.

I reasoned in my heart if I should go to work or rest in bed.

I decided to come in, I said in my heart, I will just read my devotion when I get to the office.

Well the office was a whirlwind when I got here, and I jumped into studying for tonight and dealing with other things.

It was about 9:30...something was off, I couldn't place it, beside the fact I was sick.

Then I remembered, I did not read my daily manna, and my whole day was effected by it, I was in His Word studying, but that could not replace my daily nutrition.

So I stopped everything to read, and it just soothed my soul.

I was still sick, but the day was now set right.

It is necessary for our daily walk with the Lord to receive our nutrition from His Bread from Heaven.

If your devotional life is in a place where you are despising the nutrition, be encouraged this evening to seek the Lord in revitalizing this part of your life.

He will restore that passion, hopefully you will learn before the fiery snakes or trials are sent to remind you of the necessity of this Bread from Heaven.

So here in our text, with this new generation, God sends judgment without His glory appearing.

He acts immediately and sends these venomous snakes in the midst of the camp to bite the people.

And as the fiery venom went into their blood, many of them died.

Now, here again we will see a different heart with these younger Hebrews.

7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

8 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who

is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

They are repentant, the younger generation owns up to their error instead of blaming Moses or God.

They ask their leader to intercede for them.

For which Moses does and God instructs him to make a bronze serpent upon a pole.

Notice the remedy is one that requires faith and trust in God.

How foolish it might seem if you are laying on your bed about to die from the venom from these fiery serpents.

Someone comes running in, and explains, "don't worry, there is a solution."

And you think "great, you brought me medicine that works to neutralize the poison running through my body."

“Umm no, Moses said you just have to look at this staff with a bronze snake on it”

Naturally your first thought would be “You have lost your mind, get me a doctor.”

But there is not a doctor or medicine in the whole camp of Israel that can fix what this poison pulsing through your body needs to be stopped.

You see it was only by faith in God’s power, and obeying His command here that any salvation can come to a person doomed for a painful death.

God could have healed them no problem, and removed this curse for them without any measure of faith required.

But He instead He provides a way for them to find the solution by exercising faith.

Now, any person who was in the camp thinking this is stupid or debased.

That person would reason themselves to a horrible death.

But the person who was simple enough to just believe God at His Word would find healing.

You see God is teaching them through this, to use faith over reason to trust Him.

This is preparation for the faith they will need as they conquer Canaan.

Now this is a strange narrative, and a strange lesson found here tucked away in the Book of Numbers.

However, this story and picture will be used by Jesus to give a clearer picture of Salvation through Faith alone.

You see the Old Testament is a picture book that paints countless pictures that reach their fulfillment in the New Testament.

Jesus taught the most important section of scripture using this narrative here in Numbers as His springboard for His point.

John 3:13-17 No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of

Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Jesus used this occurrence with the Bronze serpent to illustrate His death upon the cross.

You see all of humanity has been infected with sin, and it is a fatal condition.

We have no remedy apart from Jesus for our condition.

Man is hopeless.

The writer of Hebrews puts it this way...

Heb. 9:27-28 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, 28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Every man is doomed for judgment, unless they look upon Jesus Christ in faith.

Who was lifted up upon a cross, and there took our sin upon Himself.

Now, and educated person would think that is foolishness, and a reasonable person perhaps would think that is madness.

Yet that is what God has set forth for salvation.

You see as the people looked upon the Bronze serpent for a physical healing, and to be saved from death, so too when we look upon Jesus we will be saved and healed spiritually.

It is also interesting, that on Moses' rod was an image of the serpent that was causing the people to die.

And Jesus, on the cross, He became sin for us. **2 Cor 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

And Moses didn't keep the bronze serpent hidden or secret, he lifted it up for all to see.

And Jesus too was publically humiliated on the cross.

And the Gospel of Salvation all rests on the public event.

And much of the world today mocks the idea that salvation can come through that Man who hung on the cross.

“That is too simple, it does not make logical sense.”

Doing good deeds perhaps makes sense, working to earn your place in the Book of Life would be more receptive to this world.

But simply believing on God in the Flesh dying on a cross, well that just seems too easy.

1 Cor. 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Now for those in the Israeli camp who thought looking upon a snake on stick was ridiculous, they met a horrible end.

But if they put their faith in God, that He provided a means through this act of obedience they would be saved.

Today, God asks no less of us.

He had His Son held up on a cross, in Jerusalem all those years ago, and He now holds the whole world accountable to believing on that sacrifice for their salvation.

There is no other way, and that symbol of the cross has drawn millions upon millions of men to salvation over the years.

Today it is the greatest symbol of hope.

Now, if you have never placed your faith in Jesus Christ, and trusted that His sacrifice upon that Roman Cross was enough for your salvation, do so today.

It might not make complete sense, it might even sound ridiculous, but it is the only way God set forth for us to be saved.

Please consider what Jesus explained to His disciples...
John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Now, I imagine the Word in the camp of Israel spread quickly, and the joy that God provided a way to be free from the torment of the snakes grew as each person spoke of the good news.

But the poor person on the outskirts of camp who no one brought the good news too died in his condition.

How tragic for us to have a neighbor, friend, or family member who fails to hear the Good news of God's salvation, who will die in their sin, and we passed up our opportunity to share the Cross of Christ with them.

I like the way Paul puts it in **1 Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.**

Christ came to save sinners, that is our message, and for many of us, we can relate to Paul when he explains that he is chief sinner.

And maybe you are here having trouble with this message, that believing on Jesus is the answer you have been searching for.

Well, these here in this room can testify, that once we too were lost, we were hopelessly bound in our sin.

And the day we placed our faith in Jesus Christ, we were given new life.

You see it doesn't make complete sense, you take it by faith.

And when you believe in the way God sets before you, you receive eternal life, and almost immediately you are given abundant life here and now.

You come by faith alone, not of your works.

Understand that this evening, be reminded of this truth as well.

So after this faith-building incident, the people of God continue in their march...

From Mount Hor to Moab

10 Now the children of Israel moved on and camped in Oboth. 11 And they journeyed from Oboth and camped at Ije Abarim, in the wilderness which is east of Moab, toward the sunrise. 12 From there they moved and camped in the Valley of Zered. 13 From there they moved and camped on the other side of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that extends from the border of the Amorites; for the Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites. 14 Therefore it is said in the Book of the Wars of the Lord: "Waheb in Suphah, The brooks of the Arnon, 15 And the slope of the brooks That reaches to the dwelling of Ar, And lies on the border of Moab."

Israel continues to move north here.

They are traveling between Moabite and Amorite country.

They previously went south to go around Edom, but are now heading back up for their final approach to the Promise Land.

We have here a description of the land as taken from another ancient book called the Book of the Wars of the Lord.

It sounds like my type of historical record, and something I would love to read...

Unfortunately, this book has been lost over the centuries and there is no record for us to refer too.

This book seems to describe the treacherous terrain that the Lord gave them strength to travel through.

Remember the easy road, the King's Highway, has been blocked by the Edomites, and will again be blocked by another people group.

The people of God are forced to travel the more difficult path.

And while they are on that path, perhaps they cannot understand why God would allow such hardship for the them, after all they are the chosen Nation.

No other people group has beheld God's Glory as the Hebrews did.

Could it be that this more difficult journey is, is actually the best way, it is strengthening them and preparing them, it is making them into a formidable fighting force.

They will be a stout people group, and this harsh terrain is their boot camp.

As is this life of faith, it is one hard lesson after another; it seems God gives us a much more difficult path in life, doesn't it?

The world walks on the king's highway, the road easily traveled on.

This is why Jesus explained...

Matt 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

These 2 million plus Jews would love to be on that trodden down King's Highway, with every valley filled in and every mountain leveled down, but God has

them wondering through the ups and downs of a wilderness journey.

Now, next we will see during this school of hard knocks, the nation's relationship with the Lord is growing and getting much sweeter.

16 From there they went to Beer, which is the well where the Lord said to Moses, "Gather the people together, and I will give them water." 17 Then Israel sang this song:

"Spring up, O well! All of you sing to it — 18 The well the leaders sank, Dug by the nation's nobles, By the lawgiver, with their staves."

And from the wilderness they went to Mattanah, 19 from Mattanah to Nahaliel, from Nahaliel to Bamoth, 20 and from Bamoth, in the valley that is in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah which looks down on the wasteland.

They arrive in Beer, which means 'Well' and there is no test given.

God joyfully gathers this new generation of believers to Himself, and He provides water.

Perhaps here for the first time, the Hebrews resisted complaining, and instead trusted without a doubt God would provide.

They refrain from murmuring, and God overwhelmingly meets them in their faith.

And for after so many miserable years, the people break forth in praise and sing to the Lord.

We are witnessing a turn in events here, the people are not repeating their past mistakes, and they are finding joy in obedience.

What a wonderful moment recorded here for this new generation of Jews.

Christian understand this, this is what the trials are producing in you.

You might not understand why God allows some things to happen to you, but He is working and building in you such a great dependency and trust in Him within you.

Rom 5:3-4 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

You see it is a wonderful thing, when you can get to that place in your walk where you understand that although there is no water around you, and you are in a dry and desolate place, and there is no logical way out of a situation, and you can just rest knowing God will come through.

And how amazing here that God does not have to have to discipline, but He gets to reward their faith for the first time.

How happy He must have been to gather the people around, “You trusted Me, and Look, here is your water!”

These obscure verses here spoke to me greatly this week.

You see there are a lot of changes coming next year to Calvary Chapel Victorville.

For the last 2 years I have been the only pastor, and that has been difficult in itself, but God has been faithful, but next year, we are bringing 2 other pastors on staff, and I can say honestly, the weight of being responsible for two other families is greater than working alone here at the church.

We do not sell a product here; we do not sell merchandise to pedal an income for the ministry.

All of the ministry that takes place here is done through those who give obediently to the Lord.

God provides through His people, and that alone is a step of faith.

God has provided for my family in supernatural ways in the past, He has given me the ability to work a trade that I can fall back onto if need be.

But now, we are pressing in to places that require greater faith on my part.

And you know, this passage of scripture really spoke to me.

God will not take us anywhere that He Himself will not provide for.

Besides this is not my church, they are not my pastors, they are His.

And I have learned where God guides God provides.

I am trusting in the fact that He will spring up the well.

We just need to keep moving forward in faith toward the promises He has laid out for us.

Understand this for your own life, it is the sweet spot of Christianity when you can get to the place, where the trial comes, and you no longer panic, but trust Him.

He knows everything you need before you even ask, and He loves to bless you.

What father does not love to bless his children?

It fills my heart with joy to have all my babies around the table, and just watching them eat from the provision, God has blessed our family with.

If I get joy from it, how much more the One from whom all blessings flow.

Trust Him Christian whatever you are facing tonight, He is faithful to His promises.

So next, now that faith is solidified in their hearts, they are trusting God, and He is blessing them, the hard lessons for the most part are now behind them, they can get on now with taking the land.

Now before they head into the Promise Land God will have a few more battles for them, to prepare them for what is to come.

King Sihon Defeated (Deut. 2:26-37)

21 Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, 22 "Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into fields or vineyards; we will not drink water from wells. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory." 23 But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel in the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel. 24 Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took

possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified. 25 So Israel took all these cities, and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all its villages. 26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and had taken all his land from his hand as far as the Arnon. 27 Therefore those who speak in proverbs say: "Come to Heshbon, let it be built; Let the city of Sihon be repaired.

28 "For fire went out from Heshbon, A flame from the city of Sihon; It consumed Ar of Moab, The lords of the heights of the Arnon. 29 Woe to you, Moab! You have perished, O people of Chemosh! He has given his sons as fugitives, And his daughters into captivity, To Sihon king of the Amorites.

30 "But we have shot at them; Heshbon has perished as far as Dibon. Then we laid waste as far as Nophah, Which reaches to Medeba."

31 Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites. 32 Then Moses sent to spy out Jazer; and they took its villages and drove out the Amorites who were there.

Now the Jews continued in their journey, and have now come into Amorite territory.

The Amorites come out just like the Edomites did.

And the same tactful message was given to them.

The Jews fight is not with the Amorites, they are just passing through.

However, the Amorites come out with their armies, and this time the Jews cannot go around.

They engage one another in battle, and the Jews now full of faith and trusting in their God gain the victory.

You can just feel the strength in their faith, and this moment is another push for the people in the right direction.

Remember back when God explained the people would wander the wilderness until every last one of the rebels died in the desert.

Remember they went off to battle without God's blessing and support and it was disastrous and humiliating for them.

Here they are now in the will of God.

They are no longer challenging God, or questioning God, they are now in sync with God.

And when our faith meets the will of God, the Kingdom of God is unstoppable.

We see here in verses 27-30 the Jews steal a war song from their defeated foe, who at one time defeated the Moabites, and they turn their secular song into a taunt song.

In verse 30, we see they added the verse explaining although the Amorites were able to defeat the Moabites, the Jews defeated the Amorites.

This is not a worship song here; it is more a war song of victory.

And in verse 31, for the first time since they began this journey, Israel finds itself dwelling somewhere and not wondering.

They conquered all the many cities of Sihon, which may have been a series of battles.

A great victory is won here, and they will keep the momentum going next, as they continue to step out in faith and trusting God.

King Og Defeated (Deut. 3:1-22)

33 And they turned and went up by the way to Bashan. So Og king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei. 34 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Do not fear him, for I have delivered him into your hand, with all his people and his land; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon." 35 So they defeated him, his sons, and all his people, until there was no survivor left him; and they took possession of his land.

Now this Og was a mighty ruler, and as Deut. Chapter 3 tells us was one of the last of his genetic line of giants.

Deut. 3:11 "For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the giants. Indeed his bedstead was an iron bedstead. (Is it not in Rabbah of the people of

Ammon?) Nine cubits is its length and four cubits its width, according to the standard cubit.

13ft by 6ft

And the Jews were used to wipe out his line completely.

Now these people were wicked people, and their sins were as detestable as the fallen race before the flood.

Their genes were corrupt and satanic.

Remember what was said to Abram when he and God made the covenantal contract.

Gen 15:12-16 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 But in

the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

Now, here in our text, we see the Amorites have completed the height of their iniquity and rebellion toward God.

And God brings His faith filled army, and destroys them.

It is interesting that this armies immediate ancestors were terrified of these hideous mutant giants.

Yet this new generation is faced early on with this Og king of Bashan.

These two conquered kings will be a source of remembrance all throughout the scriptures.

The prophets will talk about them, and the psalmist will sing about them.

This was not just a great victory in the history of this nation.

These two victories are landmark victories, because this is the time in history when Israel obeyed and trusted God instead of challenging Him and Moses.

Understand now, the momentum is now on the side of faith.

They understand now what they are capable of when they trust in God.

God is true to His promises.

Understand this this evening.

When you, like the nation of Israel, reach this point, where you know that no matter what is before you, no matter the trial, or the height of the giant, that your God will be faithful in the victory.

When you understand the depth of

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

You will be immovable and bold in your faith.

Satan from that point on will not be successful in his assault against your life, because your faith will resist him and he will flee.

Once your faith aligns with God's will, you will find your purpose and ministry in this life.

Now, the Jews have finally reached this pinnacle of faith, and there is no human army that can stop them in their purpose.

Satan will have to change tactics on them next time we are together.

We will meet one of the most mysterious characters in the bible next time. Balaam and his talking donkey.

Balaam will resort to compromise and seduction to turn the Jews heart away from their God.

This is a wonderful place to leave off for the New Year, however.

The people are full of faith, and basking in the victory of the Lord.

If you are not walking in victory tonight, maybe your faith is weak, and you are having trouble believing the promises of God.

I would encourage you to come forward for prayer tonight.

The Elders will be up here during and after this last song, please come up for prayer whatever is going on in your life.

If I don't see you Sunday, I want to wish you all happy New Year.