

Numbers Bible Study Assignment

July 28, 2022

Reading Assignment: Numbers 11-12

Discussion Questions

1. The transition from Numbers 1-10 (obedience and order) to Numbers 11 (complaining, disobedience, and destruction) is abrupt. Give another example from scripture where a period of order/obedience is followed abruptly by a time of disobedience.
2. The account of the Israelites complaining and what follows in Numbers 11 appears to be another flashback. Name a detail that makes this story seem out of order with the first 10 chapters of Numbers.
3. Compare Numbers 11 with Exodus 16. Name one similarity and one difference.
4. Who are the complainers in Numbers 11? How did the Lord respond to them?
5. According to Numbers 11:24-30, 70 elders were chosen by Moses and received a portion of the spirit God gave to Moses. Verses 25 and 26 refer to the elders "prophesying" (or "shouting like prophets" Good News Translation) under the spirit's influence. What do you think they spoke about?
6. Why do you think that Joshua wanted Moses to order Eldad and Medad to stop prophesying?

7. According to Numbers 11:31-34, God first gave a ridiculous amount of meat to eat (a mass of about 40 miles across and three feet deep!) and then struck the people with a plague, killing all who had craved meat. What point do you think the author of this scripture was trying to make?

8. What do you imagine Aaron and Miriam's issue to be with Moses' Cushite wife?

9. When the Lord responded to Aaron and Miriam for speaking out against Moses, who was punished? Why do you think the punishment was done in this way? How might someone use this scripture to describe the character of God?

10. Give an example of one person receiving punishment when more than one person deserved it. How do you think the one(s) who weren't punished felt when they didn't receive the punishment they deserved?

August 4 Assignment – Numbers 13-14