



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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there is here. If they had moved forward in God’s power and plan these enemies that were even lying in ambush would have not been a problem. Also, another point is that God often times protects us from unseen dangers that we may not ever be aware of existing.

II- 20 Years and Upward Will Fall in Wilderness:

Last time we pointed out that there is a high cost of rebellion against God. May I point out that the highest cost is not realizing and enjoying the best of God. God will take care of them for the next forty years in the wilderness, and we could say it fact He bless them, but it was not the best He had to offer. We often hear it stated at the permissive will of God opposed to the perfect will of God. God is not going to allow those who are 20 years and older to enter the land because of their unbelief.

Numbers 14:26 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, 27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me. 28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: 29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me, 30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

III- Prey Will Conquer:

One of the reasoning that they gave was that their children would fall prey to the enemy if they had tried to occupy the land. Notice God tells them that those who they claimed would become prey will be the ones who will in fact conquer the land after their deaths.

Numbers 14:31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised. 32 But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness. 33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.

We see here also that even though they would enter the land some forty years later they would be forced to bear the punishment of their forefather and wonder with them for forty years.



Coordinates:

Numbers 14:25-14:45

Sights to See:

- 1- God has a perfect will for our live and for our church.
- 2- God’s will also includes God’s timing as well.
- 3- Our search should be for God’s will so we can do it not so we can recondition it.
- 4- The children of Israel used the excuse that their children would become prey if they went forward in God’s will. We must be careful to not use this excuse for not going and doing what God wants from us.
- 5- God’s will today does not necessarily mean it is God will tomorrow if it is rejected today.
- 6- Churches that insist on doing what God called them to in, say the 50’s, without finding God’s will today are in fact in rebellion to the will of God.
- 7- We must have God to accomplish anything of eternal value.
- 8- With God’s leading and blessing all things are possible. Remember the words of Christ in Matthew 19:26 *But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.*
- 9- God’s heart is full of love and turned toward grace.



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IV- Forty Years for Forty Days:

The reason for the length of time being forty years in the wilderness is that God put a punishment of one year for each day the spies were in the land upon them.

Numbers 14:34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise. 35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

V- Ten Die by Plague:

We are not left to wonder what became of the ten spies that brought an evil report. Notice *Numbers 14:36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, 37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.* The only two that lived of the twelve were Joshua and Caleb.

VI- One Day Too Late:

Have you even had an event in your life that you understood almost immediately that you had rebelled against God? The Holy Spirit will often point out these things to us. What are we to do? REPENT, REPENT.

Numbers 14:39 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly. They mourned that God was going to send them into the wilderness to die. I do not think this was a true heart repentance of rejecting God's will but only regretting the punishment. Like the old saying, sorry they got caught not sorry for what they did.

I asked the question at the start if something that is God's will today makes it certain to be tomorrow. Notice now they were one day too late in reaction. *Numbers 14:40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the LORD hath promised: for we have sinned.*

Moses reminded them that God had given a new directive for them now that attempting to do yesterdays will today was in fact a new rebellion.

Numbers 14:41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper. 42 Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies. 43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.

Moses tries to tell them that they would not be successful in conquering the land today because God, who had given it to them yesterday, had not given it today. In fact there would be a high cost of rebellion. Would they listen and hear the words of God through His servant this time? No, and this shows that their repentance was not toward doing the will of God but again toward self will.

Numbers 14:44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp. 45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.



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God's hand of protection and even the very presence of Him that had lead them for the months before was not with them. The ark stayed in the camp.

Moses recounts the story for us in *Deuteronomy 1:41-44* ***Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the LORD, we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill. 42 And the LORD said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies. 43 So I spake unto you; and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and went presumptuously up into the hill. 44 And the Amorites, which dwelt in that mountain, came out against you, and chased you, as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, even unto Hormah.***

It is also obvious from the additional remarks of Moses in *Deuteronomy 1:45* that God was not going to hear their cries. ***And ye returned and wept before the LORD; but the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you.***

It is possible for even God's people to become so consumed with the world that the voice of the Lord is crowded out. The writer of Hebrews used this as an illustration and exhortation. ***Hebrews 3:7-13*** ***Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: 9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. 10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. 11 So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) 12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.***

VII- Promise Renewed:

One of the most remarkable things that I find in the Old Testament is that throughout it when God sent punishment or prophecies of judgment to come He always sent a word of redemption and grace. Notice what is said two times to the children of Israel about the future.

Numbers 15:2 ***Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land of your habitations, which I give unto you,***

Numbers 15:17-18 ***And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 18*** ***Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land whither I bring you...***

God spoke words of restoration and the promise of the land was again renewed. God's nature is that He always turns His face toward giving grace because grace is in the heart of love that is God's.