

CHUKAT - NUMBERS

- *Decree of* -

BALAK - NUMBERS

- *Devastator* -

Dan Stolebarger - Holy Ground Explorations
Chapters 19-25:9

INTRODUCTION



PARASHAT CHUKAT



PARASHAT BALAK

ON TAP

Red Heifer

Kadesh / Meribah

Death of Miriam and Aaron

Nechash

Og and Sihon

Balaam & Balak

Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ² "This *is* the ordinance of the law which the Lord has commanded, saying: 'Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring you a red heifer without blemish, in which there *is* no defect *and* on which a yoke has never come. ³ You shall give it to Eleazar the priest, that he may take it outside the camp, and it shall be slaughtered before him; ⁴ and Eleazar the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger, and sprinkle some of its blood seven times directly in front of the tabernacle of meeting. ⁵ Then the heifer shall be burned in his sight: its hide, its flesh, its blood, and its offal shall be burned.

RED HEIFER

This is the only sacrifice in the Torah where the color of the animal is explicitly required. Unlike other sacrifices offered at the altar, the red heifer was taken outside the camp and slaughtered and it was burned in its entirety: its hide, flesh, blood, and even dung were to be burned (unlike other sacrifices). Also unlike offerings, the blood of the sacrifice was to be completely burned in the fire.

The mystery of the red heifer suggests profound truth about the sacrificial death of Yeshua. Just as Yeshua willingly became unclean on our behalf - through our contact with sin and death - so that we could become clean. Because of Yeshua, the impure become pure, even though He became impure through His offering.

JOHN 2

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."
⁴ Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."
⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do *it*."
⁶ Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews,



RED HEIFER

The Rabbis discovered that King Solomon and all his wisdom could not solve the riddle. "How could the ashes from the red heifer defile what is pure and purify that which is defile?" We found out that the Red Heifer was a type of the pure and holy Jesus the Christ. He became sin (defiled) so that we could be made aware of our purity.

It was not by accident or coincident that Jesus, the Red Heifer crashed the wedding on the 3rd day. Nor was it coincidence that there happened to be jars used for the waters of purification. These jars that used to hold water for purification would never be used again for water to mix with the ashes of a red heifer. Why? Because the Red Heifer in type was about to fulfill the law and use them to change clear water to blood red wine. WHEN was this happening? On the 3rd day!!! HalleluYAH!! Jesus had to fulfill the Law of Purification. Not one jot or tittle could pass away until ALL was fulfilled. Everything that he did those 3 and 1/2 years, every miracle, every message, and every gesture was to fulfill the 613 Laws and Ordinances given by Moses to set humanity free from the Death sentence and contamination with death.

Then the children 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.

2 Now there was no water for the congregation;

According to Jewish tradition, there were three regularly occurring miracles in the wilderness:

1. Water from the Well of Miriam - A rock that followed the camp of Israel that miraculously provided water
2. Clouds and Fire
3. Manna from heaven



4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. 1 Corinthians 10

7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 8 "Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." 9 So Moses took the rod from before the Lord as He commanded him.

10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"

11 Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.

12 Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

13 This was the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the Lord, and He was hallowed among them.

THE SIN OF MOSES

God told Moses to take his staff, gather the people along with Aaron, and then speak to the rock so that it would give forth water. Instead, Moses gathered the people together, called them rebels and then struck the rock twice with his staff. A midrash says that after Moses struck the rock the first time, only a few drops of water appeared, so then he struck it a second time...Because of this quarrel, the place became known as Meribah, or "striving."

The Rock was a picture of Him who was stricken for His people (Isa. 53:4 and 1 Cor. 10:4), and Moses' second striking suggested that the Messiah would need to be stricken a second time in order to provide the needs of the people. No! The Rock that was once smitten was now to be addressed as the "Living Rock" (1 Cor. 10:4).

28 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. **29** Now when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, all the house of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.

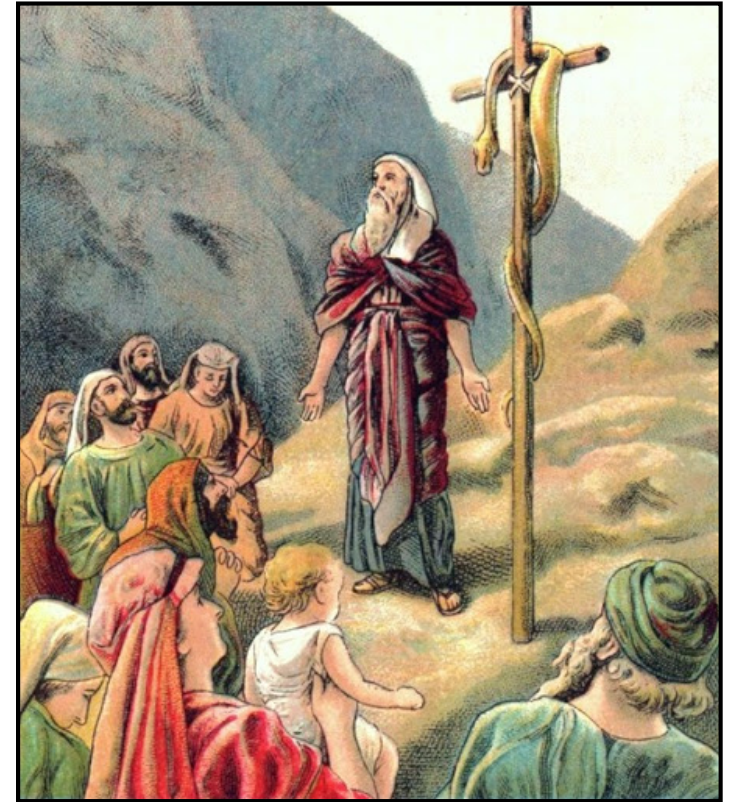


Jewish tradition: Death of Aaron... no more clouds of protection - fire by night and clouds by day.

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.

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.



Serpent = Sin
Bronze = Judgment

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up," John 3:14

IDOLS

God sent “fiery serpents” to bite them; Moses prayed for the people and God told him to fashion a fiery serpent and mount it on a pole, so that anyone who was bitten could look at it and be saved from the venom. “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (John 3:14-15). Humanity as a whole has been “bitten by the snake” and needs to be delivered from its venom. Just as the image made in the likeness of the destroying snake was lifted up for Israel’s healing (Numbers 21:4- 9), so the One made in the likeness of sinful flesh (Romans 8:3) was to be lifted up as the Healer of the world.

In Kings, **King Hezekiah** institutes an iconoclastic reform that requires the destruction of “the brazen serpent that **Moses** had made; for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it; and it was called **Nehushtan**”.

- Good question to think about in regards to crucifixes and crosses today

BALAK - DEVASTATOR

THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

TRIED AND TRUE METHOD FOR DESTRUCTION

AND OF COURSE ... A TALKING DONKEY

² Now Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. ³ And Moab was exceedingly afraid of the people because they were many, and Moab was sick with dread because of the children of Israel.

⁵ Then he sent messengers to Balaam the son of Beor

ABOUT BALAAM

Jewish tradition - grandson of Laban

He is mentioned 51 times in the Scriptures; at first glance he might appear to be a man of God, a true prophet, but both the Scriptures and Jewish tradition are emphatic that he was an adversary of the Lord. His death is recorded Numbers 31:8.

The NT speak of "the way of Balaam, who loved gain from wrongdoing (A PROFIT) (2 Peter 2:15), "Balaam's error" (Jude 1:11), and "the teachings of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel (Revelation 2:14)

Genesis 12 - I will bless those who bless you and I will curse those who curse you!

8 "How shall I curse whom God has not cursed?
And how shall I denounce *whom* the Lord has not denounced?

9 For from the top of the rocks I see him,
And from the hills I behold him;
There! A people dwelling alone,
Not reckoning itself among the nations.

10 "Who can count the dust of Jacob,

19 "God *is* not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

20 Behold, I have received *a command* to bless;
He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it.

23 "For *there is* no sorcery against Jacob,
Nor any divination against Israel.
It now must be said of Jacob
And of Israel, 'Oh, what God has done!'

1

2

"How lovely are your tents, O Jacob!
Your dwellings, O Israel!

6 Like valleys that stretch out,
Like gardens by the riverside,
Like aloes planted by the Lord,
Like cedars beside the waters.

17 "I see Him, but not now;
I behold Him, but not near;
A Star shall come out of Jacob;
A Scepter shall rise out of Israel,

3

4

It was from Mount Peor, a place of gross idolatry, that God took hold of the false prophet's tongue and made him repeat the promise given to Abraham: "Blessed are those who bless you, and cursed are those who curse you" (Num. 24:9; Gen. 12:3). From here Balaam also said, "How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, your encampments, O Israel," which is the opening line of the daily Mah Tovu prayer recited at synagogues around the world. 22 A star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise from Israel.

According to Revelation (Revelation 2:14), **Balaam** told King **Balak** how to get the Israelites to commit sin by enticing them with sexual immorality and food sacrificed to idols. The Israelites fell into transgression due to these traps and God sent a deadly plague to them as a result (Numbers 31:16)

