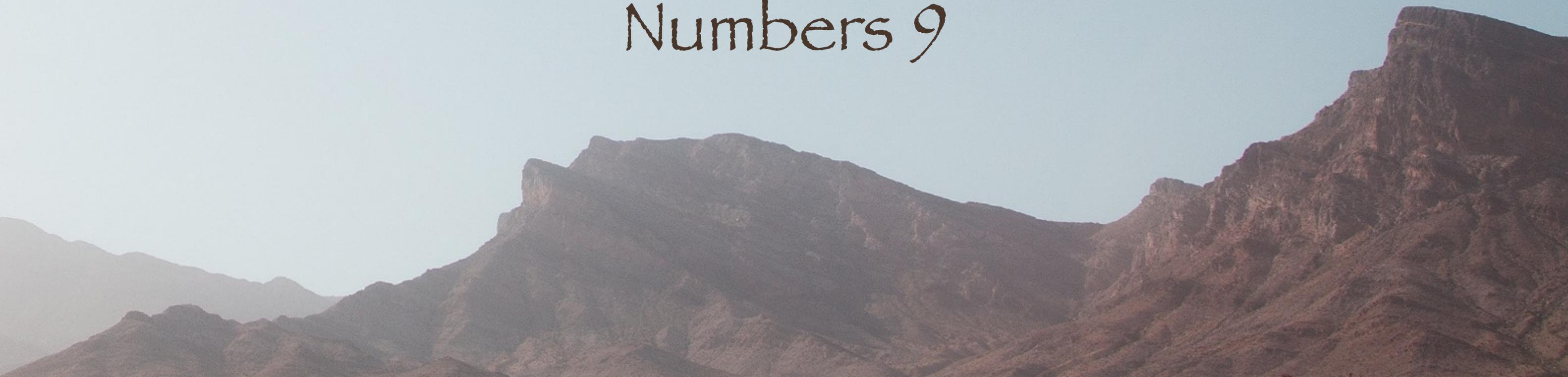


# NUMBERS

Walking with God Through the Wilderness

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

Numbers 9



# The Theological Center to the Holiness Laws

- A Vows and Modifications - due to timing of Jubilee: Leviticus 27
- B Levites: Census - Numbers 1:1 to 5:4
  - C Special Situations Involving Gifts to Tabernacle: Numbers 5:5 to 6:21
    - X - CENTER - Priestly, Aaronic Blessing: Numbers 6:22-27
  - C1 Special Tribal Gifts to Tabernacle: Numbers 7:1-89
  - B1 Levites: Special Status: Numbers 8:5-26
- A1 Passover and Modification - due to timing of Passover: Numbers 9:1-14

# 1. The Command to Keep the Passover

Numbers 9:1-3,

And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Let the children of Israel also keep the passover at his appointed season.

<sup>3</sup> In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it.

# A. The Observation of the Second Passover

Numbers 9:4-5,

<sup>4</sup> And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover. <sup>5</sup> And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel.



## B. The Obstacle of Defilement

Numbers 9:6-7,

And there were certain men, who were defiled by the dead body of a man, that they could not keep the passover on that day: and they came before Moses and before Aaron on that day: <sup>7</sup> And those men said unto him, We are defiled by the dead body of a man: wherefore are we kept back, that we may not offer an offering of the LORD in his appointed season among the children of Israel?

## C. The “On Hold” Position of Moses

Numbers 9:8,

<sup>8</sup> And Moses said unto them, Stand still, and I will hear what the LORD will command concerning you.



## D. The Optional Passover Celebration

Numbers 9:9-12,

<sup>9</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>10</sup> Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off, yet he shall keep the passover unto the LORD. <sup>11</sup> The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>12</sup> They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it.

## E. The “Oh No” Consequence of not Keeping the Passover

Numbers 9:13,

<sup>13</sup> But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbeareth to keep the passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of the LORD in his appointed season, that man shall bear his sin.



## E. The Occasion of Having a Foreigner in the Camp

Numbers 9:14,

<sup>14</sup> And if a stranger shall sojourn among you, and will keep the passover unto the LORD; according to the ordinance of the passover, and according to the manner thereof, so shall he do: ye shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger, and for him that was born in the land.

Exodus 12:48, And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

## II. The Command to Follow God's Fiery Cloud

Numbers 9:15-16,

<sup>15</sup> And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning. <sup>16</sup> So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.



## A. The Need to Follow the Cloud

Numbers 9:17,

<sup>17</sup> And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed: and in the place where the cloud abode, there the children of Israel pitched their tents.



## B. The Need to Obey the Commandment

Numbers 9:18-19,

<sup>18</sup> At the commandment of the LORD the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the LORD they pitched: as long as the cloud abode upon the tabernacle they rested in their tents. <sup>19</sup> And when the cloud tarried long upon the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD, and journeyed not.



## C. THE NEED TO BE SENSITIVE TO THE CLOUD

Numbers 9:20-22,

<sup>20</sup> And so it was, when the cloud was a few days upon the tabernacle; according to the commandment of the LORD they abode in their tents, and according to the commandment of the LORD they journeyed. <sup>21</sup> And so it was, when the cloud abode from even unto the morning, and that the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they journeyed: whether it was by day or by night that the cloud was taken up, they journeyed. <sup>22</sup> Or whether it were two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, remaining thereon, the children of Israel abode in their tents, and journeyed not: but when it was taken up, they journeyed.

# ISRAEL'S GOOD GRADES (NUMBERS 1-10)

Numbers 9:23,

<sup>23</sup> At the commandment of the LORD they rested in the tents, and at the commandment of the LORD they journeyed: they kept the charge of the LORD, at the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.



# Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

1. God speaks to His people - We must listen and obey every detail (9:1)
2. We are to keep God's ordinances and follow the instructions carefully (Baptism, Lord's Supper) (9:1-14)
3. Obedience - keeping God's Word is critical in doing the will of God. (9:18-23)
4. We are all defiled by sin and need an offering made in our behalf. (9:6-7)
5. "Stand still" and seek the Lord for His counsel and direction when not sure what to do. Wait on Him to give you an answer. (9:8)
6. The Lord understands our circumstances. Sometimes we are not able to participate for good reasons. However, willful disobedience does receive the judgment of God. If we know to do right and do it not - it is willful sin! (9:13)

# Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

7. Following God involves keeping our eyes on God which leads to obeying Him.

(9:15-23)

8. The will of God is determined by following God, a Person. (9:15-23)

9. Determine where God is visibly at work and join Him there. Then walk with God from there and you will do the will of God. You can't miss it.

Psalm 61:2, From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

# Christ in Numbers 9

1. Christ is our Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7). The Passover represents Christ dying as the Lamb of God, for the cleansing of defiled sinners.
2. Christ died for all. He is merciful and often gives a second window of opportunity to participate in His atoning work.
3. Christ is pictured in the Unleavened Bread, the Bitter Herbs and in the lamb sacrificed, but with no bones broken (Psalm 34:20; John 19:36).
4. If not Keep the Passover, one was judged and cut off. If not trust Christ as one's Savior will likewise be judged and cut off from God.
5. The Pillar Cloud represents Christ dwelling and leading His people.
6. The Tabernacle represents Christ dwelling with His people.

# Prayer to Receive Salvation from the Lord

Dear God,

I know that I am sinner and that I need your pardon. I humbly come to the cross and ask for your blood to cleanse me from all my sin. Please save me by your grace. I want my name to be found in the Book of Life.

Amen.



# Are you at a Crossroad? "Stand Still"

1. Salvation - seeking for answers about God, self, salvation
2. Spouse - seeking a companion or a decision regarding a relationship
3. Service - seeking the Lord as to how to serve Him the best
4. Sanctification - seeking a solution and help for a besetting sin, a spiritual problem
5. Church - seeking the Lord's will regarding where to serve
6. Location - seeking to move, a new job, or where to go to college
7. Finances - seeking the Lord's leading
8. "STAND STILL" - UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM GOD, DON'T MOVE UNTIL YOU CLEARLY KNOW GOD IS LEADING!

# The Will of God

1. It is God's will for you to be saved (1 Timothy 2:3-4; 11 Peter 3:9)
2. It is God's will for you to be surrendered (Romans 12:1-2)
3. It is God's will for you to be Spirit-filled (Ephesians 5:17-21?)
4. It is God's will for you to be sanctified (1 Thessalonians 4:3-4)
5. It is God's will for you to be submissive (1 Peter 2:13-15)
6. It is God's will for you to serving (Psalm 100:2)
7. It is God's will for you to be sincerely thankful (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
8. It is God's will for you to suffer at times and to respond biblically (1 Peter 3:17; 4:19)
9. It is God's will for you to be supplicating Him for His will to be known (Colossians 1:9; Hebrews 13:21)

GOD'S SOVEREIGN LEADING (Psalms 37:4; Proverbs 3:5-6)

<b>The Principle</b>	<b>The Witness</b>	<b>Our Responsibility</b>	<b>The Text</b>
The Word of God	The Objective Witness	To Study the Bible II Timothy 2:15	Psalm 119:105 Psalm 119:133
The Spirit of God	The Subjective Witness	To Pray and to be filled with the Holy Spirit	Exodus 33:13 Psalm 16:11; 25:4, 9; 27:11;
The Providence of God	The Circumstantial Witness	To Evaluate the Open and Closed Doors	Genesis 24:12, 27
The Counsel from Men and Women of God	The Human Witness	To Seek Counsel from a Multitude of Godly People	Proverbs 24:6
The Burden from God	The Heart's Witness	To Be Sensitive to Godly Desires and a Growing Conviction	I Samuel 3:4 Nehemiah 2:12 Philippians 2:13

# Seeking The Will of God

Dear Lord,

I am at a crossroad and need Your clear direction. I not only want to acknowledge You, but I want to follow You. Please direct my paths. I am thankful that you have promised to be “our guide even unto death.” “O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me.”

I pray in Jesus' Name , Amen.