

God's People in the Wilderness
Christian Education
Numbers 29.12 – 32.41: Succoth, Vows, Midianites, Transjordan Tribes

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Remaining Notes for Succoth (Num 29.12 – 38), Num 30 – 32

1. **Succoth** (Num 29.12 – 38) (aka Tabernacles, Booths, Feast of Ingathering [fall fruit—figs, olives, grapes, pomegranates])
 - 1.1. Starts the 15th of the month w/ a holy convocation
 - 1.2. Lasts for eight days
 - 1.3. Sacrifices made on each day of the first seven (Note the decrease in the number of bulls from 13 to 7.)
 - 1.4. Ends on the 8th day w/ a holy convocation (“The great day of the feast”—Jn 7? Or was the “great day” the seventh day? Debate exists.
 - 1.5. Talmud: “He who has not seen Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles does not know what rejoicing is.” (Sukkah 5.1)
 - 1.5.1. Other happenings during Succoth
 - 1.5.1.1. Begin the prayers for rain
 - 1.5.1.2. Pouring water at the temple each day from the Pool of Siloam
 - 1.5.1.3. Torches lit that illumined much of the temple and its surrounding area reminding people of God's presence in light and in fire in the OT
 - 1.5.2. Jesus and the feast
 - 1.5.2.1. Comes to Jerusalem on the “great day” (eighth [or seventh] day—Jn 7.37)
 - 1.5.2.2. Tell those that are thirsty to come to him to drink (Holy Spirit) (Clearly a Messianic declaration. (Cf. Zech 14.8: “And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter,” which happens after the Lord returns to Mt. of Olives.”
 - 1.5.2.3. Calls himself “the light of the world” (Jn 8.12)
 - 1.5.2.4. Declares himself the “I am” (Jn 8.58) Combine this w/ “light of the world”—a declaration of Jesus's equivalence to the light in the wilderness.
 - 1.5.3. Heals the man born blind (Jn 9)
 - 1.5.3.1. Starts at the temple
 - 1.5.3.2. Washes in the Pool of Siloam
 - 1.5.3.3. Note the parallel w/ Gen 1: water then light
 - 1.5.3.4. God sends the son *down* to earth, the son sends the blind man *down* to the pool
 - 1.6. This festival continues after Jesus's second coming (Zech 14.16, 18, 19)

2. **Vows/oaths** (Num 30)

- 2.1. Vows for men (vss. 1, 2) Must do what has been vowed
- 2.2. Vows for women
 - 2.2.1. Similar as men for single women
 - 2.2.2. Can be countermanded by husbands or by fathers
 - 2.2.3. Must follow thru if not countermanded
- 2.3. Other teaching on vows/oaths
 - 2.3.1. Dt 23.21 – 23
 - 2.3.2. Jesus's words (Mt 5.33 – 37):

3. **Destruction of the Midianites** (Num 31)

- 3.1. The reason for the destruction: The sin of Baal-Peor (Num 25)
- 3.2. All tribes involved: One thousand from each tribe (vss. 3 – 6) along w/ Phineas the priest (think Jericho)
- 3.3. The extent of the destruction: Almost total
 - 3.3.1. Killed all males (vs. 7)
 - 3.3.2. Killed the five kings of Midian (vs. 8a)
 - 3.3.3. Killed Balaam the prophet (vs. 8b)
 - 3.3.4. Destroyed the cities (vs.10)
- 3.4. Some people captured
- 3.5. Moses freaks out!
- 3.6. Those commanded to stay outside the camp for seven days (vs. 19)
- 3.7. Purify the captured articles (vss. 20 – 24)
- 3.8. Division of the Booty (vss. 25 – 36)
- 3.9. None of the warriors died in battle. As a result, they make a special thank offering to the Lord of 16,750 shekels. (40 shekels ~ 1 lb., so total giving was ~ 422 lbs.)

3.10. EXCURSUS—TREATMENT OF CAPTURED WOMEN

- 3.10.1. If a captive is taken as a wife (Dt 21.10 – 15):
- 3.10.2. If a captive is taken as a slave (Dt 20.10 – 15):

4. **Transjordanian Tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Half-Tribe of Manasseh (Num 32)**

- 4.1. The inheritance of the Transjordanian tribes has been covered in connection w/ Num 21. (Cf. class outline for 16 December 2018.)
- 4.2. What is new here is:
 - 4.2.1. These tribes will help the rest of the Israelites conquer the land of Canaan (vss.
 - 4.2.2. They will build cities for their families and pens for their flocks before engaging in the conquest of Canaan