



# NUMBERS 25-29

BIBLE STUDY

**MT. ZION FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
105 LANKFORD AVENUE  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22902

# VISION

The vision of the Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church of Charlottesville, Virginia will reach and reproduce within its surrounding community, a people inspired and equipped with a passion for the truth of God's Word and His compassion for others who will be enablers of change.

## THEME

*Moving Forward as a Growing Church*



# NUMBERS 25

## *Corruption in the Israelites*

- *Character of the corruption:* sexual immorality and idolatry.
- *Cause of the corruption: mixing* (lack of separation from the world—bad company results in bad conduct and bad creed); *message* (Balaam's counsel also helped cause the corruption: “*What’s this! You’ve let these women live! They’re the ones who, under Balaam’s direction, seduced the People of Israel away from GOD in that mess at Peor, causing the plague that hit GOD’s people*” [[Numbers 31:16](#)]).
- *Curse on the corruption:* the judgment of God came upon Israel and resulted in 24,000 Israelites dying.



# NUMBERS 25

## *Corruption in the Israelites*

- *Culprits in the corruption:* people in high position of both the Israelites and Midianites were involved in this corruption.
- *Countering of the corruption:* Phinehas, son of Eleazar the new high priest, killed two who came near the Tabernacle area and flaunted their evil—this action stopped the judgment plague.
- *Command after the corruption:* God said to go to war against the Midianites ([Numbers 31](#) describes the war).



# NUMBERS 26

## *Census of the Israelites*

- “• *People to be counted:* males from twenty years old and upward.
- *People that were counted:* of the tribe of Reuben 43,730; of the tribe of Simeon 22,200 (the biggest loser from the first census in which this tribe then numbered 59,300); of the tribe of Gad 40,500; of the tribe of Judah 76,500; of the tribe of Isaachar 64,300; of the tribe of Zebulun 60,500; of the tribe of Ephraim 32,400; of the tribe of Manasseh 52,700 (the biggest gainer from the first census in which this tribe then numbered only 32,200); of the tribe of Benjamin 45,600; of the tribe of Dan 64,400; of the tribe of Asher 53,400; of the tribe of Naphtali 45,400; all the tribes together 601,730 (this was 1,820 less than the first census which was reported in [Numbers 2](#)).



# NUMBERS 26

## *Census of the Israelites*

- *People not counted in the total:* the tribe of Levi 22,000 (compared to 23,000 when they were counted before in [Numbers 3](#)).



# NUMBERS 26

## *Census of the Israelites*

- *People counted who were in the first census:* only Joshua and Caleb from the the first census of nearly forty years before was counted in this second census—all the rest of the people in the first census died as God promised, God said:





# NUMBERS 26

## *Census of the Israelites*

- *“I’ve had my fill of complaints from these grumbling Israelites. Tell them, ‘As I live—GOD’s decree—here’s what I’m going to do: Your corpses are going to litter the wilderness—every one of you twenty years and older who was counted in the census, this whole generation of grumblers and grouzers. Not one of you will enter the land and make your home there, the firmly and solemnly promised land, except for Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.”*

([Numbers 14:29, 30](#) - MSG) because of their rebellion at Kadesh.





# NUMBERS 27

## Successors

Successors. Two successor situations are mentioned here.

- First, *successors of the land*: a special situation arose regarding land inheritance when a man named Zelophehad died and had only daughters. Since the inheritance was usually given through the sons, the daughters petitioned Moses for an inheritance. Moses sought God about the problem, and God granted the petition of the daughters and in the process spelled out the law of succession regarding land inheritance.



# NUMBERS 27

## Successors

- Second, the *successor of the leader*:

Moses was not permitted to lead the Israelites into Canaan because of his sin of striking the rock. Yet, God permitted him to see the land from a mountain on the east side of Jordan. Moses petitioned God for a successor, and God appointed Joshua as Moses' successor. Moses immediately took action to commission Joshua to take over the leadership when Moses died.



# NUMBERS 28–29

## *Sacrifices*

*Sacrifices*. Prior to entering the land, Moses gave Israel instructions regarding various sacrifices which were to be made. Some of these instructions were a repeat of what was previously told the Israelites and some of the instructions were new. The instructions involved daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly offerings. divided into four parts.

- *Daily offerings* ([28:1-8](#)): these concerned the continual burnt offering which was made both in the morning and in the evening; a drink offering was also involved.



# NUMBERS 28:9-15

## Sacrifices

- *Weekly offerings* - “On the Sabbath, sacrifice two healthy yearling lambs, together with the Drink-Offering and the Grain-Offering of four quarts of fine flour mixed with oil. This is the regular Sabbath Whole-Burnt-Offering, in addition to the regular Whole-Burnt-Offering and its Drink-Offering.” ([28:9, 10](#)): this was the offerings made on the Sabbath day which was in addition to the continual daily burnt offerings.

- *Monthly offerings* ([28:11-15](#)): another offering was made at the beginning of every month which was in addition to the daily burnt offerings.



# NUMBERS 28:11-15

## Sacrifices

*Monthly offerings: “On the first of the month offer a Whole-Burnt-Offering to GOD: two young bulls, one ram, and seven male yearling lambs—all healthy. ‘A Grain-Offering of six quarts of fine flour mixed with oil goes with each bull, four quarts of fine flour mixed with oil with the ram, and two quarts of fine flour mixed with oil with each lamb.*

*This is for a Whole-Burnt-Offering, a pleasing fragrance, a Fire-Gift to GOD. Also, Drink-Offerings of two quarts of wine for each bull, one and a quarter quarts of wine for the ram, and a quart of wine for each lamb are to be poured out.’ ‘*



# NUMBERS 28:11-15

## Sacrifices

*‘This is the first of the month Whole-Burnt-Offering to be made throughout the year. In addition to the regular Whole-Burnt-Offering with its accompanying Drink-Offering, a he-goat is to be offered to GOD as an Absolution-Offering.’” ([28:11-15](#)): another offering was made at the beginning of every month which was in addition to the daily burnt offerings.*





# NUMBERS 28:16–29:40

## *Sacrifices*

*Yearly offerings* ([28:16–29:40](#)): these offerings were given with the special yearly feasts. The feasts mentioned here are the Passover, the First fruits, the Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Tabernacles. The instructions for the offerings for the Feast of the Tabernacles included a week of special offerings to correspond to the week of the Tabernacles' festivities. These offerings varied in decreasing scale from the first day of the feast to the last.





# NUMBERS 27:18

## Successor of Moses

*“The LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him.”* ([Numbers 27:18](#))

MOSES was coming to the end of his life, and so he asked God for someone to replace him as the leader of Israel. God obliged by making Joshua the successor of Moses. In the verse for today is the designation, qualification, and installation of Joshua as the successor of Moses.



# NUMBERS 27:18

## Successor of Moses

*Designation.* “Take thee Joshua the son of Nun.” Once again Scripture emphasizes the priority of Divine callings. God decided here who the successor of Moses would be. You do not take a calling upon yourself. God decides your work assignment for His vineyard. Often, as here, the assignment comes through human means. Our concern should be to learn what God wants us to do. Service is not telling God what we will do but God telling us what we are to do. Not many get appointed to high posts of leadership as did Joshua. Most of us have lowly tasks as we have noted in previous devotions. But whatever our task, when God calls, we must obey.



# NUMBERS 27:18

## Successor of Moses

*Qualification.* “A man in whom is the spirit.” This was the main qualification. It spoke of a spiritual condition. Yes, the fact that the “spirit” was in him indicated he was given the enablement for his task. And indeed, the work of the Holy Spirit in our day is to enable us to fulfill our calling. But all of this speaks primarily of a spiritual condition. Appointment to tasks in the Lord’s work should not be based primarily upon secular achievement but primarily upon spiritual condition. In the election of church officers, this is seldom followed; but it ought to be the primary guide in church elections.



# NUMBERS 27:18

## Successor of Moses

*Installation.* “*Lay thine hand upon him.*” This speaks of a public installation of Joshua to his office as the successor of Moses. The verses following this verse add details to the public service. Such a service is important especially in the case of high office. In an official and proper way, it informs the congregation of the appointment. The public installation service puts honor upon the office which the congregation needs also to do if God’s work is going to do well.



# NUMBERS

*THE END*

