

# Week 3: The departure from Sinai

## Objective:

- The Israelites are ready to depart Sinai at the direction of the Lord
- The people complained and the Lord sends quail
- Aaron and Myriam speak against Moses and the Lord punishes them
- Moses sends the spies to the promise land
- The people refuse to enter the promised land and the Lord punishes them

## Resources:

- [Fr Tadros Y Malaty Commentary](#)
- [Catena Bible Commentary](#)

## Reading:

- Numbers 10: All
- Numbers 11: All
- Numbers 12: All
- Numbers 13: All
- Numbers 14: All
- Numbers 15: Skip

## Key verse(s):

- "'How long *shall I bear with* this evil congregation who complain against Me?" Numbers 14:27

## Comments:

- Emphasize on the sin of complaining (The Israelites) and the sin of talking negatively (Aaron and Myriam)
- Emphasize on Joshua and Caleb's positive attitude vs the negativity of the other spies

## Review/recap questions:

*\*\*Servant may add more questions*

1. Why did the Lord become ANGRY at the Israelites complaints against the "manna?"
2. Explain why 70 of Israel's elder were chosen and brought before the Tent of Meeting?
3. Why would God grant the people's desire for meat and then punish them for it?
4. What has been the net effect on Moses of all the complaints?
5. Why did Miriam contract leprosy and what was the significance of being leprous in an Israelite camp?
6. What do we learn about Moses character and behavior from this chapter?
7. Explain the difference between a "prophet of the Lord" and Moses, servant of the Lord.
8. Describe Moses traits from this chapter
9. Detail the report that most of the spies gave to Moses and the people on their explorations.
10. How did Caleb's report differ from the other spies?
11. The spies gave a fearful report regarding the Promised Land. What would you assume about the spies?
12. What do the names "Hoshea" and "Joshua" mean? What name do they compare to in the New Testament?
13. What was Moses argument with God on behalf of the people?
14. Give verses that show that victory depends on God's will not human power.
15. If God forgave the children of Israel in verse 20 why did the people have to die?
16. In verse 22 the Lord says: "All these men have put Me to test now these ten times." Give at least five references to these tests from Exodus and Numbers.

### **Homework:**

*\*\*Servant may add more questions*

1. Name the location where fire from the Lord had burned among the outskirts of Israel's camp.
  - a) Canaan b) Taberah c) Mount Sinai d) Gilead
2. Complaints from the Israelites arose because they were eating what food?
  - a) manna b) quail c) fish d) insects
3. Three days into the Israelite march, the people began complaining. What did they want?
4. Define "manna."
5. Who complained against Moses because of his Ethiopian wife?
  - a) Miriam b) Aaron c) Hoshea d) a and b
6. The Lord's anger came upon Miriam and she:
  - a) starved to death b) became leprous c) became mad d) killed herself
7. State who was the "servant of the Lord."
8. What happened to Miriam when the Cloud of the Lord lifted from above the Tent?
9. Hoshea, the son of Nun, was given another name by Moses. What was it?
  - a) Caleb b) Reuben c) Joshua d) Eleazar
10. Name the land the spies (leaders of Israel) were sent to explore.
  - a) Trans Jordan b) Canaan c) Moab d) Midian
11. How long it took the spies to explore the land and come back?
12. What did the spies bring with them?
13. The Israelite community spoke of doing what to Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb?
  - a) making them kings b) worshipping them c) stoning them d) honoring them

14. How long were the Israelites to suffer for their rebellion against God?  
a) 40 years b) 6 months c) 2 generations d) 7 days
  15. Why did the Israelites want to select another leader?
  16. Who of the twelve spies were not plagued?
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