

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS  
NUMBERS 11 – MURMURINGS OF THE ISRAELITES  
NUMBERS 12 – AARON, MIRIAM AND MOSES

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we continue our study of the book of Numbers. Now it is hot in the wilderness and so far so good but traveling brought difficulties and thus things go wrong and the Israelites accuse God. God <sup>13</sup>He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap. <sup>14</sup>In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire. <sup>15</sup>He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths. <sup>16</sup>He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers. <sup>17</sup>And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness. <sup>18</sup>And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust. <sup>19</sup>Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?" Psalm 78:13-19.

The Bible tells us "<sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. <sup>17</sup>And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." I John 2:16-18.

### **Numbers 11**

<sup>1</sup>And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it (They were complaining about His leadership; it is sin that makes all of this happen. They wanted to go back to Egypt.); and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp (God is spanking them; they had just received the Laws of God and ordinances and now they are quarreling with God.).

<sup>2</sup>And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched.

<sup>3</sup>And he called the name of the place Taberah (means to consume by fire): because the fire of the LORD burnt among them.

Say – Now the children of Israel want flesh to eat in verses 4-9; in verses 10 -15 Moses wants help. God promises to satisfy both the children of Israel and Moses in verses 16-17.

<sup>4</sup>And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat (The Israelites distrusted the power and goodness of God even though they had seen many miracles in their deliverance out of Egypt.)?

The Israelites said <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: (The children of Israel forgot the slavery in Egypt and the great burdens of the

Egyptians; the Israelites did not have all of this in the wilderness so wanted to go back to vomit “But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own **vomit** again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire” 2 Peter 2:22. The Bible tells us “<sup>62</sup>And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God” Luke 9:62. Jesus is saying if your heart is back in the world you have no part with Me.)

<sup>6</sup>But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes (The Israelites are sick of the manna; it was bread from God “<sup>15</sup>And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD (Jehovah) hath given you to eat” Exodus 16:15. We must be thankful for what God give us.).

<sup>7</sup>And the manna was as coriander seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium (amber colored).

<sup>8</sup>And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it: and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil.

<sup>9</sup>And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell upon it (God is taking care of the Israelites in the wilderness and they are complaining and this went on for 40 years.).

<sup>10</sup>Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased.

<sup>11</sup>And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me? (Now Moses is reacting; leadership is not easy. It is a good thing Moses did not know they had 40 years of this in the wilderness.)

<sup>12</sup>Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob)?

<sup>13</sup>Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat.

<sup>14</sup>I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me (Moses could not take all the complaining and we can't blame him. The Bible tells us “<sup>1</sup>I cried unto the LORD with my voice; with my voice unto the LORD did I make my supplication. <sup>2</sup>I poured out my complaint before him; I shewed before him my trouble. <sup>3</sup>When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my path. In the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me. <sup>4</sup>I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man

cared for my soul. <sup>5</sup>I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living” Psalm 142:1-5).

<sup>15</sup>And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness (Moses thought death would be better than this predicament; it is through much tribulation we enter the Kingdom of God “Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through **much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God” Acts 14:22. Remember Canaan, the Promised Land, is symbolic of the Kingdom of God.).

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee (God understands what Moses is saying and helps him for he understands Moses’ cry for help. The Bible tells us “<sup>10</sup>And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face” Deuteronomy 34:10.).

<sup>17</sup>And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee (“the spirit” is not a third person as in the trinity), and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.

<sup>18</sup>And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow (get yourselves ready), and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat (God is saying if that is what you want, that is what you will get even with a bad attitude.).

<sup>19</sup>Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days;

<sup>20</sup>But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt (This was a personal offence against God)?

<sup>21</sup>And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month (Moses had a problem with faith here and that was the problem with Israel; God could do all things; where was their faith?).

<sup>22</sup>Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

<sup>23</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

<sup>24</sup>And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.

<sup>25</sup>And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.

<sup>26</sup>But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle (tent): and they prophesied in the camp. (These two men could not make it to the tent for whatever reason but God put His spirit on them too.)

<sup>27</sup>And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.

<sup>28</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them (Now Joshua was thinking wrong but God made the decision.).

<sup>29</sup>And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them (This is the desire of God that all would have a circumcised heart.)!

<sup>30</sup>And Moses gat him into the camp, he and the elders of Israel.

<sup>31</sup>And there went forth a wind from the LORD (Just as God did for the Red Sea.), and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side (quite a distance), and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth (The quails filled the entire area; it was a miracle for all of God's people. Do we miss the miracles in our life; we must not be materialistic. When we are filled with blessings it is no time to become arrogant; then is the time to be humble and meek and thankful to God that is why we went through the affliction of coming out of the world. Remember the Bible tells us <sup>4</sup>“Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. <sup>5</sup>Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the LORD thy God chasteneth thee. <sup>6</sup>Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him” Deuteronomy 8:4-6).

<sup>32</sup>And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails (The children of Israel were showing their greed, covetousness and hoarding spirit.): he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp. (The Bible tells us <sup>2</sup>“And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. <sup>3</sup>But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; <sup>4</sup>Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.” Ephesians 5:2-3. “Let your conversation be without covetousness;

and be content with such things as ye have: for he (Christ) hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" Hebrews 13:5.)

<sup>33</sup>And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague (His people were behaving like animals; God "smote the people with a very great plague" death.).

<sup>34</sup>And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah (This was a place in the desert of Sinai which means "graves of lust".): because there they buried the people that lusted.

<sup>35</sup>And the people journeyed from Kibrothhattaavah unto Hazeroth (means "settlement" or an Israelite camp in the wilderness); and abode at Hazeroth.

## **Numbers 12**

Say – Miraim was a sister of Moses; you will see her attitude changed; how did she get this attitude? It was envy. We will read of another episode of trouble in the camp of Israel.

<sup>1</sup>And Miriam and Aaron (brother of Moses) spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman (She was a Cushite woman and was a descendant of Cush. Cush was the name of a son of Ham and Ham was a son of Noah.).

<sup>2</sup>And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us (this was childish)? And the LORD heard it.

<sup>3</sup>(Now the man Moses was very meek above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) (The Bible tells us "Blessed are the **meek**: for they shall inherit the earth" Matthew 5:5. "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with **meekness** the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls (person)" James 1:21. "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, **meekness**, longsuffering;" Colossians 3:12. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am **meek** and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls" Matthew 11:29. "For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the **meek** with salvation" Psalm 149:4.), (Aaron and Miriam were probably threatened by Moses marrying the Cushite woman and thought there would be a power change and became envious. The Bible tells us "<sup>19</sup>Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou **envious** at the wicked: <sup>20</sup>For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out" Proverbs 24:19-20. "Be not thou **envious** against evil men, neither desire to be with them" Proverbs 24:1.)

<sup>4</sup>And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation (tent of meeting). And they three came out.

<sup>5</sup>And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle “(they could not see Him), and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

<sup>6</sup>And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream (This is how God spoke to His Prophets.).

<sup>7</sup>My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful (trusted) in all mine house.

<sup>8</sup>With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses (When you speak against Moses you are speaking against Me; they should have been afraid.)?

<sup>9</sup>And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed.

<sup>10</sup>And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

<sup>11</sup>And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned (Aaron recognized his sins and repented to God.).

<sup>12</sup>Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

<sup>13</sup>And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

<sup>14</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days (because Miriam was unclean because of leprosy), and after that let her be received in again (See the lesson in Leviticus 14 about purification after leprosy.).

<sup>15</sup>And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again (Now Miriam was healed.).

<sup>16</sup>And afterward the people removed from Hazeroth, and pitched in the wilderness of Paran (Paran means a “place of caverns” and was in the desert of Arabia.);

#### MEMORY VERSE

Blessed are the **meek**: for they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

THIS IS WHAT GOD SAID ABOUT MOSES

NOW THE MAN MOSES WAS A VERY MEEK ABOVE ALL THE MEN  
WHICH WERE UPON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

GOD WANTS US ALL TO BE MEEK AND GENTLE TO EVERYONE. GOD  
GIVES US MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BEING MEEK.

BLESSED ARE THE **MEEK**: FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH  
MATTHEW 5:5

PUT ON THEREFORE, AS THE ELECT OF GOD, HOLY AND BELOVED,  
BOWELS OF MERCIES, KINDNESS, HUMBLENESS OF MIND, **MEEKNESS**,  
LONGSUFFERING.  
COLOSSIANS 3:12

WHEREFORE LAY APART ALL FILTHINESS AND SUPERFLUITY OF  
NAUGHTINESS, AND RECEIVE WITH **MEEKNESS** THE ENGRAFED  
WORD, WHICH IS ABLE TO SAVE YOUR SOUL (person)  
JAMES 1:21

TO SPEAK EVIL OF NO MAN, TO BE NO BRAWLERS, BUT GENTLE,  
SHEWING ALL **MEEKNESS** UNTO ALL MEN.  
TITUS 3:2

FOR THE LORD TAKETH PLEASURE IN HIS PEOPLE: HE WILL BEAUTIFY  
THE **MEEK** WITH SALVATION.  
PSALM 149:4

REREAD THE FIRST SENTENCE ABOUT MOSES; CAN GOD SAY THIS  
ABOUT YOU AND ME?  
GOD WANTS US ALL TO BE MEEK AND PATIENT WITH ALL PEOPLE.



AND THERE WENT FORTH A WIND  
FROM THE LORD AND BROUGHT QUAILS  
FROM THE SEA, AND LET THEM FALL BY THE CAMP...  
NUMBERS 11:31