

One Year through the Old Testament

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Leviticus, con't

March 1: Leviticus 24:1 - 25:46

1. In the Tabernacle there were two rooms, what were they?
2. Where were the lamps to be kept burning?
3. Why did they continue to burn?
4. There was a weekly offering of twelve loaves of bread. Why twelve? Why were they set aside?
5. Verses 10-16 relate an incident where a young Israelite man cursed the Name. What does that mean? What was the consequence?
6. What in general was divine justice?
7. What happened every seventh year?
8. What happened every fiftieth year (the year of Jubilee)?
9. What was the Lord teaching Israel with the Sabbath Laws?
10. Why was it important for people to retain possession of their land and homes as it was always returned during the Sabbath years?
11. What was God teaching Israel with Laws regarding their relationship with their fellow countrymen?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 2: Leviticus 25:47 - 27:13

1. Here are finishing thoughts about the Year of Jubilee. What did the Year of Jubilee prevent from happening?
2. Chapter 26 deals the blessing of obedience and the cursing that comes from disobedience. Why is more time spent on the cursing that comes from disobedience?
3. Notice that in 26:40 there is still another scenario that is mentioned. What is it?
4. Why is that scenario the most important of all?
5. Firstborn sons, firstlings of flocks and herds are God,s by right. What does the opening verses of chapter 27 pertain to?
6. Aren't you glad that you are not bound by these laws and their complexities?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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Numbers

March 3: Leviticus 27:14 - Numbers 1:54

1. If a person had to pawn himself or something he owned and then became rich, what did he have to do to get his property back?
2. What couldn't be used to pay off debts? Why?
3. We begin the book of Numbers. The book covers 38 years of history. Note the time it begins in their wilderness journey (Numbers 1:1).
4. Why was the census taken?
5. While the census listed men ready to serve in the army, how many people do you think Israel consisted of?
6. Why weren't the Levites included?
7. What was their job?
8. By the way, congratulations, you made it through the book of Leviticus.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 4: Numbers 2:1 - 3:51

1. The Israelites were camped as described. What was the center of the camp? Why?
2. Who would be camped on the east side of the camp?
3. Who would be camped on the south side of the camp?
4. Which tribe was in the middle of the camp? Why?
5. Who was camped on the west side of the camp? Draw a picture of what the camp would look like from the Goodyear blimp?
6. Who would be on the north side of the camp?
7. In what ways were the Levites special to God?
8. The sons of Levi had this special responsibility:
 - a. Gershon
 - b. Kohath
 - c. Merari
9. Levites were considered the firstborn. Why?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 5: Numbers 4:1 - 5:31

1. A census was taken of the Levites. The Kohathite clan was responsible for handling the sacred things of the tabernacle. What was the warning that they were given?
2. Why?
3. Why were they given very specific instructions?
4. The Gershonites were also given a responsibility of transporting the tabernacle. What part?
5. The Merarites were also given the responsibility of transporting the infrastructure of the tabernacle. Which of the three had the most difficult job?
6. The reading also includes a law about how to deal with suspected infidelity of a wife. This was not uncommon in the Middle East even to this day. Why do you think it was such a drawn out event?
7. I pray that all will have a meaningful Lenten season.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 6: Numbers 6:1 - 7:89

1. The Nazirite vow is defined. What was the purpose?
2. Can you name some famous Nazarites?
3. In Numbers 6:24-26 we have the Aaronic blessing. What is significance of the three-fold mention of the Lord,s name?
4. Is this blessing a wish or a promise?
5. How are we to understand it at the end of a worship service?
6. The dedication of the altar preceded the events of Numbers chapter one by a month. On successive days the leaders of each tribe brought offerings for the tabernacle. What was distinctive about those offerings?
7. How does the chapter conclude?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 7: Numbers 8:1 - 9:23

1. Again we see the subject of the Levites. Remember the books of Moses (the first five books of the Bible) were only one book in the original. Here they are consecrated to service while at other sections we heard about their apparel and their purpose.
 - a. Here the emphasis is on the cleansing that they were to go through. Why?
2. They were to wash and to shave. What was that emphasis?
3. They were to sacrifice. What was the emphasis there?
4. Israel was at Sinai starting now the second year. What was it time for them to celebrate?
5. What were some technical situations that needed to be cleared up?
6. How serious was God about the Passover?
7. What was the Lord teaching Israel in the way he led them in the wilderness?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 8: Numbers 10:1 - 11:23

1. Such a large group obviously needed a means of communication. What was that means?
2. What momentous day is referred to in this reading?
3. Remember the marching order in chapter two. Who would lead?
4. Who was asked to remain with the Israelites? Why?
5. “..And then there is the grumbling”.. What was it all about?
6. How did Moses react?
7. God set up a Council of seventy. This was undoubtedly a predecessor of the Sanhedrin which was around at Jesus, time. What was their purpose?
8. What is God’s answer to the complaint about the food?
9. How did the answer become a judgment?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 9: Numbers 11:24 - 13:33

1. How did God put his stamp of approval on the elders that were chosen?
2. We often say that prophesy means to foretell the future. What does the word “prophesy”, really mean?
3. God sent the quail in huge quantities. Measurements say they collected sixty bushels per family. God’s arm was not too short, however, the people were judged. Why?
4. Aaron and Miriam started to complain. While they said it was all about Ziporah, Moses, wife, what was the real reason?
5. How did God settle the issue?
6. How did God show mercy to Miriam and Aaron?
7. The spies were sent into the Promised Land. Why the people that were sent?
8. The land was indeed flowing with milk and honey. Why didn’t Israel deserve the land?
9. What do you want to imitate about Caleb?

Important thoughts and questions:

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March 10: Numbers 14:1 - 15:16

1. To reset our point of reference, what was the cause of the complaints against Moses and Aaron?

2. The people wanted a new leader. How was that decision particularly a slap against God?

3. Why was returning to Egypt also such a great slap against God?

4. In spite of the disappointment Moses interceded for Israel to keep God from destroying them. What are the points that Moses makes?
 - a. 14: 15-16
 - b. 14: 17-18

5. While God forgives there are also consequences to the rebellion for Israel. What were those consequences?

6. What were the notable exceptions?

7. Israel repented -- or did they?

8. What was God preparing the people for when he spoke about the different sacrifices they were to offer?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 11: Numbers 15:17 - 16:40

1. As this reading begins, in spite of their rebellion against God, how does God still remain faithful to his covenant promise?
2. Whether the Children of Israel were guilty of unintentional sins by an individual or the nation, what did God say to them that must have been very comforting?
3. What did intentional sins show about the person?
4. How serious was God about the Sabbath Day?
5. What were the tassels on the corner of the garment supposed to do?
6. As chapter 16 begins there is still another rebellion that takes place in the camp. What did it entail?
7. How did God show that Aaron, s household was supposed to occupy the High Priesthood?
8. What do you see as an application of what happened here?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 12: Numbers 16:41 - 18:32

- 1) It is incredible to think that the Children of Israel would see the ground open and swallow the sons of Korah and yet grumble against Moses and Aaron. Why did that happen?

- 2) What was Moses, exemplary way of dealing with this?

- 3) What did Moses, intercession do for the people? What did it not do for the people

- 4) What was the purpose of the staff from each of the twelve tribes?

- 5) Why did God want the people to get straight the role of the Levites?

- 6) What were the Levites to do for Israel?

- 7) What were the Israelites to do for the tribe of Levi?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 13: Numbers 19:1 - 20:29

1. What was the purification of the red heifer for?
2. The forty years of wandering are almost complete. Who dies? What was their relationship?
3. The Israelites arrived at the Desert of Zin at Kadesh. After all those years and the lessons learned, they complain one more time. What was this about?
4. Moses also forfeits the blessing of entering into the Promised Land. What did he do or what didn't he do?
5. What does that teach us about forgiveness and the consequences of sin?
6. The Israelites are getting in place to enter the Promised Land. What is the obstacle?
7. Who are the Edomites? How were they related to Israel?
8. Who succeeded Aaron as High Priest?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 14: Numbers 21:1 - 22:20

1. Arad lived south of the Promised Land (Negev is the Hebrew word for south). Obviously Arad saw Israel as a threat and wanted to defeat them. Notice when the trouble arises Israel becomes more trusting. While it is easy to point fingers at Israel, how often don,t we do the same?
2. Look how quickly they forgot what the Lord had done to Arad.
3. God sent the plague of snakes. How was the snake a type of Christ?
4. The itinerary is set forth in the rest of chapter 21. Reference is made of the Book of Wars. We don,t know what that was. What apparently was the content of the book?
5. It might be a good idea to get a map out and follow Israel's journey.
6. Sihon's name along with Og will be brought up a number of times in the future. How would they be remembered?
7. How were the Moabites relatives of Israel?
8. What was Balak's strategy in fighting Israel?
9. In the next couple of chapters we are going to see more of Balaam. While only God can judge, do you think he is a believer? Just keep thinking about that as we get further along.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 15: Numbers 22:21 - 23:30

1. Why was the Lord mad at Balaam especially in the light of what was said in 22:20?
2. Obviously the donkey was acting up. What is the logic that the donkey used on Balaam?
3. The angel made himself known to Balaam. What were the instructions?
4. How did Balaam give a witness to Balak?
5. How are 23:8-10 practical and comforting to the people of God?
6. The second oracle begins at 23:18. What was the gist of this oracle?
7. What do you think of Balaam so far?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 16: Numbers 24:1 - 25:18

1. This is the third oracle of Balaam. Balaam sees that it is certainly better to bless Israel than to curse. What do you think he means by 24: 7b?
2. What is the point of the third oracle?
3. Balak speaks blasphemy in 24:10,11. What blasphemy does he speak?
4. Balaam speaks an unsolicited oracle beginning at 24:15. What is he saying in verse 17? Who is the star?
5. At Shittim Israel committed a horrible sin again. WE need to take note of how God looks at sexual sins.
6. In 25:6 an Israelite man dared to bring before the assembly a Midianite woman. Why does sin become a brazen act?
7. Why did the one act bring destruction on all of Israel?
8. How did Phinehas stop the plague? Do you see any modern day application of this?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 17: Numbers 26:1 - 26:51

1. Another census was taken. Where were the Children of Israel at the time?
2. Where had the former census been taken? So what is the timeframe?
3. Who was counted? Why?
4. What tribe had the biggest count?
5. Compare the numbers from this chapter to chapter two? Any conclusions?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 20: Numbers 30:1 - 31:54

1. How serious was God about oaths?
2. What did the father and a husband have the right to do?
3. What was God teaching about the family?
4. Why did God want vengeance exacted upon the Midianites? (Cf. Numbers 25: 16-18)
5. Why was God angry that the Israelites allowed the Midianite women to live?
6. How does one explain a loving God?
7. What advice had Balaam given to the Edomites? What do you think of Balaam now?
8. How were the spoils of war divided?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 21: Numbers 32:1 – 33:39

Important thoughts and questions:

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March 22: Numbers 33:40 - 35:34

1. The triptik was complete. What was God's command to Israel as they began the conquest of the Promised Land? Why?
2. Chapter 34 contains the boundaries of the land of Canaan. What were the leaders of the tribes supposed to do?
3. As Chapter 35 begins, who was also taken care of? How?
4. There were also to be six cities of Refuge. What was a city of Refuge?
5. What do you find fascinating about some of the laws protecting life?

Important thoughts and questions:

One Year through the Old Testament

Deuteronomy

March 23: Numbers 36:1 - Deuteronomy 1:46

1. We met Zelophehad's daughters before. They did not have a male heir to their family so the problem was to resolve how would their family send the land down to the next generation. How was that resolved?
2. The book of Deuteronomy is Moses' swan song. He is saying goodbye. What kind of things do you expect to see in this book?
3. How was Moses preparing them as he recounted how leadership was going to have to be shared?
4. How does that apply in the church?
5. Moses recounts some good times and bad. What was the bad about the spies?
6. Again who were the only two people to enter the land who had left the land of Egypt?
7. The giant lesson that Israel learned was that when they didn't do things the Lord's way they always ended up paying for it. In what practical ways is that true today?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 24: Deuteronomy 2:1 - 3:29

1. Moses is recounting some of the travels of the Israelites. He is reminding them of the travels to Esau's land (Edom) and then also to the land of the Amorites (remember how Lot's daughters got him drunk and conceived children). So what does this say about the enemies of Israel?
2. What was the purpose of the forty years in the wilderness?
3. Why did God command Israel to fight Sihon and Og and not the Edomites and the Ammonites?
4. To whom was the land east of the Jordan given?
5. What does God's refusal to allow Moses enter the Promised Land tell us about forgiveness and consequences of sin?

Important thoughts from the reading:

One Year through the Old Testament

March 25: Deuteronomy 4:1 - 4:49

1. The first three chapters dealt with the way God led them to the Promised Land. They dealt with the grace and love of God. What would you say the overall flavor of this chapter is all about?
2. What happened at Baal Peor? See Numbers 25
3. What does obedience to God,s Law and the willingness to follow show about God,s people?
4. What is also important for the people of Israel to do? Verses 9, 10
5. When God gave the commandments to Israel, they only heard his voice and say no form. What did God say that Israel should not do as a result of that?
6. Look at verse 21. Is Moses passing the buck to Israel as to the reason he was not getting to go into the Promised Land?
7. What does God mean when he says he is a „jealous% God?
8. What are the consequences/results?
 - a. If they follow?
 - b. If they don't follow?
9. How does God say he showed his greatness to the people of Israel?
10. What was the purpose of the cities of refuge?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 26: Deuteronomy 5:1 - 6:25

1. The book of Deuteronomy is a series of fireside chats (sermons) he gave to Israel. This appears to be another one. When he gave the commandments to Israel he gave a covenant he says. What is a covenant?
2. What was Israel,s part? What was God,s part?
3. The commandments are listed. Which deals with man,s relationship with God? Which deals with man,s relationship to man?
4. Moses recounts how God gave the commandments to Israel. What made Israel uncomfortable?
5. Chapter 6:4-9 are key verses. Why?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 27: Deuteronomy 7:1 - 8:20

1. What was ahead for Israel?
2. Why did it appear that God wanted Israel to be merciless to her enemies?
3. What kind of people would they be?
4. What does God make clear to the people of Israel why they were the ones he chose to bear the Savior to the world?
5. The word “covenant” is used here again. What again was God’s side of it?
6. Look in 7:20 and you see the word “hornet” What was that? What did that mean?
7. In what manner would Israel be allowed to take over the land?
8. Chapter eight lists the blessings that God gave Israel. What were they?
9. Look at 8:17-18. Aren’t these verses good ones to live by?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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March 28: Deuteronomy 9:1 - 10:22

1. When Israel would start to conquer the land of Canaan, what would they find out very quickly?
2. How would they conquer the land of Canaan?
3. What was the proof that God was behind it all?
4. What was the Lord even going to do to Israel because of their wickedness?
5. What other job did Moses then fulfill besides that of leader?
6. Do we take our sins seriously enough?
7. While we confess our own sins, and they are obviously plenty, what should we also do?
8. In 10:13 God states that His decrees are good for Israel, how so?

Important thoughts from the reading:

One Year through the Old Testament

March 29: Deuteronomy 11:1 - 12:32

1. The present generation of people saw the blessings and power of God. What went with that special privilege?
2. The land of Israel in ancient times was a lot different from the land they now have. Yet what was obviously necessary if the land was going to be fruitful for them?
3. How do we tell our children about the wonders of the Lord?
4. What was the blessing?
5. What was the curse?
6. What did God want destroyed?
7. Notice 12:13,14! Where would the Lord prescribe that sacrifices be offered?
8. Why did meat need to be kosher?
9. What are examples of adding and taking away from God,s Word?

Important thoughts from the reading:

One Year through the Old Testament

March 30: Deuteronomy 13:1 - 15:23

1. The Lord is warning Israel how to differentiate a true prophet from a false prophet. Isn't it interesting that there are those who appear that they can do miracles? In the final analysis, what really makes all the difference?

2. Jesus said that if you love father or mother more than me, you are not worthy of me. How is that demonstrated in the words through Moses?

3. Why is not following a false teacher such a big deal?

4. There is a review of the Laws that were instituted previously. How is it classified?
 - a. 14:1-21

 - b. 14:22-27

 - c. 14:28-29

 - d. 15:1-6

 - e. 15:7-11

 - f. 15:12-18

 - g. 15:19-23

Important thoughts from the reading:

One Year through the Old Testament

March 31: Deuteronomy 16:1 - 17:20

1. Chapter 16 deals with the major church festivals. Again remember 40 years have passed since they were first initiated so this is a good review. The Passover is the first. They were to eat bread without yeast. Why?
2. What was the purpose of Passover?
3. What does he mean in 16:6 that it was not to be celebrated anywhere but in the place where they would choose as a dwelling for his Name?
4. What festival came 50 days later? To which did that correspond for us?
5. What was its purpose?
6. When did the men have to go appear before the Lord? What does that mean?
7. Among things that were forbidden was the setting up of Asherah poles. What were they?
8. How did God show that the priests and judges represent Him?
9. 17:14 is an interesting verse. How do you explain this verse in the light that later we are going to see that God did not want a king but wanted to rule Israel himself?
10. Why was he not to become rich?

Important thoughts from the reading: