

Numbers 14 - Wilderness Wanderings: The Spies' Report; Moses Intercedes; God Disinherits; The Punishment of Israel for Disbelief

II. Failure of the first generation (Num 11:1—25:18)

(2) Failure at Kadesh Barnea (Num 13:1—14:45)

(B) Israel rebels (Num 14:1-10)

(C) Moses' intercession saves Israel (14:11-19)

(D) God disinherits the first generation (14:20-38)

(E) Israel rebels against God's judgment (14:39-45)

Journey to Kadesh Barnea: "What Might Have Been" (Num 10-14)

- Num 10 - The Departure from Sinai
- Num 11 - "Quailing" the Rebellion
- Num 12 - Miriam's Murmuring
- Num 13 - The Intelligence Mission
- **Num 14 - The Banishment**

Numbers 14

(B) Israel rebels (Num 14:1-10)

1 Then all the congregation raised their voices and cried out, and the people wept that night.

1 Then all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night.

1 At this, the entire assembly complained, started to shout, and cried through the rest of that night.

1 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

2 And all the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron; and the entire congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or *even* if we had died in this wilderness!

2 All the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron; and the whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!

2 All the Israelis complained against Moses and Aaron. Then the entire assembly responded, "We wish that we had died in Egypt or in this wilderness.

2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

- Their conduct, however, is paralleled by too many among us, who shrink from the smallest difficulties and remain slaves to sin than resolutely try to surmount the obstacles that lie in their way

3 So why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become plunder! Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"

3 Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become plunder; would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"

3 What's the point in the LORD bringing us to this land? To die by the sword so our wives and children would become war victims? Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?"

3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

- They are using their children as an excuse, pretending they are thinking of the safety of their children, but actually it is a reflection on God.

- They are saying that God did not care what happened to their children.

- Do you know who it was that entered the land? It was these children—that next generation.

4 So they said to one another, "Let's appoint a leader and return to Egypt!"

4 So they said to one another, "Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt."

4 Then they told each other, "Let's assign a leader and go back to Egypt."

4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in the presence of all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel.

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in the presence of all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel.

5 Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in front of the entire assembly of the congregation of Israel.

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

6 And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes;

6 Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes;

6 Nun's son Joshua and Jephunneh's son Caleb, who had accompanied the others who also had explored the land, tore their clothes

6 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.

7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.

7 and attempted to reason with the entire congregation of Israel. They told them, "The land that we went through and explored is very, very good.

7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

8 If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey.

8 If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey.

8 If the LORD is pleased with us, he'll bring us into this land and give it to us. It flows with milk and honey.

8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

9 Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection is gone from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them."

9 Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them."

9 However, don't rebel against the LORD or be afraid of the people who live in the land, because we'll gobble them right up. Their defenses will collapse, because the LORD is with

us. You are not to be afraid of them."

9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

10 But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Then the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel.

10 But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Then the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel.

10 But the entire congregation was talking about stoning them to death.

10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

(C) Moses' intercession saves Israel (14:11-19)

11 And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people be disrespectful to Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the signs that I have performed in their midst?

11 The LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people spurn Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the signs which I have performed in their midst?

11 "How long will this people keep on spurning me and refusing to trust me, despite all the miracles that I've done among them?" the LORD asked Moses.

11 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

12 I will strike them with plague and dispossess them, and I will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they."

12 I will smite them with pestilence and dispossess them, and I will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they."

12 "That's why I'm going to attack them with pestilence and disinherit them. Instead, I'll make you a great nation—even mightier than they are!"

12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

13 But Moses said to the LORD, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for by Your strength You brought this people up from their midst,

13 But Moses said to the LORD, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for by Your strength You brought up this people from their midst,

13 But Moses responded to the LORD, "When Egypt hears that you've brought this people out from among them with a mighty demonstration of power,

13 And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)

14 and they will tell *it* to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, LORD, are in the midst of this people, because You, LORD, are seen eye to eye, while Your cloud stands over them; and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day, and in a pillar of fire by night.

14 and they will tell *it* to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, O LORD, are in the midst of this people, for You, O LORD, are seen eye to eye, while Your cloud stands over them; and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night.

14 they'll also proclaim to the inhabitants of this land that they've heard you're among this people, LORD, whom they've seen face to face, since your cloud stands guard over them. You've guided them with a pillar of cloud by day and with a pillar of fire by night.

14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.

- Using "psychology" on the Lord?!!

- A short time before, Moses was complaining because the people were such a burden, and now he was pleading on their behalf

- He had the heart of a true shepherd—he loved his people and prayed for them

- Note that Moses reminded God of His promises and performances: it was the glory of God that was at stake!

- Moses also reminded the Lord of His mercy and forgiveness (Ex 33:18-23; 34:5-9)

- In this scene, Moses is a picture of Christ who was willing to give up His own life that He might save us

15 Now if You put this people to death all at once, then the nations who have heard of Your fame will say,

15 Now if You slay this people as one man, then the nations who have heard of Your fame will say,

15 But if you slaughter this people all at the same time, then the nations who heard about your fame will say,

15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,

16 'Since the LORD could not bring this people into the land which He promised them by oath, He slaughtered them in the wilderness.'

16 'Because the LORD could not bring this people into the land which He promised them by oath, therefore He slaughtered them in the wilderness.'

16 'The LORD slaughtered this people in the wilderness because he wasn't able to bring them to the land that he promised them.'

16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he swore unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.

17 So now, please, let the power of the Lord be great, just as You have declared, saying,

17 But now, I pray, let the power of the LORD be great, just as You have declared,

17 "Now, let the power of the LORD be magnified, just as you promised when you said,

17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,

18 'The LORD is slow to anger and abundant in mercy, forgiving wrongdoing and violation of His Law; but He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, **inflicting the punishment of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generations.**'

18 'The LORD is slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He will by no means clear *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generations.'

18 'The LORD is slow to anger and abundant in faithful love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he won't acquit the guilty. He recalls the iniquity of fathers to the third and fourth generation.'

18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.

- "...inflicting the punishment of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generations" - this phrase is used by some to justify the doctrine of generational sin.

Whatever sins are committed by the father/parents, the consequence/punishment for it is dealt to them, as well as their children, even to "the third and the fourth generations."

— However that is a misinterpretation of this passage (as well as Ex 20:5; 34:7). What this verse (and Ex 20:5; 34:7) emphasize is that the judgment for sin extends through multiple generations, not because of the father's/parent's sins, but because their descendants persist in committing the same sins.

— A good example of this is the sin, and resulting consequences, on the nation of Israel. When Israel rejected her Messiah in the 1st century, judgment was placed on them. That judgment includes the "partial blinding" of their eyes to spiritual things (Cf. Rom 11:25),

subsequent dispersion (the *Diaspora*), and the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD. However, Israel's continued judgment throughout history since that time, up through and including today, are not God's punishment for the sins of 1st century Israel, but rather punishment continued over the past 2000 years because Israel has continued in the same sin: rejection of their Messiah.

— In Ezek 18 God deals with generational sin, namely the idea that the descendants are punished for the sins of their forefathers. God is clear, speaking through Ezekiel to the exiled Israelites in Babylon, who believed they were being punished in exile for the sins of their forefathers, that punishing the sins of the descendants for the sins of the parents is outside of God's character.

19 Please forgive the guilt of this people in accordance with the greatness of Your mercy, just as You also have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now."

19 Pardon, I pray, the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of Your lovingkindness, just as You also have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now."

19 "Forgive, please, the iniquity of this people, according to your great, faithful love, in the same way that you've carried this people from Egypt to this place."

19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

(D) God disinherits the first generation (14:20-38)

20 So the LORD said, "I have forgiven them in accordance with your word;

20 So the LORD said, "I have pardoned *them* according to your word;

20 The LORD responded, "I've forgiven them based on what you've said.

20 And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word:

21 however, as I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD.

21 but indeed, as I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD.

21 But just as I live, and just as the whole earth will be filled with the LORD's glory,

21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

22 Certainly all the people who have seen My glory and My signs which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have put Me to the test these ten times and have not listened to My voice,

22 Surely all the men who have seen My glory and My signs which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have put Me to the test these ten times and have not listened to My voice,

22 none of those men who saw my glory and watched my miracles that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness—even though they've tested me these ten times and never listened to my voice—

22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

23 shall by no means see the land which I **swore** to their fathers, nor shall any of those who were disrespectful to Me see it.

23 shall by no means see the land which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who spurned Me see it.

23 will ever see the land that I promised to their ancestors. Those who spurned me won't see it.

23 Surely they shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

- Key verse: they were disinherited, but forgiven; however, God "swore" that none of those who provoked Him (disbelief) would see the Promised Land (Cf. Heb 3:18)

- "...swore" - God made an oath, and He would not "repent" (change His mind) from that oath

24 But as for My servant Caleb, because he has had a different spirit and has followed Me fully, I will bring him into the land which he entered, and his descendants shall take possession of it.

24 But My servant Caleb, because he has had a different spirit and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land which he entered, and his descendants shall take possession of it.

24 Now as to my servant Caleb, because a different spirit is within him and he has remained true to me, I'm going to bring him into the land that he explored, and his descendants are to inherit it.

24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

25 Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites live in the valleys; turn tomorrow and set out for the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea."

25 Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites live in the valleys; turn tomorrow and set out to the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea."

25 Now the Amalekite and the Canaanite live in the valley. Tomorrow, turn and then travel to the wilderness in the direction of the Reed Sea."

25 (Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

26 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron again, saying,

26 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,

26 Then the LORD told Moses and Aaron,

26 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

27 "How long shall I put up with this evil congregation who are grumbling against Me? I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel which they are voicing against Me.

27 "How long *shall I bear* with this evil congregation who are grumbling against Me? I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel, which they are making against Me.

27 "How long will this wicked assembly keep complaining about me? I've heard the complaints of the Israelis that they've been murmuring against me.

27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

- This verse forms an important part of the narrative and should be freed from the parenthetical form which our English translators have given it

28 Say to them, 'As I live,' declares the LORD, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you;

28 Say to them, 'As I live,' says the LORD, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will surely do to you;

28 So tell them that as long as I live—consider this to be an oracle from the LORD—as certainly as you've spoken right into my ears, that's how I'm going to treat you.

28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:

29 your dead bodies will fall in this wilderness, all your numbered men according to your complete number from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against Me.

29 your corpses will fall in this wilderness, even all your numbered men, according to your complete number from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against Me.

29 Your corpses will fall in this wilderness—every single one of you who has been counted among you, according to your number from 20 years and above, who complained against me.

29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

30 By no means will you come into the land where I **swore** to settle you, except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

30 Surely you shall not come into the land in which I swore to settle you, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

30 You will certainly never enter the land about which I made an oath with my uplifted hand to settle you in it, except for Jephunneh's son Caleb and Nun's son Joshua.

30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

- "...swore" - God "swore" the presence of their inheritance, but they weren't going to receive it because of their unbelief

31 Your children, however, whom you said would become plunder—I will bring them in, and they will know the land which you have rejected.

31 Your children, however, whom you said would become a prey—I will bring them in, and they will know the land which you have rejected.

31 However, I'll bring your little ones—the ones whom you claimed would become war victims—into the land so that they'll know by experience the land that you've rejected.

31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

32 But as for you, your dead bodies will fall in this wilderness.

32 But as for you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness.

32 "Now as for you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness

32 But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.

- Not even Moses is mentioned for the omniscient Lord foresaw his future disobedience regarding the rock and water (Cf. 20:12)

33 Also, your sons will be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years, and they will suffer for your unfaithfulness, until your bodies perish in the wilderness.

33 Your sons shall be shepherds for forty years in the wilderness, and they will suffer *for* your unfaithfulness, until your corpses lie in the wilderness.

33 and your children will wander throughout the wilderness for 40 years. They'll bear the consequences of your idolatries until your bodies are entirely consumed in the wilderness.

33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.

34 In accordance with the number of days that you spied out the land, forty days, for every day you shall suffer the punishment for your guilt a year, that is, forty years, and you will know My opposition.

34 According to the number of days which you spied out the land, forty days, for every day you shall bear your guilt a year, *even* forty years, and you will know My opposition.

34 Just as you explored the land for 40 days, you'll bear the consequences of your iniquities for 40 years—one year for each day—as you experience my hostility.

34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

35 I, the LORD, have spoken, I certainly will do this to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. They shall be worn out in this wilderness, and there they shall die."

35 I, the LORD, have spoken, surely this I will do to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be destroyed, and there they will die."

35 I, the LORD, have spoken. I will indeed do this to this evil congregation, who gathered together against me. They'll be eliminated in this wilderness and will surely die."

35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

36 As for the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, and who returned and led all the congregation to grumble against him by bringing a bad report about the land,

36 As for the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land and who returned and made all the congregation grumble against him by bringing out a bad report concerning the land,

36 After this, the men whom Moses sent out to explore the land, who returned and made the whole congregation complain against him by bringing an evil report concerning the land,

36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,

37 those men who brought the bad report of the land also died by a plague in the presence of the LORD.

37 even those men who brought out the very bad report of the land died by a plague before the LORD.

37 and who produced an evil report about the land, died of pestilence in the LORD's presence.

37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD.

- The sinful slander ("evil report") which the ten spies spread among the people accused the Lord himself of wanting to slay them

- The 10 spies were specifically struck by plague (apparently right on the spot!)

38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive out of those men who went to spy out the land.

38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive out of those men who went to spy out the land.

38 However, Nun's son Joshua and Jephunneh's son Caleb, who had explored the land, remained alive.

38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

(E) Israel rebels against God's judgment (14:39-45)

39 Now when Moses spoke these words to all the sons of Israel, the people mourned greatly.

39 When Moses spoke these words to all the sons of Israel, the people mourned greatly.

39 After Moses had told all of this to the Israelis, the people deeply mourned.

39 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.

40 In the morning, however, they got up early and went up to the ridge of the hill country, saying, "Here we are; and we will go up to the place which the LORD has promised, for we have sinned."

40 In the morning, however, they rose up early and went up to the ridge of the hill country, saying, "Here we are; we have indeed sinned, but we will go up to the place which the LORD has promised."

40 So they got up early the next morning and traveled to the top of the mountain, telling themselves, "Look, we're here and we're going to go up to the place that the LORD had spoken about, even though we've sinned."

40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the LORD hath promised: for we have sinned.

- The people changed their mind...they now wanted to take the Promised Land that God had promised them, but God did not change His mind

- Therefore, they suffered defeat when they subsequently attempted to enter (v45)

41 But Moses said, "Why then are you violating the command of the LORD, when doing so will not succeed?"

41 But Moses said, "Why then are you transgressing the commandment of the LORD, when it will not succeed?"

41 But Moses asked them, "Why do you continue to sin against what the LORD said? Don't you know that you can never succeed?"

41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper.

- They had turned from the Land, but as they face the wilderness, they are actually more afraid of the wilderness than they had been afraid of entering the Land

42 Do not go up, for the LORD is not among you, to prevent you from being defeated by your enemies.

42 Do not go up, or you will be struck down before your enemies, for the LORD is not among you.

42 Don't go up, since you know that the LORD is no longer with you. You'll be attacked right in front of your own enemies.

42 Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies.

43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites will be there to confront you, and you will fall by the sword, since you have turned back from following the LORD. And the LORD will not be with you."

43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites will be there in front of you, and you will fall by the sword, inasmuch as you have turned back from following the LORD. And the LORD will not be with you."

43 The Amalekites and Canaanites are there waiting for you. You'll die violently, since you've turned your back and have stopped following the LORD. The LORD won't be with you."

43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.

44 But they foolishly dared to go up to the ridge of the hill country; neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses left the camp.

44 But they went up heedlessly to the ridge of the hill country; neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses left the camp.

44 But they presumed to go up to the top of the mountain, even though the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD and Moses didn't leave the camp.

44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp.

45 Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down, and struck them and scattered them as far as Hormah.

45 Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down, and struck them and beat them down as far as Hormah.

45 The Amalekites came down, accompanied by some Canaanites who lived in the mountains. They attacked and defeated them even while the Israelis were retreating to Hormah.

45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.

- While Moses generically describes this attack by the Amalekites, it must have really angered God

— In 1 Sam 15:2-3, 400 years later, God commands Saul (through Samuel) to "completely destroy" the Amalekites, not sparing anyone..."both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."

— Saul gathered 210,000 soldiers and destroyed (most) Amalekites, but spared King Agag (see notes on 1 Sam 15:3,9)

- The Israelites had lost their opportunity. They would not go up into the land when God wanted them to go. Now they presume to go up; presumption is not faith.

— They again want to go their way rather than God's way. There can be no victory when there is no submission to the will of God.