

## Numbers 25

King James Version (KJV)

**25** And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. (Plan-B for the Moabites: seduce Israel with their women, and their false gods; and Yahoveh would curse Israel for Balak. It's not going to work) (whoredom – it probably began as a physical whoredom and then progressed to a spiritual whoredom – idolatry)

<sup>2</sup>And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. (Here we go again – Israel willingly falls into idolatry and abandons God in the process)

<sup>3</sup>And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel. (Baalpeor- was an idol deity of Moab. The women of Moab and Medan would prostitute themselves to ny man, as a way to worship Baalpeor) (God sent a plague to punish Israel)

<sup>4</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel. (God is referring to the leaders of the people <the heads of the people> of Israel who are guilty of participating in this idolatry. Hang them) (The fierce anger of the Lord on the people is a plague) Leviticus-20:14

<sup>5</sup>And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor. (The guilty ones will die. Slay them and then impale them <hang them>)

<sup>6</sup>And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. (Israel was told to stay away from these heathen peoples) (They were weeping before the tabernacle because God's wrath was upon them – a plague had begun)

(This man who brought in a Midianitish woman is one of the leaders of the tribe of Simeon. He, as a leader of people, should have known better)

<sup>7</sup> And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; (There is no word in the old Hebrew for grandson)

<sup>8</sup> And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. (That sobered the people up. They stopped the idolatry, and the plague on the people ended)

<sup>9</sup> And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand. 1Corinthians-10:8-11 (Just as idolatry led to physical death here, it will lead to spiritual death in the Millennium)

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

<sup>11</sup> Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. Exodus-34:14

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:

<sup>13</sup> And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel. (His legacy would be only briefly interrupted a short while - 1Samuel-1&2 (Eli was high priest; but he was of Ithamar's family. His corrupt sons lost the priesthood back to Phinehas' descendants)

<sup>14</sup> Now the name of the Israelite that was slain, even that was slain with the Midianitish woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among the Simeonites. (Leaders should set a good example for the people. Many of the slain were also of Simeon. They had followed their prince's example)

<sup>15</sup> And the name of the Midianitish woman that was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur; he was head over a people, and of a chief house in Midian. (Cozbi= false; Zur= rock; beware the false rock- example for the end times to the Elect)

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

<sup>17</sup> Vex the Midianites, and smite them: (Attack them and destroy them)  
see Revelation-2:14

<sup>18</sup> For they vex you with their wives, wherewith they have beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister, which was slain in the day of the plague for Peor's sake. (They manipulate and deceive Israel. This is also Satan's M.O.)

(Normally, Israel was not allowed to war with other Adamic peoples. Here, God tells Moses to avenge Him on the Medianites, because they continually led Israel into idolatry)