

## Numbers 20

King James Version (KJV)

**20** Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there. (They have been in the wilderness for 40 years. This is their 2<sup>nd</sup> time in Kadesh. The first time was on the first year, when they sent 12 men to spy out the Promised Land)

<sup>2</sup>And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

<sup>3</sup>And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD! (They wish they had died with the others <chapters 11, 13, & the rebellion of Korah>)

<sup>4</sup>And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?

<sup>5</sup>And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink. (They haven't changed a bit after 40 years)

<sup>6</sup>And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

<sup>8</sup>Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. (God said speak to the rock)

<sup>9</sup>And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him. (This is the rod that Moses had with him, even when he was in Egypt and at the Red Sea. The rod of Aaron that blossomed was in the Ark of the Covenant)

<sup>10</sup>And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you

water out of this rock? (Moses is angry with the bellyachers. He loses focus, and claims credit for making water flow from the rock. The credit for producing the water was for the LORD, not for Moses) see 1Corinthians-10:4

Matthew-23:12 (Those who glorify themselves will be humbled by God. Those who humble themselves will be glorified by God)

<sup>11</sup> And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also. (He hit the rock, instead of speaking to it as God had commanded. Moses was taking credit for producing the water)

<sup>12</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them. (Aaron was guilty for going along with Moses in disobeying God) (This sin of disobedience also serves as a type for the Elect, when the Holy Spirit will speak through them, to the antichrist) Mark-13:11, Luke-12:10

<sup>13</sup> This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them. (Meribah= strife)

<sup>14</sup> And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us: (These Edomites are the descendants of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob. Edom means red <in the Hebrew>)

(Edom, Moab and Ammon were all Adamic people, but they were idolators and perverts, just like the Canaanites. They worshipped idols and practiced human sacrifice of their own children. They had sex orgies in the groves, etc)

<sup>15</sup> How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers: (They were slaves for 400 years)

<sup>16</sup> And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border: (The Angel of the Lord – one of God's many offices)

<sup>17</sup> Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders. (They are just asking to pass so they can enter the Promised Land)

<sup>18</sup> And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword. (Edom feared them because of their great numbers. There were over 2 million Israelites by this time)

<sup>19</sup> And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing anything else, go through on my feet. (Moses is trying to negotiate peacefully)

<sup>20</sup> And he said, Thou shalt not go through. And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand.

<sup>21</sup> Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him. Deuteronomy-3 (God had forbidden Israel to make war against Edom) (Israel should have asked God what to do. They didn't)

<sup>22</sup> And the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh, and came unto mount Hor. (This is at the end of the 40 year probation in the desert. They are about to enter the Promised Land)

<sup>23</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in mount Hor, by the coast of the land of Edom, saying,

<sup>24</sup> Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah. (ye <plural> - meaning Moses and Aaron)

<sup>25</sup> Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up unto mount Hor:

<sup>26</sup> And strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son: and Aaron shall be gathered unto his people, and shall die there. (These garments are the high priest's robe, turban and breast plate)

<sup>27</sup> And Moses did as the LORD commanded: and they went up into mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.

<sup>28</sup> And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there in the top of the mount: and Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount. (Even today, this mount is still known as Mount Aaron. His tomb is on the NE part of the peak.) (Estimate- he was 123 years old)

Exodus-7:7 (Aaron was 3 years older than Moses)

<sup>29</sup> And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.