

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

NUMBERS 14

Numbers 14

Chapter fourteen is the sad story that seems to have been repeated for more than a year after leaving Egypt. The people are given a test by God, and they fail miserably. *It seems that it was easier to get the people out of Egypt than to get Egypt out of the people's hearts.* The chapter begins with the negative report of the spies. Hearing this, the congregation immediately began to accuse Moses and Aaron of poor leadership and rail against God because of this difficulty; it would have been better for them to be in Egypt and have died there than to die in a desert. ***"Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt? So, they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."*** (14:3-4) Joshua and Caleb greatly grieved, began to plead with the people to trust God and not look at the size of the task, but rather trust the God in control of their destiny who will give victory over any foe! The LORD is with us. Do not fear them, they said, but to no avail.

They were about to be stoned and God appeared and would have stricken the people in Judgment, but Moses intervened and interceded on their behalf, and God spared the nation at that time. God pronounced a blessing on Joshua and Caleb for their faithfulness and these two were granted an inheritance in the land they saw in the land they had been sent to view. God honored the obedience of the two men and the remainder of the entire nation was destined to die in the wilderness and not enter the land they had despised and rejected to enter.

Prayer and Action Steps

God never asks His people to do anything that He does not provide grace and supernatural enablement and equipping to accomplish the assignment. God sees even the thoughts of our hearts. He is always right. Make a decision today to look to the God of the task instead of the size of the task.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?

