

Bible in a Year Study Questions – Day 71 - March 12

Today's Readings:

Numbers 21 & 22

Psalm 33.10-17

Proverbs 11.25-26

Mark 12.28-44

1. What led to Israel's victory over the Canaanite king of Arad in Numbers 21, and how does this event connect with the broader narrative of the Israelites' journey?
2. What is the background and purpose of the bronze serpent that Moses lifted up? How does Jesus refer to this event in John 3:14-15, and what spiritual lessons can be drawn from it? How does the bronze serpent serve as a type or foreshadowing of Christ?
3. What challenges do the Israelites face in their journey toward Moab, and how does God respond to their needs?
4. Why is Balak, the king of Moab, afraid of the Israelites, and what does he decide to do about it in Numbers 22? What does this say about the reputation of the Israelites at this point?
5. Who is Balaam, and why does Balak seek his assistance?
6. What is the nature of Balak's invitation to Balaam, and how does Balaam respond? How does God respond to Balaam's desire to go?

7. Describe the encounter between Balaam and his talking donkey. What does the interaction with the donkey reveal about Balaam's motives and God's intervention?
8. Even though Balaam appeared to be listening to God, what does 2 Peter 2.15 reveal about him?
9. How does Psalm 33.10-17 emphasize the idea that the Lord's plans and purposes will stand?
10. Consider the role of righteousness in exalting a nation. How might this principle apply to nations today?
11. What is the contrast between the might of a warrior and the salvation that comes from the Lord in this psalm?
12. How does Proverbs 11.25-26 describe the one who is generous? How do these verses align with other biblical teachings on generosity and the treatment of others (e.g., Luke 6:38, Proverbs 22:9)?
13. What question does the scribe ask Jesus, and how does Jesus respond in Mark 12.28-44?
14. What question does Jesus pose to the scribes about the Messiah being the Son of David? What is the point of His question?

15. What critique does Jesus offer regarding the scribes?

16. What contrasts are presented between the offerings of the rich and the widow? How does Jesus highlight the sacrificial nature of the widow's small offering?

17. Compare the scribe's question about the greatest commandment with the widow's offering. In what ways do these stories emphasize the heart of worship and devotion?

18. Contrast the actions of the scribes with the humility and sacrificial generosity of the widow. What lessons can be drawn from these comparisons?

19. Which passage in today's reading impacted you the most? Is there a verse you would like to memorize and/or meditate on today?