

SESSION #6 (17 Nov 09)

I. INTRODUCTION & REVIEW:

1:6-4:40 1st Exposition of the Torah

1:9-18 recollection of the population growth from Jacob's family to Jacob's nation (Jacob = "Israel")

1:16-17 shoterim

Large population led to a preliminary look at social justice:

II. CHOICE & CONSEQUENCES:

A. CHOICE

//// SLIDE #1 ////

1:6-4:40 1 st Exposition of the Torah = motivation to obey from past gracious actions of Yahweh ("remember" = biblical admonition = Communion → Christianity a historical religion with an inconstant revelation → reliance upon Scripture, not mysticism)	
1:6-3:29 Historical analysis of Israel from Sinai to the Transjordanian victories	
1:6-18	From Sinai to Kadesh
1:6-8	Command to depart Sinai – the blessing of the LAND re-announced
1:9-18	Appointment of judges – the blessing of the PEOPLE pointed to
1:19-46	Kadesh and the wasted years
1:19-33	Choice of the 1 st generation – to believe or not to believe Yahweh
1:34-46	Consequences for the 1 st generation – misery and death

///// SLIDE #2 (map) /////

1:19 departed from Horeb (cf. **1:6-8**)

Israel is now a NATION besides being a PEOPLE (another promise of the Abrahamic Covenant); Sinai (Mosaic) Covenant.

Theologically important point:

- (1) the covenant is with a NATION and concerns everything associated with a nation
- (2) the Church is NOT a nation; it is a transnational entity
- (3) therefore it does NOT and cannot replace a "nation"
- (4) the NT imperatives do NOT cover comprehensive functions of a nation

great and scary wilderness

///// SLIDES #3,4 (wilderness & Kadesh) /////

Kadesh barnea. . . .

Oasis with springs and on the southern boundary of the land.

1:20 which Yahweh our God is giving [Heb: [participle=action going on] to us

1:21 has given the land before you. . .as the Yahweh God of our fathers spoke don't fear and don't be dismayed. . .

Choice here: God's promise vs. a test.

Faith Rest Drill:

- (1) clear revealed promise, not a mystical feeling or a "hunch";
- (2) history of confirmed faithfulness over the super-power nation (Egypt) >> any of the Canaanite "nations"
- (3) entry into their inheritance = economic, political, and social prosperity

1:22-25

Intelligence recon for (1) best attack route; and (2) enemy defences.

1:26 not willing. . .rebelled against the mouth of Yahweh your God

Choice right here revealed for what it is:

- (1) mouth → source of the command;
- (2) 2nd person plural → their covenant position as members of the nation

1:27 murmuring, complaining

Murmuring is opposite of thanksgiving!!

//////// SLIDE #5 //////////

in Yahweh's hatred of us he brought us out of Egypt. . .

PRINCIPLE: The mental attitude of "thanksgiving" is a barometer of our spiritual state!

1 Thess 5:18 "in everything **give thanks** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"

Phil 4:6-7: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, **with thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God. . ."

1:30 Yahweh your God is walking before you to fight for you as he did for you in Egypt

Plagues and destruction of the Exodus event → control of the entire natural environment as the true Creator.

1:31 carried you as a man carries his son

1:32 you were not believing in Yahweh your God

1:33 who was going before you to . . .to. . .

PRINCIPLE: God "pushes us" to spiritually advance toward maturity by successive trials.

1. Gives us at salvation a sufficient revelation of His character (if the gospel is clear!);
2. Sovereign power to reach us through specific circumstances in our personal life;
3. Loving resolution of our sin problem through the grace of the Cross, saving us from Hell.
4. Therefore we have a rationale that argues "from the greater to the lesser" **Rom 8:32** "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him freely give us all things?"

B. CONSEQUENCES (see Slide #1)

1:34 Yahweh. . .became angry. . .

Reaction within His condescension to the human level that expresses His integrity.

1:35 “If anyone among these men—this evil generation—sees the good land which I swore to your fathers. . . [I’m not the living God]“

1:36 because he “filled up”[the tests of following] after Yahweh

NOT sinless perfection, but passing the critical tests that God sends our way.

1 Kings 11:4-8 = example of David vs. Solomon

1:37-38 even you shall not. . .Joshua

1:39 and your children. . .

Continues the sentence of **1:36** defining who will survive and enter the land.

no knowledge of good and evil. . .

Choice & consequences pertain to those who are responsible—who can make an informed choice.

Num 14:29 → males under 20 years of age → wives, daughters, and sons under 20 years old would survive and form the 2nd generation.

1:40 and you—turn yourselves around and set out . . .

Num 14:33-34 → 40 years for the 40 days of the spy operation that failed

//////// SLIDE #6 //////////

1:41 then you answered. . .

Human attempt to alter the consequences of a bad choice = failure!! Failed the discipline test.

Discipline test = trusting the Lord to help you live with the consequences.

we sinned. . .

phony confession; religious pretense that God isn't buying!

1:42 I am not in your midst

1:43-45 Yahweh did not hear your voice and did not listen to you. . .

Phony religion doesn't cut it!!

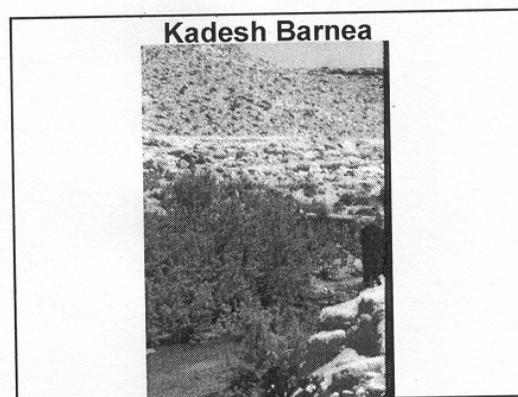
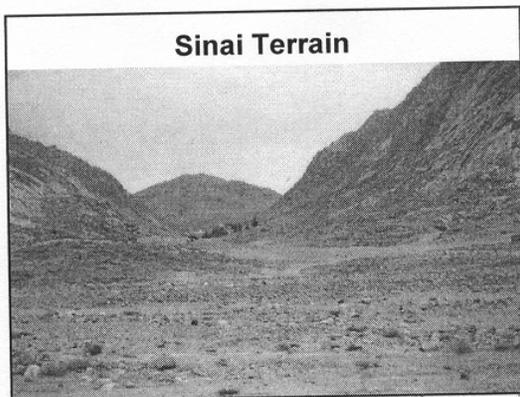
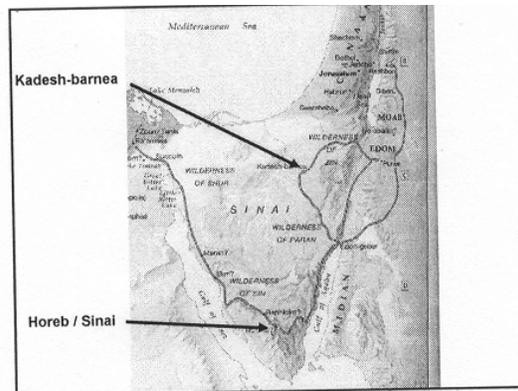
III. CONCLUSION

Deut 1:19-46 narrates for us the failure of an entire generation—failure to pass an a spiritual conflict test after passing some of the previous logistical tests.

It shows the law of responsibility: God gives us choices and He—not us—determines the consequences.

After bad choices, we have discipline tests: are we going to look to Him to help us live with the consequences or are we going to try human gimmicks to “relieve” them?

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Theology of Thanksgiving	Theology of Complaining
God is in charge	God is in charge
God is gracious and gives me what I do not merit	God claims to be loving and gracious
God has my ultimate good in view as He administers providential circumstances in my life	But He treats me like He doesn't care or... He treats me like He delights in my misery

