

THE ONE YEAR BIBLE Reading for March 3:

Leviticus 27:14-Number 1:54:

Leviticus 27 deals with situations in which an Israelite may dedicate something or someone to the LORD (Similar to Hannah with her son, Samuel, in 1 Samuel 1:11) and then later realize it was a rash decision and want to redeem whatever or whomever was dedicated. However, there are some things which cannot be redeemed (27:28-29).

Numbers 1 takes us into the fourth book of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament). For those reading all the way through the Bible who make it through Leviticus, Numbers provides the next obstacle which leads many to drop out of the race. However, hang in there since this is part of that God-breathed Scripture which is profitable (2 Timothy 3:16). Here is some guidance which may help you:

- Numbers is written to the second generation of Hebrews after Israel came out of Egypt (see Exodus). It is written to the second generation after the first generation died off due to God's judgment for their rebellion and disobedience.
- It was written in order to prepare Israel to enter the Promised Land by recounting how their parents and grandparents were disobedient in the wilderness—leading to judgment. God, through Moses, calls them to be faithful to God and the covenant He had made with their ancestors and with them.
- The book is divided into two main sections: (1) The Experience of the first generation in the wilderness (1-25). (2) Preparation for the 2nd Generation to enter Canaan (26-36).
- The census taken of the first generation, instructions about the camp, and outlining of Levitical duties (1-4) in preparation for their march to the Promised Land were not only meant to give the first generation direction, but also to encourage them with how God much had blessed them and was continuing to bless them. The second generation should read this and see how much God has blessed their parents and remember that God's blessing, His special place, was no guarantee they would not also be disciplined, if they followed in that generation's footsteps. It is a reminder to the Christian that if he/she is truly a believer, there should be a desire to pursue holiness (Hebrews 12:14) and to persevere (Colossians 1:23; Hebrews 2:1-4).

Mark 11:1-26:

In this passage we see Jesus entering into Jerusalem, heading toward the cross. He enters exactly as Zechariah 9:9 prophesied Israel's ultimate king would come to them. Some in Jerusalem seem to recognize that He may be the expected Messiah (11:9-10). Yet, by the end of that week when the Jewish leaders had fomented the crowds against Him, many stumbled on the fact that He was crucified.

In the cursing of the fig tree and the cleansing of the temple Mark makes it clear that Jesus' mission was not simply to bring salvation to mankind. It also was to highlight the

heinous nature of sin, to bring judgment and payment of judgment because of sin. Jesus makes it clear that many in Israel, especially leaders, are fruitless and their hearts are not right with God. As such, they will not experience salvation, but only the judgment of God.

Psalm 46:1-11:

This psalm celebrates God's presence among His people which, at this time in Old Testament, was recognized in the presence of the ark of the covenant/temple in Jerusalem. God's presence means that He is with His people to save, bless, and care for them. This psalm is a glorious reminder for the Christian that in Christ Jesus God is with us (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Revelation 21:3-7).

Proverbs 10:23:

To the one who does not fear God and seek His wisdom, doing wrong is not a big deal. At the same time, wisdom is a pleasure to the one who knows God. The implication is that to do wrong would grieve the one who knows God.