

LESSON 12 - UNDER THE LAW ON PROMISE ROAD

Numbers 8 - 14

THEME: *To show that there is one Mediator between men and God.*

Are you afraid of the Police officer when he walks by your house? Not if you are doing right, but suppose he came along when you were doing something which was against the law? A boy was caught stealing a bicycle. The officer was going to take him directly to the police station, but at that moment the boy's father arrived. The father pleaded with the officer to let the boy go, and promised that he would take care of the boy's punishment. So the boy escaped going to court or to prison. His father became a mediator for him; that is, he came *between* the boy and the penalty of the law.

We shall see as we journey on *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE* that Israel also needed a mediator. There was a penalty attached to the breaking of the Law. There were to be great blessings to Israel if the Law was kept, but there were to be many curses upon Israel if the commandments were disobeyed. Deuteronomy 28.

After giving the Law at Mount Sinai God gave directions from the Mercy Seat, the secret place within the Tabernacle, the meeting place for sacrifices. God told them how the great multitude of Israel was to journey. Numbers 7:89-10:36. The Levites /priests were to carry the parts of the Tabernacle while the trumpets of silver were sounded to call the people together for marching. The covering cloud by day or fire by night was to lead the people of Israel.

They left Sinai and went to the wilderness of Paran. Numbers 10:11-36. When they came to Taberah, the people complained. The fire of the Lord burnt among them. Moses prayed to God and the fire was quenched. Numbers 11:1-3. Moses was *the mediator* between Israel and an angry God.

When they came to Hazeroth, Miriam and Aaron became jealous of their brother Moses. Because they gossiped about Moses, Miriam was stricken with leprosy. Then Moses graciously pleaded with God for her and she was healed. Again Moses was *a mediator*. Numbers 12:1-16.

Israel camped at Kadesh and Moses sent spies into the land. He sent 12, one from each tribe. Numbers 13. After 40 days they brought back their report. They showed fruit and said, "Surely the land flows with milk and

honey." But they also said the people were strong and the cities were walled. They said the children of giants /Anakim lived there. Caleb and Joshua said, "Let us go up at once and possess it." Ten of the spies said, "We are not able to go up against the people for they are stronger than we are." Again the people murmured and complained. Numbers 14:1-39. They cried out against Moses and against the Lord. They threatened to choose a captain and return to Egypt. Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before the assembly. The people were ready to kill them.

The glory of the Lord suddenly appeared in the Tabernacle before the Israelites. The Lord said to Moses: "How long will this people provoke Me? And how long will it be before they believe Me...I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of you a greater nation and mightier than they." Numbers 14:11-12.

Again Moses pleaded for the people, and the Lord answered and said that only Caleb and Joshua would be permitted to go into the Promised Land. The others would have to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. The spies who were unbelieving died of the terrible plague God sent.

Israel deserved to be destroyed because of their unbelief and sin. According to our guidebook, the Bible, all people deserve to be destroyed. "All have sinned." "The wages of sin is death." Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23. "God is angry with the wicked every day." Psalms 7:11. But, "while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8. Now He lives to pray for us. Hebrews 7:25. Christ is our Mediator before the Father. He stands between us and the anger of God for sin. For example, Mary is not the mediator between God and us, because there is *only one* Mediator and that is Jesus Christ. Christ has taken our deserved punishment upon the Cross and when we receive Him as Saviour, God sees us in Christ.

We have learned how Moses was a type of Christ because he pictured before time the work which Christ was going to do. Christ is the *only* Mediator between God and man. Is He your Mediator today?

MEMORY VERSE: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." 1 Timothy 2:5-6.

LESSON 12 - WORK SHEET

Israel traveled after the accepting of the Law, but we find that there was a penalty attached to breaking the Law. Fill in the blanks below according to the headings.

Sins Committed

Penalty for Sins

1. Numbers 11:1 _____ Numbers 11:1 _____
2. Numbers 12:1 _____ Numbers 12:10 _____
3. Numbers 14:11 _____ Numbers 14:12 _____
4. What did Moses do in each of the situations found in these verses:
 Numbers 11:2 Numbers 12:13 Numbers 14:19

5. Moses was an intercessor or mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. What is the name of the One who always lives to make intercession /prayer for us? Hebrews 7:22,25. _____
6. Fill in the spaces to show why saved people need Christ to pray for them. 1 John 2:1. "My little children, these things I write unto you that you _____ not. And if any man _____ we have an advocate (mediator/ intercessor) with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous."
7. Why do all people deserve to be punished? Romans 3:23 _____

8. What did Christ do while we were yet sinners? Romans 5:8 _____

9. Fill in the spaces in the verses below to show the powerful work of the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour.
 His work for the *unsaved*: 1 Timothy 1:15. Christ Jesus came into the world to _____ sinners.
 His work for the *saved*: Hebrews 7:25. He is able to _____ completely because He ever lives to make _____ for us.
10. Write from memory 1 Timothy 2:5 _____
