

3rd Quarter – Week 1

(The Transition of Generations – Priestly Conflicts – Military Victories)

Day 1 Numbers 15 Psalm 90	Key Thoughts: • The guidelines for grain and drink offerings are given for when Israel enters into the promised land (15:1-21). • God makes provision for unintentional sins. Sins committed by mistake, ignorance or human frailty could be addressed with a specific sacrifice (15:22-29). • Sin committed in deliberate rebellion would result in a person being cut off. The Sabbath was to be upheld with violators facing the death penalty (15:30-36). • Blue tassels are to be attached to the corners of their garments as reminders to obey God (15:37-41). • Psalm 90 – Moses writes about God’s eternal virtue, men’s frailty and a plea for mercy. Jesus Christ: Jesus is the fulfillment of Psalm 90 written by Moses.
Day 2 Numbers 16	Key Thoughts: • Korah, Dathan, Abiram and two hundred and fifty leaders challenge Moses and Aaron’s leadership (16:1-3). • Moses fell to his face before the Lord. A test is arranged to determine God’s true leaders involving incense (16:4-19). • God opened the earth and swallowed the rebel leaders. Fire came forth and consumed the two hundred and fifty leaders. The bronze censers they used were fashioned into a covering for the altar as a warning against future rebellion and unauthorized service. The people still grumbled against Moses and Aaron causing God to send a plague (15:20-50). Jesus Christ: The church will experience the authority of Jesus being challenged.
Day 3 Numbers 17-18	Key Thoughts: • Because of the complaining about the leadership of Moses and Aaron, God declares the staff of the leader of the priest will sprout, and all complaining should halt. Aaron’s staff blossoms and produces almonds, confirming his calling by God. The rod is placed in the ark as a warning to future rebels. • The duties of the priests and the Levites are given. How they are to receive provisions is explained. Levites are to own no land but receive tithes. The Levites were to give a tithe to Aaron (18:1-32) Jesus Christ: The budding staff of Aaron was a picture of Jesus’ resurrection. As Aaron was chosen to be the mediator, Jesus is the ultimate High Priest, confirmed by His resurrection from the dead.

Day 4 Numbers 19–20	Key Thoughts: • The instructions are given for purification when someone dies. With the wilderness deaths, it will be needed. A red heifer is sacrificed and its ashes are used for purifying (19:1–10). • The ashes are mixed with fresh water. Directions are given on the timing and methods of cleansing. Anyone remaining unclean is removed from the assembly (19:11–22). • The narrative turns ahead thirty seven years. Miriam, Moses' sister dies. The people complain because of lack of water. Moses strikes the rock instead of speaking to it as God commanded. Moses is not allowed to lead the people into the promised land because of his sin. Aaron dies as Israel is heading to Canaan (20:1–20). Jesus Christ: The red heifer sacrificed outside the camp directly foreshadows Jesus who was crucified outside the gates of Jerusalem.
Day 5 Numbers 21	Key Thoughts: • King Arad takes prisoners from the battle with Israel. The result is Israel trusts God and He gives them a victory. Soon, the people complain again, and God sends fiery serpents leading to many deaths. The people confess their sin and God provides a bronze serpent. Whomever would look at the serpent when bit would live (21:1–9). • The journey of Israel from Mount Hor to Moab is recorded. God provides water and the people sang songs of praise (21:11–20). • King Sihon of the Amorites refuses to let them pass. God gave Israel the victory. King Og of Bashan was known as a giant in a fortified city. God gives Israel a complete victory turning the people's fear to confidence in the Lord (21:21–35). Jesus Christ: Jesus was lifted up like the serpent and all who look on Him in faith will be saved (John 3:14–15).
Day 6 Numbers 22–23	Key Thoughts: • King Balak of Moab see the strength of Israel. He sends Balaam, a diviner to curse Israel. God tells Balaam not to curse Israel (22:1–20). • Balaam persists and goes to curse Israel. The Angel of the Lord blocks Balaam's donkey and then causes the donkey to speak and rebuke Balaam. He admits his sin when God opens his eyes to the Angel of the Lord. The Angel sends him to King Balek with his message (22:21–35). • King Balak is instructed by Balaam to build seven alters and offer sacrifices. The king is disappointed and takes Balaam to another place. Balaam shares how God will bless Israel (22:36–23:30). Jesus Christ: Balaam used his abilities for financial gain. Jesus calls His followers to deny themselves and focus on storing up treasures in heaven instead of pursuing greedy motives (2 Peter 2:15).