

"Wandering"



The journey begins!

After one year they leave Mt Sinai.

God leads the people with a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day.

The people grumble for meat, Moses offers his life in their place. Interesting exchange between Moses and God. (Pages 72-73)



God provided quail up to three feet deep.

God's anger burned against the people And they were overcome with a plague.

There they buried the people who had Craved other foods.

The grumbling now turns personal as Moses brother and sister begin to turn On him



Aaron and Miriam were upset with Moses because he had married a Cushite wife.

They wanted to see themselves on the same level of Moses.

Moses humility is identified in this exchange. "Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth."



God provides a sign to the people as Miriam and Aaron are called before God. Miriam is given leprosy, which would last for seven days.

In the opening pages of the chapter, God at times deals harshly with the people for their grumbling and complaining.



Pages 74-78 recounts the sending of the spies. Spies from each of the twelve tribes.

Spies enter the promised land for forty days.

The promised land is everything God said it would be, a land flowing with milk and honey. A land of abundance!



The report of the spies raise concerns about thew ability to enter the land, there is fear.

Caleb and Joshua file a minority report, believing that they should enter, because God is on our side.

The entire assembly turn on Caleb and Joshua, causing God's anger to burn against the people again.

Moses pleads again for the people and God relents to some extent.



God will cause them to wander for forty years.

When they are ready to enter the promised land everyone over the age of 20 will have perished.

The forty years are because the spies had explored the promised land for forty days. Now they will wander one year for each day.



Moses and Aaron disobey God (Pages 78-79)

God now judges both Moses and Aaron for their lack of trust by informing them that they will not enter the promised land.

The pattern of grumbling, complaining continue. God now sends venomous snakes. Yet, Moses is given a cure by making a snake and placing it on a pole, so that when someone is bitten, and looks to the snake on the pole, they will be healed.



Balaam and the talking donkey. Number 22:22-ff

The Lord will not let his people be cursed.

Balaam proclaims a series of oracles.



Pages 84-88 is Moses farewell address to the people.

Moses commissions Joshua to be the leader of the Israelites as they enter the promised land.

The end of Deuteronomy shows a very gracious God dealing with His servant Moses.

He allows him to see the promised land from afar, and then God buried Moses.

