

1. Restless children of Israel in the wilderness

- a) Numbers 11:1 Why were the children of Israel complaining in the wilderness?
- b) Numbers 11:2-6 What is your reaction to their restlessness and rebellious spirit?
- c) The apostle Paul tells us these stories are written for our learning (Romans 15:4). What lessons can we learn from this story for our lives today?

2. Restless siblings of Moses—Miriam and Aaron

- a) Numbers 12:1-3 Why did Miriam and Aaron complain to their brother Moses about his wife?
- b) Why was such a racist attitude so inappropriate, back then and why is it still inappropriate now?
- c) What was the real reason for the restless and rebellious spirit of Miriam and Aaron?
- d) Numbers 12:4-10 Why was the LORD's judgment against Miriam so severe, while Aaron was spared?
- e) What can we learn from Aaron's intercession on behalf of his sister? Numbers 12:11-12
- f) Why is intercession always better than criticism?

3. Restlessness leads to Rebellion

- a) Numbers 13:27-33 What was the problem with the negative report of the 10 spies?

- b) How did the negative report of the 10 spies impact the children of Israel as a whole? Numbers 14:1-4
- c) Numbers 14:6-9 How did the report of Joshua and Caleb differ from the report of the other 10 spies?
- d) What was the reaction of the congregation to this positive report? Numbers 14:10a
- e) Where else in the Scriptures do you see a rebellious spirit leading to threats and even open hostility? (Cain killing Abel, the stoning of Stephen, the crucifixion of Jesus, etc.)
- f) What encouragement can we find from the way the LORD delivered Joshua and Caleb? Numbers 14:10b,

4. Intercession for the Rebellious

- a) Numbers 14:11-19 – the intercession of Moses
- b) Numbers 14:20 Did the intercession of Moses change the mind of the LORD? (See 2 Peter 3:9)
- c) How did the intercession of Moses for his people provide a glimpse of the work of Jesus, our Savior and Intercessor? Hebrews 7:25
- d) Even though the LORD extended grace to the rebellious children of Israel, what were the negative consequences of their rebellion? Numbers 14:20-23
- e) How did the children of Israel react to God's judgment? Numbers 14:39-45
- f) What lessons can we learn from their foolish conduct? (Matthew 4:5-7, John 15:4-5)

