

GOD'S CHASTISEMENT COMES TO ALL DISOBEDIENT CHILDREN

Numbers 11:4-6

Introduction:

1. Certainly God is a forgiving, loving God, but God is also a God of judgment and chastisement.
2. God has a purpose for every child and many times He chastises them to accomplish this purpose.
3. The Scriptures teach this about God.

I. SOME BASIC FACTS CONCERNING ISRAEL AND ITS' MURMURING IN THE WILDERNESS.

- A. Israel sinned in that it lusted after Egypt. (Verse 4)
- B. Israel desired the things it enjoyed in the past when in Egypt.
(They remembered the fish, melons, and other delicacies, Verse 5.)
- C. They had murmured earlier and God had sent manna to them.
(It was good and came without any effort. Verse 9)
- D. But they are not satisfied and complain again and take their complaint to Moses. (Verse 10a)
- E. Depressed Moses goes to God with the problem. (Verse 10b)
- F. God answers and tells that Israel shall have flesh to eat. (Verse 19-21)
- G. But God brings judgment on the ones who lusted and sinned. (Verse 33)
- H. And many even died as a result of this sin. (Verse 34b)

II. SIMILAR OR PARALLEL FACTS WHICH APPLY TO US.

- A. As the Israelites lusted and sinned, so do many of us as God's children.
(Sometimes we forget we were bought with a price.)
Scripture: **I Corinthians 6:20** *"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*
- B. As the Israelites desired to fulfill the flesh, so we have the same battle raging in us.
Scripture: **Galatians 5:17** *"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."*
- C. As the Israelites complained, so we as children of God complain about His will and His desire for us to live separated lives. (Although commanded by God.)
Scripture: **I Peter 2:9** *"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:"*
Scripture: **I John 5:3** *". . . and his commandments are not grievous."*
- D. As chastisement came to Israel, so does it come to all rebellious children of God.
(But we are taught it is done with love and it is for our own good.)
Scripture: **Hebrews 12:11** *"Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."*
- E. As many of the Israelites died, so many have met an early death because they became hindrances to God's work. (The church at Corinth is an example.)
Scripture: **I Corinthians 11:30** *"For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep."*

Conclusion:

1. God does chastise His own.
2. But we should serve Him out of love and not out of fear.
3. A service of love is what God wants, but remember God knows best for our lives.
4. Let us judge ourselves, seek forgiveness and walk in His way.