



Look and Live

A Series on the Cross

Leading to Easter Sunday

March 25, 2012 and
Following

**Look and Live!
Study Guide 2**

BACKGROUND: See study guide 1 for information.

Numbers 21:1-3 NOTES

I. Discontent (Num. 21:4-7)

A. Reason (21:4)

1. The Events of Their Bad Day (Numbers 20)

- See study guide 1 for a list of some of their recent “bad days.”

2. The Emotions of Their Bad Day

- a. The Confusion in their Difficulty (Pr. 13:12; Jer. 29:11)**
- b. The Continuation of their Difficulty (Job 1:21; 3:2-3; Ps. 77:2-3)**
- c. The Cause behind Their Difficulty (Dt. 8:2; Ps. 66:10; 1 Pet. 4:12; Job. 23:10)**

B. Reaction (21:5)

1. The Center of Their Complaint

- a. God (cf., Jude 9,10)**
- b. Moses**

2. The Content

- a. They Question Motive “wherefore”**
- b. They Question Intent “to die”**
- c. They Want Real Bread**
- d. They Want More Water**
- e. They Despise the Manna (Heb. 10:28-31)**

C. THE FINAL APPLICATION FOR THIS SECTION.

WHAT SHOULD THEY HAVE DONE INSTEAD?

- 1. They should have remembered the Providence of God. (1 Sam. 3:18; Jn. 18:11; Job 13:15; 1 Sam. 30:6)**
- 2. They Should Have Remembered the Purpose of God. (Rom. 5:3; 2 Cor. 4:16-17; 12:9; 2 Tim. 2:20-21; Heb. 12:10-11)**
- 3. They Should Have Remembered the Promise of God (Ex. 3:17; Rm. 4:20; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 1:20; Rm. 8:28)**
- 4. They Should Have Reflected the Patience from God (Heb. 10:36; James 5:7-8)**

II. Disaster (21:6)

A. Response (21:6A)

- Fiery refers not to their appearance, but to the burning of the poison after the bite.

B. Result (21:6B)

- People were dying everywhere.
- And they were dying violent and agonizing deaths.

QUOTE: In the past, when Israel had sinned, the glory of the Lord would usually appear and the judgment of the Lord would follow. But this time, there was no warning. The judgment came immediately as the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people. They had rejected God's gift of life and health from heaven, so God sent them suffering and death from the earth, and many of the people died. Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*

III. Decision (21:7)

They cannot go on fighting against God. The price is too high, and it always will be. So they make up their minds that there are only two things to do. So we see their ...

A. Repentance (21:7)

1. We Have Spoken Against God's Servant
2. We Have Spoken Against God

B. Request (21:7)

Ironic. Here is a man that they complained against, and now they suddenly want him to be their intercessor.

IV. Deliverance (Num. 21:8-9)

A. Requirement (21:8A)

- Practical reason: So that vast numbers of people can see it.
- Spiritual reason: To picture Christ!

B. Remedy (21:8B)

- Not a healing, but an opportunity to be healed!

C. Reliability (21:9A)

D. Relief (21:9B)

1. There is the Looking
2. There is the Limit (Only those who looked. "When")
3. There is the Life