

# Why Israel Failed

## Quote:

*“Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.*

*For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”*

**Hebrews 4:1-2**

## Israel In the Wilderness (All These Things Happened Unto Them For Ensamples - 1 Corinthians 10:11)

- Described as the ecclesia in the wilderness (Acts 7:38). (Mark above and /or below Num 10-11)
- Received the Gospel preached to them (Hebrews 4:2).
- Many failed to overcome the problems they confronted, and lost their zeal for the purpose God had with them. (They lost sight of the hope of the promised land before them and turned back to Egypt in their hearts) See Prov 29:18; Luke 8:14; 21:34; Num 11:4-6; Acts 7:39; Heb 4:1-2,6. Therefore with MOST of them God was not well pleased (1 Cor 10:5-6):
  - Some turned from Yahweh to other gods (1 Cor 10:7) - note the warning of Col 3:5.
  - Some turned to immorality within sight of the promised land (1 Cor 10:8; Exod 32).
  - Some tempted Yahweh (1 Cor 10:9; Exod 17:1-4; Num 21:5-6)
  - Some murmured (1 Cor 10:10 - ten incidents recorded) - For water (Exod 15:24-26), for food (Exod 16:2-8), for water (Exod 17:3-7), out of jealousy (Num 12:1-5), out of fear and cowardice (Num 14:2-38); out of jealousy (Num 16:1-35), through bitterness (Num 16:41-50); out of jealousy against Aaron (Num 17:1-11), for water (Num 20:1-13); because of monotony of food (Num 21:4-9).
- The way they marched is significant for us as we travel in the wilderness of life:
  - It was according to the order divinely set out.
  - The nation marched in four divisions, lead by the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night (symbol of Divine guidance, purification and protection):
  - The Four groups marched displaying their four banners:
    - Lion (Judah) - Symbolises the leader or ruler. Points to Christ (lion of the tribe of Judah). We hope to be kings and priests (Rev 5:10). We should lead by example in this life (1 Tim 4:12).
    - Man (Reuben) - The highest form of creation. Has a mind capable of the Divine impress (seen in Christ - Heb 1:2-3, and needs to be developed in us).
    - Ox (Ephraim) - Symbolises a worker and burden bearer. Seen in Christ, and should be seen in us - (Matt 11:28-30; Gal 6:2).
    - Eagle (Dan) Represented the Spirit, having keen eyes, and lifting itself above the earth, to soar on the air. Seen in Christ, and must be developed in us.
- As they marched to the Promised Land - the symbol of Yahweh's presence and the dwelling place of Yahweh was among them (The Tabernacle). See 2 Cor 6:16-18.
- This was a scene of orderliness (1 Cor 14:40; 1 Thes 5:14; 2 Thes 3:6-7) and confidence in Yahweh - (Heb 3:6; 14-19). Therefore every day began and ended with prayer (Num 10:35-36).

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A prayer which recognised that Yahweh would deliver them from their enemies and give them rest.

## Numbers II - Mark Adjacent to the Verses Indicated

**Numbers 11:3** - **"Taberah"** - means "a burning" (circle this in the KJV margin). Our God is a consuming fire to those who refuse to obey him (**Heb 12:29**).

**Numbers 11:4** - **"give us flesh to eat"** - They considered the manna (bread from heaven which symbolises the Word of God) dull and uninteresting. They wanted something more pleasing to the flesh.

**Numbers 11:5** - ie They looked back to the darkness of Egypt and forgot the hard bondage and their inevitable end (death) had they remained there (see **Phil 3:13-14**).

**Numbers 11:21** - This means there would have been at least 2 million people. A meal a day each for one month is 60 million meals.

### How Much Is Ten Homers (Num 11:32)?

10 omers = 1 Ephah (**Exod 16:36**)

10 Ephahs = 1 Homer (**Ezek 45:11**)

Therefore 10 homers is 1000 omers.

Enough food for 1000 days (**Exod 16:16**).

#### HINT:

Prior to marking up these notes. It would be wise to read through the notes, look up the quotes, and add your own comments to help your understanding of it.