

**“Cloud & Fire”****Numbers 9:1-23****2/17/13**

This morning/afternoon, we'd like to see the title of **“Cloud & Fire”** in the book of Numbers 9:1-23.

Q1. In verse 8, “*And Moses said to them, “Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you.”*” what should we as believers learn?

Q2. In verse 12, “*They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it,*” why did God command not to break of the lamb’s bones and which scripture in the New Testament could you find not to break bones? (without blemish; John 19:31-36)

Q3. In verses 15 through 23, what the cloud’s move, such as “*taken up, settled, or stayed,*” does God describe? (the Command of the Lord)

**(Background)**

In 1446 BC, Moses wrote the book of Numbers, one of Pentateuch. The people of Israelites to be able to war through wilderness to enter into the Canaan land were commanded by God. The 1<sup>st</sup> census was 603,550 in light of Numbers 1:3 & 46, “<sup>3</sup>from twenty years old and above—all who *are able to go to war in Israel. You and Aaron shall number them by their armies,*” and “<sup>46</sup>all who were numbered were six hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty.” The 2<sup>nd</sup> Census was 601,730 in light of Numbers 26:2 and 51, “<sup>2</sup>“Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel from twenty years old and above, by their fathers’ houses, all who are able to go to war in Israel,” and “<sup>51</sup>These *are* those who were numbered of the children of Israel: six hundred and one thousand seven hundred and thirty.”

**(1-14) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Passover**

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying: <sup>2</sup>“Let the children of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time. <sup>3</sup>On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time. According to all its rites and ceremonies you shall keep it.” <sup>4</sup>So Moses told the children of Israel that they should keep the Passover. <sup>5</sup>And they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, at twilight, in the Wilderness of Sinai; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did.

<sup>6</sup>Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; and they came before Moses and Aaron that day. <sup>7</sup>And those men said to him, “We became defiled by a human corpse. Why are we kept from presenting the offering of the LORD at its appointed time among the children of Israel?”

1-3 = Passover \* Ex 12:5-10, 14-18; Leviticus 23:5-6 (1/14-1/21) = twilight (the Jewish day begins at sundown, not at midnight)

6-7= corpse \* Numbers 5:2 (dilemma occurred with verse 3 “shall keep it”)

<sup>8</sup> And Moses said to them, “Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you.”

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>10</sup> “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean because of a corpse, or is far away on a journey, he may still keep the LORD’s Passover.

<sup>11</sup> On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight, they may keep it. They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>12</sup> They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it.

<sup>13</sup> But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and ceases to keep the Passover, that same person shall be cut off from among his people, because he did not bring the offering of the LORD at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin.

<sup>14</sup> ‘And if a stranger dwells among you, and would keep the LORD’s Passover, he must do so according to the rite of the Passover and according to its ceremony; you shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger and the native of the land.’”

### **(15-23) God’s Direction**

<sup>15</sup> Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire. <sup>16</sup> So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.

<sup>17</sup> Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would pitch their tents. <sup>18</sup> At the command of the LORD the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the LORD they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.

8=Q1= Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you (Let me ask the Lord What to do (Seek divine wisdom) = God wants (1) to have our daily personal relationship with Him + (2) to be glorified by us) \* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Revelation 4:11

11=(how?) On the fourteenth day of the second month

12=Q2 = nor break one of its bones (without blemish - Ex 12:5; John 19:31-36)

13= the man who *is* clean and is not on a journey ceases to keep the Passover (intentional non-feasance [disobedience])

14= one ordinance (God wants to be glorified by the gentile or the Jews) \* Romans 10:12

15-23 = Q3

15= cloud/fire (supernatural way) \* Exodus 13:21

16= cover

17= taken up ... journey; settled...pitch their tents (the Israelites camped around the tabernacle)

18= At the command of the LORD ( 6 TIMES)

<sup>19</sup> Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the tabernacle, the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not journey. <sup>20</sup> So it was, when the cloud was above the tabernacle a few days: according to the command of the LORD they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the LORD they would journey. <sup>21</sup> So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey. <sup>22</sup> *Whether it was two days, a month, or a year* that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey. <sup>23</sup> At the command of the LORD they remained encamped, and at the command of the LORD they journeyed; they kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

**1-3 = Passover \* Ex 12:5-10, 14-18; Leviticus 23:5-6 (1/14-1/21) = twilight (the Jewish day begins at sundown, not at midnight)**

(The 1<sup>st</sup> Passover began = Exodus 12:5-10) <sup>5</sup> Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup> Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. <sup>7</sup> And they shall take some of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. <sup>8</sup> Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup> Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire—its head with its legs and its entrails. <sup>10</sup> You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire.

(Future Passover Memorial Ceremonies - Exodus 12:14-18) <sup>14</sup> ‘So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance. <sup>15</sup> Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. For whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. <sup>16</sup> On the first day *there shall be* a holy convocation, and on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on them; but *that* which everyone must eat—that only may be prepared by you. <sup>17</sup> So you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this same day I will have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as an everlasting ordinance. <sup>18</sup> In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.

(Leviticus 23:5-6) On the fourteenth *day* of the first month at twilight *is* the LORD’s Passover. <sup>6</sup> And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

**6-7=** corpse \* Numbers 5:2 (dilemma occurred with verse 3 “shall keep it”)

(Numbers 5:2) “Command the children of Israel that they put out of the camp every leper, everyone who has a discharge, and whoever becomes defiled by a corpse.

**8=Q1=** 8=Q1= Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you (Ask the Lord  
What to do (Seek divine wisdom) = God wants (1) to have our daily personal relationship with Him + (2)  
to be glorified by us) \* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Revelation 4:11

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is  
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

(Revelation 4:11) “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power;  
For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

**12=Q2** = nor break one of its bones (without blemish; John 19:31-36)

(John 19:31-36) Therefore, because it was the Preparation *Day*, that the bodies should not remain on  
the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be  
broken, and *that* they might be taken away. <sup>32</sup> Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and  
of the other who was crucified with Him. <sup>33</sup> But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already  
dead, they did not break His legs. <sup>34</sup> But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and  
immediately blood and water came out. <sup>35</sup> And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true;  
and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. <sup>36</sup> For these things were done that the  
Scripture should be fulfilled, “Not one of His bones shall be broken.”

(Psalm 34:19-20) “Many *are* the afflictions (of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all.  
<sup>20</sup> He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.”

**14=** one ordinance (God wants to be glorified by the gentile or the Jews) \* Romans 10:12

(Romans 10:12) For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is  
rich to all who call upon Him.

**15** = cloud/fire (supernatural way) \* Exodus 13:21

(Exodus 13:21) And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night  
in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

**All quotations, except the King James Version of the Bible (KJV), are taken from  
the New King James Version, © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission.  
All rights reserved.**

***© Copyright 2013 by Wayne Kim. All rights reserved. No part of this material may be reproduced in any forms or by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher, except for brief quotations in critical articles or reviews.***