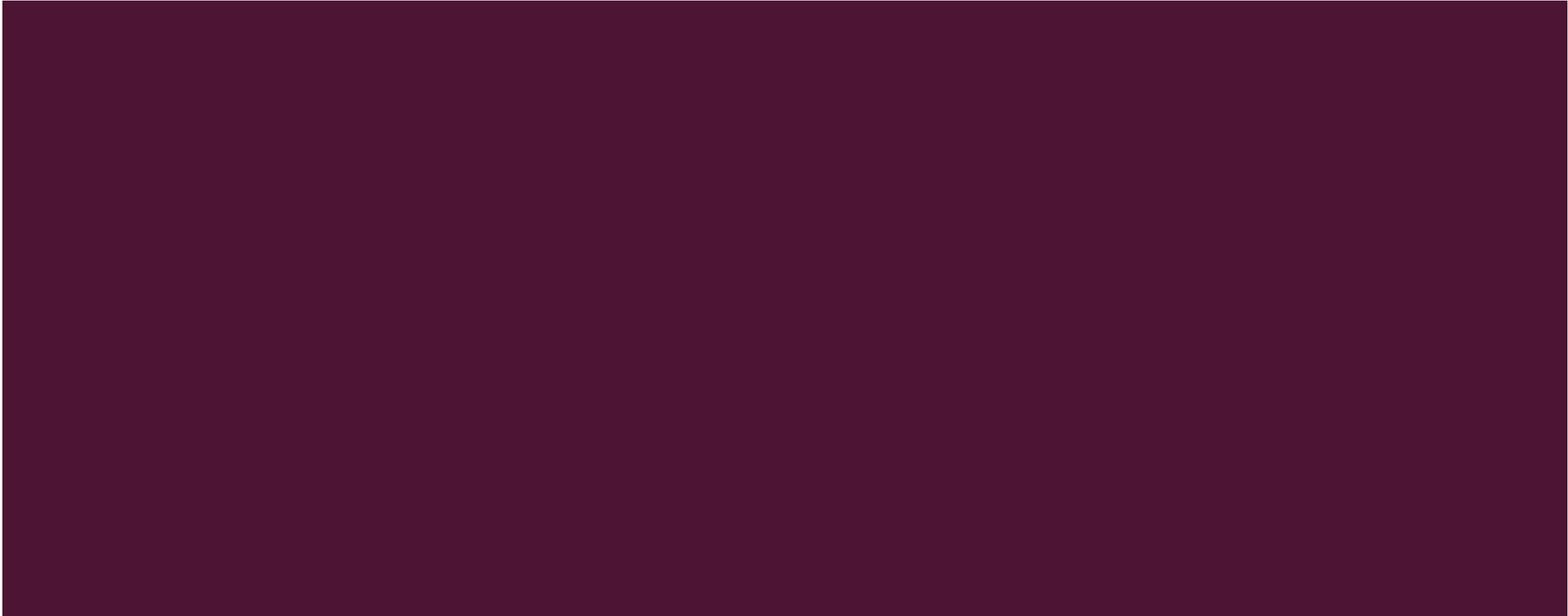

LESSONS FROM MOSES ON INTERCESSION BEFORE GOD

DRS. NICK AND LEONA VENDITTI



BIBLICAL TEXT

- ¹¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.”

BIBLICAL TEXT

- ¹³ But Moses said to the LORD, “Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for you brought up this people in your might from among them, (Num 14:11-13 ESV)

OUTLINE

- The Problem
- The Proposition
- The Prayer

BACKGROUND

- Chapter 13
 - Moses makes it clear that the sending of the spies was the desire of the people, not the commandment of the Lord (Dt 1:20–23)
 - This was a crucial moment in the life of Israel
 - What would God's people choose?

BACKGROUND

- Chapter 13
 - God had already told them many times what Canaan was like, what nations were there, and how He would defeat their enemies
 - The people blamed the Lord (v 3)
 - They even wanted to return to Egypt
 - Would they believe God or fear the nations?

BACKGROUND

■ Chapter 13

- Israel decided to walk by sight rather than believe God and His promises for them
- They willingly chose to listen to the ten spies
- The Lord used their stubbornness to reveal to Israel what their hearts were really like

BACKGROUND

- Chapter 13
 - Joshua and Caleb were the only ones that gave a report which trusted in the promises of the Lord
 - They did not deny the challenges that awaited God's people
 - However they remained firm in their faith and convictions

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - Against God
 - God asks two questions: How long would the people despise Him?
 - How long would the people not believe Him?
 - The Lord had parted the Red Sea, gave them the manna and so much more...

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - Against God
 - The Lord was fed up and was getting ready to send pestilence
 - The Lord was willing to even go to the extreme of disinheriting His people

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - Against God's Leaders (v 6-10)
 - Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb tore their clothes
 - Caleb and Joshua reported that the land was good
 - They begged the people not to rebel
 - They pleaded with the people to seek the favor of the Lord

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - Against God's Leaders (v 6-10)
 - Israel blamed Moses and the other leaders for their predicament
 - They wanted another leader to be chosen
 - Rather than to defend themselves, Moses and the others chose to seek God
 - What would be your response if you were in the same situation?

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - Against God's Leaders (v 6-10)
 - Israel did not want to listen to Caleb and Joshua
 - The congregation wanted to stone them
 - The result was that the presence of the Lord appeared to all the people of Israel
 - The Lord now spoke to Moses

THE PROBLEM

- Rebellion (v 11)
 - God's judgment was about to fall on the people
 - God was about to unleash a pestilence on Israel
 - What would happen?

THE PROPOSITION

- God made an offer (v 12)
 - God was willing to destroy the entire nation and make a new nation through Moses' descendants
 - Yet Moses rejected this offer
 - We see that a similar offer was made previously (Ex 32:20)

THE PROPOSITION

- God made an offer (v 12)
 - We notice how Moses was a God-centered leader rather than a personal glory centered leader
 - Moses modeled a character worth imitating

THE PRAYER

- Moses intercedes before the Lord (v 13)
 - Moses is zealous for the reputation of the Lord
 - First Moses mentions the Egyptians
 - The Egyptians would ridicule the Lord as being incapable and untrustworthy

THE PRAYER

- Moses intercedes before the Lord (v 13)
- Moses is zealous for the reputation of the Lord
 - The Egyptians, like the 10 spies, would not believe in God's trustworthiness

THE PRAYER

- Moses intercedes before the Lord (v 13)
 - Moses' argument is effective
 - The Lord forgives his people, although there are consequences
 - God spares Israel, but sentences the present generation (except for Joshua and Caleb) to die in the wilderness (v 29–32)
 - Only those Israelites under the age of 20 will inherit the land

OUTLINE

- The Problem
- The Proposition
- The Prayer

CONCLUSION

- Rebellion against God and His leaders has its consequences
- Moses demonstrated great spiritual maturity through his intercession
- God does answer prayers
- Let's pray

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