Timeline of Truth: God Gives Land to Reuben And Gad (Numbers 32)

- I. Israel at Mount Sinai (1-10:10)
- II. Israel in the Wilderness (10:11-36:13)
 - a. Israel's First Generation in the Wilderness (10:11-19:22)
 - b. Israel's Second Generation in the Wilderness (20:1-36:13)
 - 1. Moses Strikes the Rock (20:1-13)
 - 2. Edom Refuses Israel and Aaron Dies (20:14-29)
 - 3. Israel's Battles and the Fiery Serpents (21:1-

35)

- 4. Balaam and Balak (22:1-24:25)
- 5. Israel's Idolatry (25:1-18)
- 6. The Second Census (26:1-65)
- 7. God's Last Commands to Moses (27:12-23)
- 8. Offerings, Passover, Trumpets, Atonement Revisited (28:1-29:40)
- 9. Vows between a Husband and Wife (30:1-16)
- 10. . Israel Defeats the Midianites (31:1-54)

Numbers 32:1-5 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of livestock; and when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that indeed the region *was* a place for livestock, ² the children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses, to Eleazar the priest, and to the leaders of the congregation, saying, ³ "Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah, Heshbon, Elealeh, Shebam, Nebo, and Beon, ⁴ "the country which the LORD defeated before the congregation of Israel, *is* a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock." ⁵ Therefore they said, "If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants as a possession. Do not take us over the Jordan."

1. Reuben and Gad Land

- a. These two tribes had much livestock
- b. The places they had just conquered was good land for livestock
- c. These two tribes request this land from Moses

- ⁶ And Moses said to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben: "Shall your brethren go to war while you sit here? ⁷ "Now why will you discourage the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land which the LORD has given them?
- 2. Moses Questions Their _____
 - a. Are they trying to get out of fighting?
 - b. If so, this will be a discouragement to the rest of Israel
 - Discourage hinder, restrain, frustrate
- ⁸ "Thus your fathers did when I sent them away from Kadesh Barnea to see the land. ⁹ "For when they went up to the Valley of Eshcol and saw the land, they discouraged the heart of the children of Israel, so that they did not go into the land which the LORD had given them. ¹⁰ "So the LORD's anger was aroused on that day, and He swore an oath, saying, ¹¹ 'Surely none of the men who came up from Egypt, from twenty years old and above, shall see the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they have not wholly followed Me, ¹² 'except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun, for they have wholly followed the LORD.' ¹³ "So the LORD's anger was aroused against Israel, and He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in the sight of the LORD was gone.

3. A _____ Lesson

- a. Remember what their father's did when they were told to spy out the land.
- b. Ultimately they discourage the people so they refused to enter the land.
- c. This aroused the Lord's anger
- d. God killed off all the adults from the first generation.
 - With the exception of Caleb and Joshua
 - Because they wholly followed the Lord
- e. The Israelites wandered for forty years
- ¹⁴ "And look! You have risen in your father's place, a brood of sinful men, to increase still more the fierce anger of the LORD against Israel. ¹⁵ "For if you turn away from following Him, He will once again leave them in the wilderness, and you will destroy all these people."
- 4. Moses Reuben and Gad
 - a. They are doing the same as their fathers
 - b. They will arose the anger of the Lord
 - c. The people will be destroyed
- ¹⁶ Then they came near to him and said: "We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock, and cities for our little ones, ¹⁷ "but we ourselves will be armed, ready *to go* before the children of Israel until we have brought them to their place; and our little ones will dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land.
- 5. Reuben and Gad Offer a
 - Part 1 they will build structures for their possessions and children
 - b. Part 2 The men will cross over and fight with the rest of Israel

¹⁸ "We will not return to our homes until every one of the children	c. Part 3 – They will return only after the land has
of Israel has received his inheritance. ¹⁹ "For we will not inherit	been conquered.
with them on the other side of the Jordan and beyond, because	
our inheritance has fallen to us on this eastern side of the Jordan."	
²⁰ Then Moses said to them: "If you do this thing, if you arm	6. Moses to the Plan
yourselves before the LORD for the war, ²¹ "and all your armed	a. It they follow through on this plan, Moses agrees
men cross over the Jordan before the LORD until He has driven out	to it.
His enemies from before Him, ²² "and the land is subdued before	b. If they do not, there sin will find them out.
the LORD, then afterward you may return and be blameless before	c. Moses sends them to build their cities.
the LORD and before Israel; and this land shall be your possession	
before the LORD. ²³ "But if you do not do so, then take note, you	
have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you	
out. ²⁴ "Build cities for your little ones and folds for your sheep,	
and do what has proceeded out of your mouth."	
²⁵ And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spoke to	7. Reuben and Gad Confirm Their
Moses, saying: "Your servants will do as my lord commands. ²⁶	a. They will build their cities and go to war as they
"Our little ones, our wives, our flocks, and all our livestock will be	had said.
there in the cities of Gilead; ²⁷ "but your servants will cross over,	
every man armed for war, before the LORD to battle, just as my	
lord says."	
²⁸ So Moses gave command concerning them to Eleazar the priest,	8. Moses Eleazar and Joshua of the
to Joshua the son of Nun, and to the chief fathers of the tribes of	Plan
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- 1. What we do affects those around us. We do not live our lives unto ourselves.
- 2. "Your sin will find you out" God knows every detail of what is going on in your life.
- 3. We just studied about vows. God expected Reuben and Gad to keep their vow to fight for their fellow Israelites.
- 4. God's structure of authority should be followed.