

Numbers 7-10 God Led Them Through the Wilderness

Chap 7 - the Voice of the LORD

At the beginning of the chapter the chiefs of each of the tribes of Israel bring an offering before the LORD to be used in the service of the tent of meeting.

At the end of the chapter Moses hears THE VOICE...

- Num 7:89 And when Moses went into the tent of meeting to speak with the LORD, **he heard the voice speaking to him from above the mercy seat** that was on the ark of the testimony, from between the two cherubim; and **it spoke to him**.

God still speaks today...

- 1Ki 19:11-13 NIV The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. ***And after the fire came a gentle whisper.*** 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. **Then a voice said to him**, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"
- Joh 10:27 NIV ***My sheep listen to my voice;*** I know them, and they follow me.
- **Three times in Hebrews it says...** Heb 3:15 NIV As has just been said: "***Today, if you hear his voice,*** do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.
- **The voice of the Holy Spirit** ... Rom 8:14 NIV For those who are **led by the Spirit of God** are the children of God.
- Joh 16:13-14 NIV But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, **he will guide you** into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; **he will speak only what he hears**, and **he will tell you what is yet to come**. 14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what **he will make known to you**.
- **Through the gifts of the Spirit** ... Act 13:2 NIV While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, **the Holy Spirit said**, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."
- 1Co 14:24-25 NIV But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, 25 as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "**God is really among you!**"

Chap 8 - the Light of the Lamp - the word of God

Num 8:1-26 NIV The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak to Aaron and say to him, 'When you set up the lamps, **see that all seven light up the area in front of the lampstand.**'" 3 Aaron did so; he set up the lamps so that they faced forward on the lampstand, just as the LORD commanded Moses.

Lamp can represent the word of God

- Psa 119:105 NIV Your word is **a lamp** for my feet, **a light** on my path.
- Pro 6:23 NIV For this command is a **lamp**, this teaching is a **light**, and **correction and instruction are the way to life**,
- Psa 119:130 NIV The unfolding of your words gives **light**; it gives understanding to the simple.

Chap 9 - The leading that came from the pillar of flame and the cloud

The leading that came from the pillar of fire and the cloud

- 15 On the day that the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony. And at evening it was over the tabernacle like the appearance of fire until morning. 16 So it was always: **the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night.** 17 And **whenever the cloud lifted** from over the tent, after that **the people of Israel set out**, and in the **place where the cloud settled down**, there **the people of Israel camped**. 18 At the command of the LORD the people of Israel set out, and at the command of the LORD they camped. **As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they remained in camp.** 19 Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle many days, the people of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not set out. 20 Sometimes the cloud was a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the LORD they remained in camp; then according to the command of the LORD they set out. 21 And sometimes the cloud remained from evening until morning. And when the cloud lifted in the morning, they set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they set out. **22 Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out, but when it lifted they set out.** 23 At the command of the LORD they camped, and at the command of the LORD they set out. They kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by Moses.

Chap 10 - the trumpets

...For breaking camp, and for setting out the camp -- When you go to war -- On feast days

The trumpet is like the voice

- Rev 1:10-11 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me **a great voice, as of a trumpet**, (11) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

HEAR what the spirit is saying to the church

- (Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 27; Rev 3:6, 22)

Leaders to raise a voice like a trumpet - TO PREPARE THE HEART

- Isaiah 58:1 "Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their rebellion and to the house of Jacob their sins."

But the word is not taken seriously

- Eze 33:4 ... then if anyone hears the trumpet but does not heed the warning and the sword comes and takes their life, their blood will be on their own head.

The leadings of the LORD are more than direction - His leadings have a greater purpose related to our relationship with Him

To see what is in your heart -- Deu 8:2-3 NIV Remember how the LORD your God LED YOU all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to **humble** and **test** you in order **to know what was in your heart**, whether or not you would **keep his commands**. 3 He **humbled** you, **causing you to hunger** and then **feeding you with manna**, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

That you might know that I am the LORD -- Deu 29:5-6 NIV Yet the LORD says, "During the forty years that I led you through the wilderness, your clothes did not wear out, nor did the sandals on your feet. 6 You ate no bread and drank no wine or other fermented drink. I did this so that you might know that I am the LORD your God."

That you may see Him as a father -- Deu 1:31 NIV and in the wilderness. There you saw how the LORD your God carried you, as a father carries his son, all the way you went until you reached this place."

So The Question is NOT - "Is God Speaking?"

In the book of Numbers the LORD spoke to Moses more than 150 times in 20 different ways

Num 1:1 NIV The LORD **spoke** to Moses in the tent of meeting in the **Desert**

- The Desert [wilderness] - SPEECH
- The LORD spoke - SUBDUE

He is seeking to subdue us - surrendered life

- He speaks with a **still small voice**
- He speaks through **the Holy Spirit** who lives in us
- He speaks through the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- He speaks through His word if we will look in it and respond to it
- He speaks through others who will lift up their voice like a trumpet

The Question is "Are We Hearing?"

Amo 8:11 NIV "The days are coming," declares the Sovereign LORD, "when I will send a famine through the land-- not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD.