

“40 Years of Wandering”

Deut. 1:1-3

Introduction

- I. How many times has mankind had to learn that if we do things the way that God wants, then we will be better for it?
- II. The ancient Israelites are a telling example of what happens when we refuse to obey God.

Discussion

- I. What happened when the Israelites refused to obey God?
 - A. Israel allowed fear to keep them from obeying God (Num. 13:17-14:3; Deut. 1:19-36).
 - B. As a result, an eleven day journey turned into forty years of wandering (Deut. 1:1-3).
 - C. How many times have we made things worse for ourselves by refusing to do things God's ways (1 Cor. 10:1-12; Prov. 14:12; 16:25; Jer. 10:23-24)?
- II. What will happen when we obey God?
 - A. There is a “way” that God wants us to go (Acts 9:2; 19:8-9, 23; 24:14).
 - B. We will be able to have a “more abundant life” (John 10:10).
 - C. Not only will things be better on Earth, but obviously we will have it better in Heaven (1 Tim. 4:6-8; Heb. 4:1-11).

Conclusion

- I. Will we emulate the mistakes of old, or will we make the choices to trust God and obey Him?
- II. Our goal is to reach “the promised land” of Heaven!