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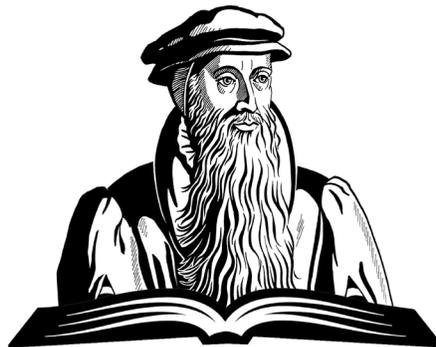
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 42:

Phinehas: Turning Away God's Wrath

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

56 LESSONS

(Additional lessons forthcoming)

Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

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|--|---|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 25. Joseph Raised out of Prison |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 30. Let My People God |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 31. Deliverance |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit but to Show
Thankfulness |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 14. Two Sons | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 42. Phinehas: Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 44. A New Generation |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 46. Samuel Judges Israel |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 47. Israel's First King |
| 24. An Eye upon God | |

48. The Kingdom Established
49. David Anointed the Next King
50. David Hunted by Saul
51. The Last Days of Saul
52. David, the Next King
53. Fetching the Ark
54. Thou Art the Man
55. David's Return to Jerusalem
56. Seven Sons of Saul Killed

Lesson 42

Phinehas: Turning Away God's Wrath

Numbers 22–31

Memory Verse

“Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.”

Numbers 25:11

Balak and Balaam

Balak was the king of the Moabites, when Israel arrived at the Jordan Valley, after forty years in the wilderness. Seeing how the Israelites had defeated the Amorites, Balak was filled with fear. Would Israel defeat his people too? Balak devised a plan to defeat the Israelites. He hired a false prophet to pronounce a curse upon Israel (Numbers 22:1–7). He believed that if he could get the false prophet to curse the Israelites in the name of their own God, then God would leave them, and he would defeat them in battle.

Balaam was the false prophet that Balak hired to curse Israel. However, Balaam received a warning from the Lord that he should not do what the king of Moab asked. Sadly, Balaam did not listen to the words of the Lord, for he desired the honor and riches that the king of Moab offered.

Joyously, the plans of men cannot ruin God's plan for his people. Although Balaam was hired to curse the Israelites, he could only pronounce a blessing. How encouraging to consider that God's plan for his people cannot be stopped. Though men and the kings of men set their hearts against the people of God, though they seek to stop the expansion of his kingdom, they cannot, for, they are weak, but he is strong.

Called to be Separate

When God calls a person, He calls a person to be separate from the world. The world sets its heart upon the riches and treasures in this life. Christians are called to set their heart upon the things above and not the things below. The Christian does not look for a city to call home here below, but looks “for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” (Hebrews 11:10). A place built by “God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens” (2 Corinthians 5:1). Sadly, despite the many blessings and admonitions, the Israelites sought to be one with

the world. Their eyes were turned from the land of Canaan—the land of promise, and appeared to find contentment in Shittim.

In Numbers 25, while dwelling in Shittim, the Israelites went after the daughters of Moab. In doing so, they departed from the God of Israel, the God that delivered them, directed them, provided for them, spared them, and admonished them. Following after the daughters of Moab, many Israelites began to offer sacrifice and prayer to the false gods. Balak’s plotting could not cause God’s wrath to be kindled against his people. Only the sins of his people could do that.

Phinehas

The sin of Israel was great. God’s anger was kindled. Trying to appease the wrath of God, the leaders of the rebellion were hung from trees. Yet God’s anger was not turned away. Many of the people mourned because of the sins being committed.

Finally, while others were mourning for the sin that was committed, one of the “children of Israel” brought a Midianitish woman “in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation” (Numbers 25:6). This man had no shame. He committed his sin before the mourning children of Israel, before the Lord’s tabernacle. That is, he took a defiant stand against God.

Phinehas, son of Eleazar, having an eye upon the righteousness of God, could not allow such blasphemy to take place. He arose and slew the man and the Midianitish woman. Phinehas’s love for the honor and glory of God turned away the wrath of God. In so doing, God gave unto Phinehas his “covenant of peace,” established with him “the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel” (Numbers 25:12–13). Do we not see in Phinehas a type of the Lord Jesus Christ, who:

- is the head of a better covenant;
- will make atonement for all his people, turning away the wrath of God by satisfying the just demands of the law;
- desires to glorify the Father;
- is a Priest forever.

Questions

Numbers 22

1. Who was king of Moab when the children of Israel camped in the plains of Moab?
 - a. Sanballat
 - b. Balak
 - c. Zippor
 - d. Eglon

2. Why did the king of Moab feared the Israelites?
- a. They looked different
 - b. They were giants in comparison to the Moabites
 - c. They were many
 - d. They were enemies of the Egyptians

3. Why did Balaam refuse to go up and curse the people of Israel? _____

4. What did Balaam's ass see, which caused the animal to resist the will of Ballam?

Numbers 23

5. Why was Balak angry with Balaam? _____

Numbers 24

6. Balaam, by the Spirit of the God, spoke a parable. In the parable he compared God's strength to that of which animal?

- a. Elephant
- b. Rhinoceros
- c. Hippopotamus
- d. Unicorn

Numbers 25

7. The name of the Moabitish god the people of Israel began to worship, while at Shittim.

- a. Baalpeor
- b. Molech
- c. Chemosh
- d. Dagon

8. Who slew the man of Israel and the Midianitish woman?

- a. Joshua
- b. Phinehas
- c. Judah
- d. Moses

Numbers 27

9. The daughters of _____ came up before Moses and Eleazer seeking a possession among the brethren of their father.
10. Who did the Lord appoint to lead the people after Moses?
- a. Eleazar
 - b. Aaron
 - c. Hur
 - d. Joshua

Discussions

1. In Numbers 23:19–24, Balaam is given the following words to speak to Balak. “God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” Discuss how these words are a comfort to the children of God and frustrating to the enemies of God. Consider the words in regard to God’s promise of salvation in Christ, by faith.

2. Phinehas delivered Israel from the plague which was upon them as a just reward for their sin. Discuss how Phinehas is a type of the Lord Jesus Christ.
