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Events on the Plains of Moab 22:1-36:13

- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The offense
 - The Midianites had been a part of the plot to hire Balaam to curse the Israelites.
 - When this failed Balaam advised the Midianites (and Moabites) to use their women to lure the Israelite men into idol worship and sexual immorality.
 - This resulted in the execution of many of the chiefs of the Israelites at God's command and a plague which killed 24,000 people.

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Events on the Plains of Moab 22:1-36:13

- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The action
 - Execute Yahweh's vengeance on the Midianites
 - Individuals are never to take vengeance on their own initiative but there are ample examples in the Old Testament of God using people to apply His vengeance.
 - This kind of vengeance can only be taken at the clear command of God.
 - One thousand warriors were chosen from each of the twelve tribes.
 - Accompanied by Phinehas the priest, the son of the High Priest. He was in charge of the silver trumpets by which signals were given.

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- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The action
 - Killed every male
 - Killed all the five kings of Midian
 - Killed Balaam
 - Took the women and children captive
 - Took as plunder, cattle, flocks
 - Brought all they had taken to Moses and Eleazar where they were camped at the plains of Moab.

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Events on the Plains of Moab 22:1-36:13

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 - The aftermath
 - Moses responded in anger that they had spared the grown women. He reminded them of the fact that they had been used to lead the Israelites into treachery at Peor.
 - Moses ordered all the male children and women who were not virgins to be killed.

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- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The aftermath
 - Purification with the water of purification (made from the red heifer) was prescribed for:
 - Anyone who had killed someone or come into contact with the dead.
 - Every article of fabric, skin or wood.
 - Whatever could endure fire had to be purified by fire also.
 - The captives.

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Events on the Plains of Moab 22:1-36:13

- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The aftermath
 - The plunder was divided
 - The plunder was to be divided into two parts. One half for the congregation. One half for the warriors who went to battle.
 - From the warriors' part one out of five hundred of the people and animals were a levy to Yahweh and given to Eleazar the priest.
 - From the congregation's part one out of fifty of the people and animals were a levy to Yahweh and given to the Levites.

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Events on the Plains of Moab 22:1-36:13

- God's judgment executed on the Midianites by the Israelites 31:1-54
 - The aftermath
 - The report of the officers
 - Not one man of the 12,000 soldiers was lost in the campaign.
 - The officers had taken as plunder, articles of gold and brought an offering of it to Yahweh.

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Lessons

- God has sovereign reign over the earth and all who are in it.
 - Psalm 24:1
- God's judgments are always right and properly applied.
 - Deuteronomy 32:39-43
 - Revelation 15:1-6
 - Revelation 16:4-7
 - Revelation 19:1-2
- As a part of the created order, mankind has no authority or right to question God's actions.
 - Psalm 33:8-9
 - Romans 9:20
 - Job 42:1-6