

Parsha Pinchas

פִּינְחָס
“Phinehas”

Numbers
25:10 - 30:1





Numbers 25:1-5

While Israel lived in Shittim, the people began to whore with the daughters of Moab. These invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel yoked himself to Baal of Peor. And the anger of YHWH was kindled against Israel. And YHWH said to Moses, “Take all the chiefs of the people and impale them in the sun before YHWH, that the fierce anger of YHWH may turn away from Israel.” And Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Each of you kill those of his men who have yoked themselves to Baal of Peor.”

Numbers 25:6-8

And behold, one of the people of Israel came and brought a Midianite woman to his family, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of the whole congregation of the people of Israel, while they were weeping in the entrance of the tent of meeting. When Phinehas the son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose and left the congregation and took a spear in his hand and went after the man of Israel . . .and pierced both of them . . .

Numbers 25:8-12

Thus the plague on the people of Israel was stopped.
Nevertheless, those who died by the plague were 24,000.

And YHWH said to Moses, “Phinehas the son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, has turned back my wrath from the people of Israel, in that he was jealous with my jealousy among them, so that I did not consume the people of Israel in my jealousy.
Therefore say,

Numbers 25:12-15

‘Behold, I give to him my covenant of peace, and it shall be to him and to his descendants after him the covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made atonement for the people of Israel.’” The name of the slain man of Israel, who was killed with the Midianite woman, was Zimri the son of Salu, chief of a father’s house belonging to the Simeonites. And the name of the Midianite woman who was killed was Cozbi the daughter of Zur, who was the tribal head of a father’s house in Midian.

Numbers 25:16-18

And YHWH spoke to Moses, saying, “Harass the Midianites and strike them down, for they have harassed you with their wiles, with which they beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of the chief of Midian, their sister, who was killed on the day of the plague on account of Peor.”

Unmitigated Disaster



Key Questions

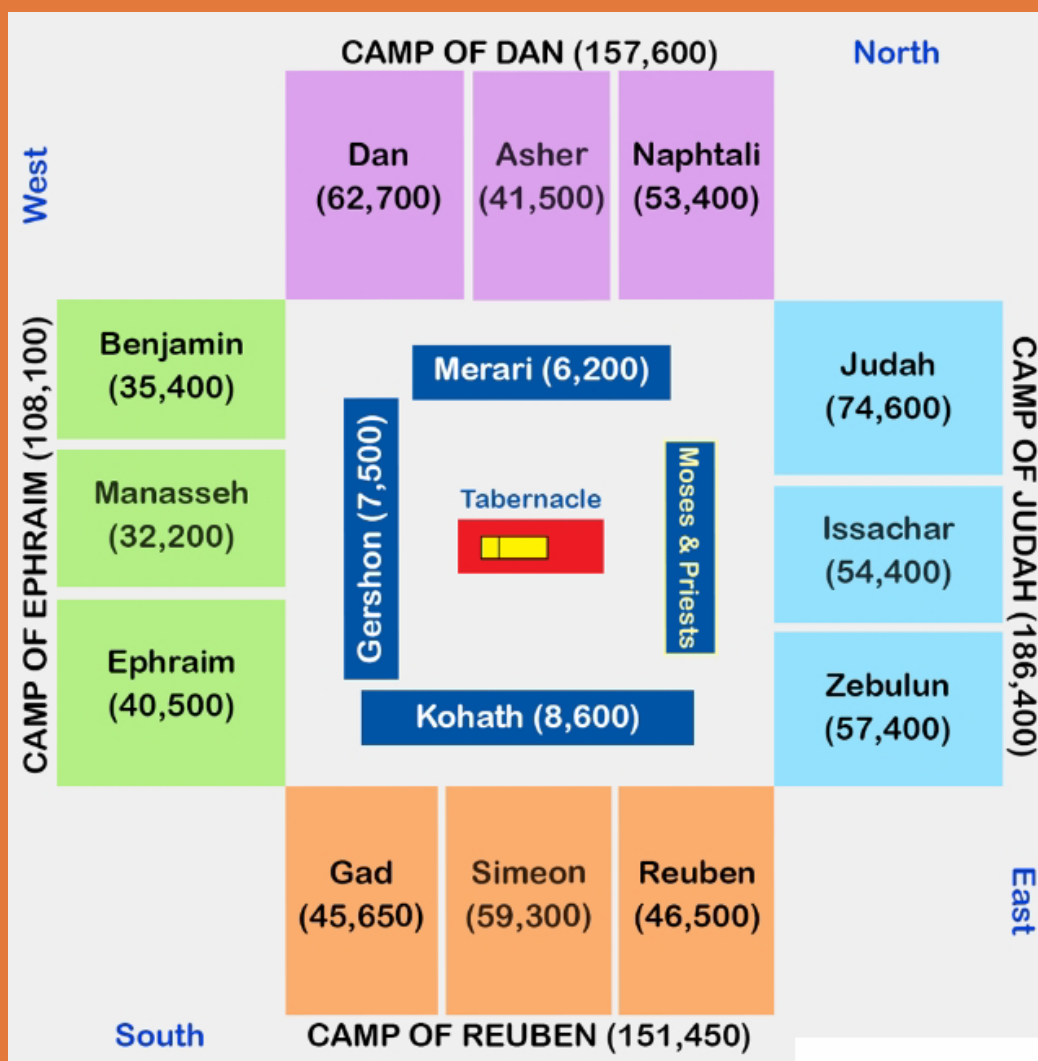
Specifically - what did Phineas do right? And what did he do wrong?

When is it right to be consumed with the Lord's zeal; to take extreme action in ways that will be questioned and criticized by forces of law and order?

How does this apply to us?

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What tidbits do we learn from Psalm 106?

Psalm 106:28-31

Then they yoked themselves to the Baal of Peor,
and ate sacrifices offered to the dead;

They provoked YHWH to anger with their deeds,
and a plague broke out among them.

Then Phinehas stood up and intervened,
and the plague was stayed.

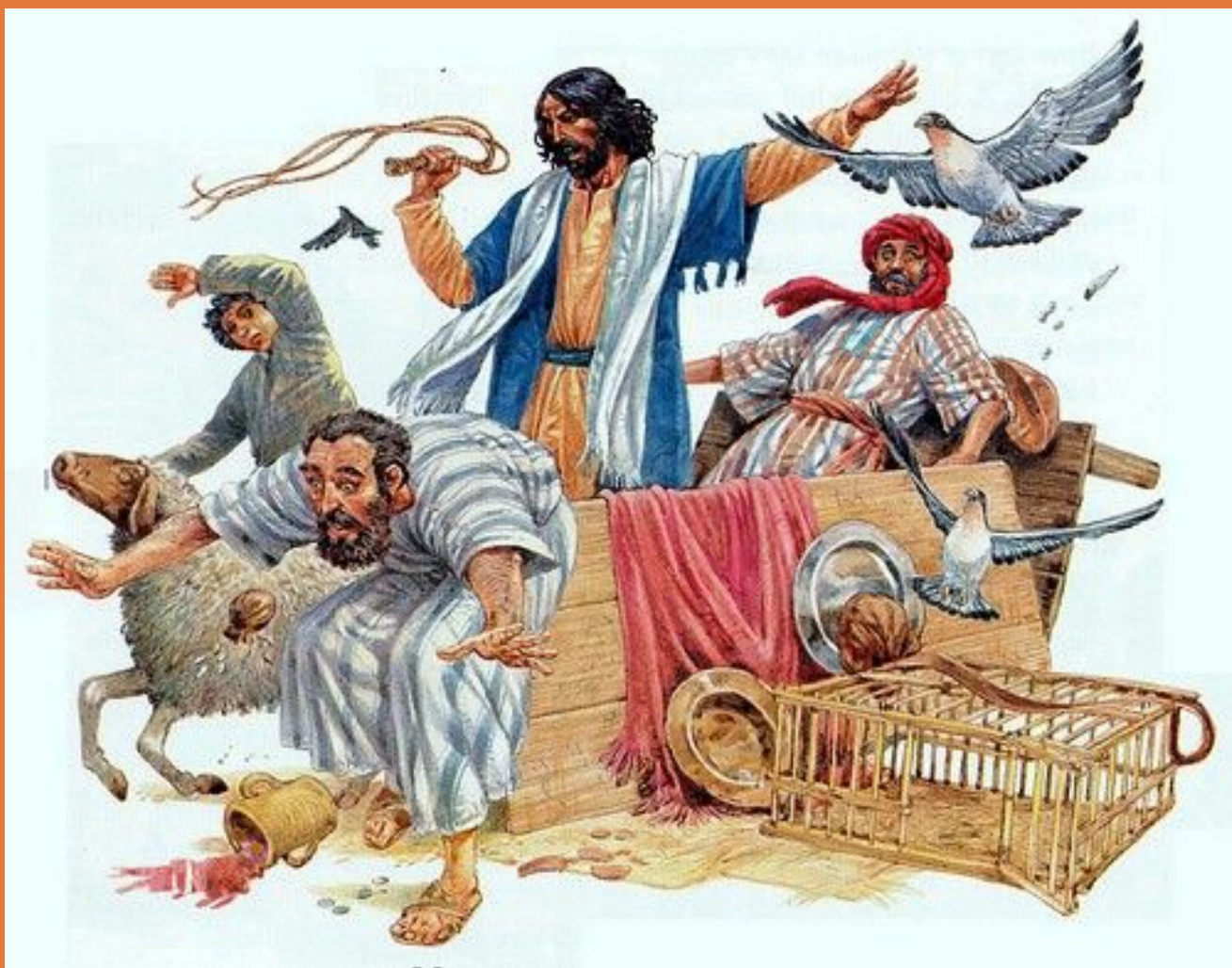
And that was counted to him as righteousness
from generation to generation forever.

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How does this apply to us?



John 2, Luke 19, Mark 11, Matt. 21

In the temple he found those who were selling and buying oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. Making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple - with the sheep and oxen - saying to them, "Isn't it written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer for all the nations?' But you have made it a den of robbers!"

John 2, Luke 19, Mark 11, Matt. 21

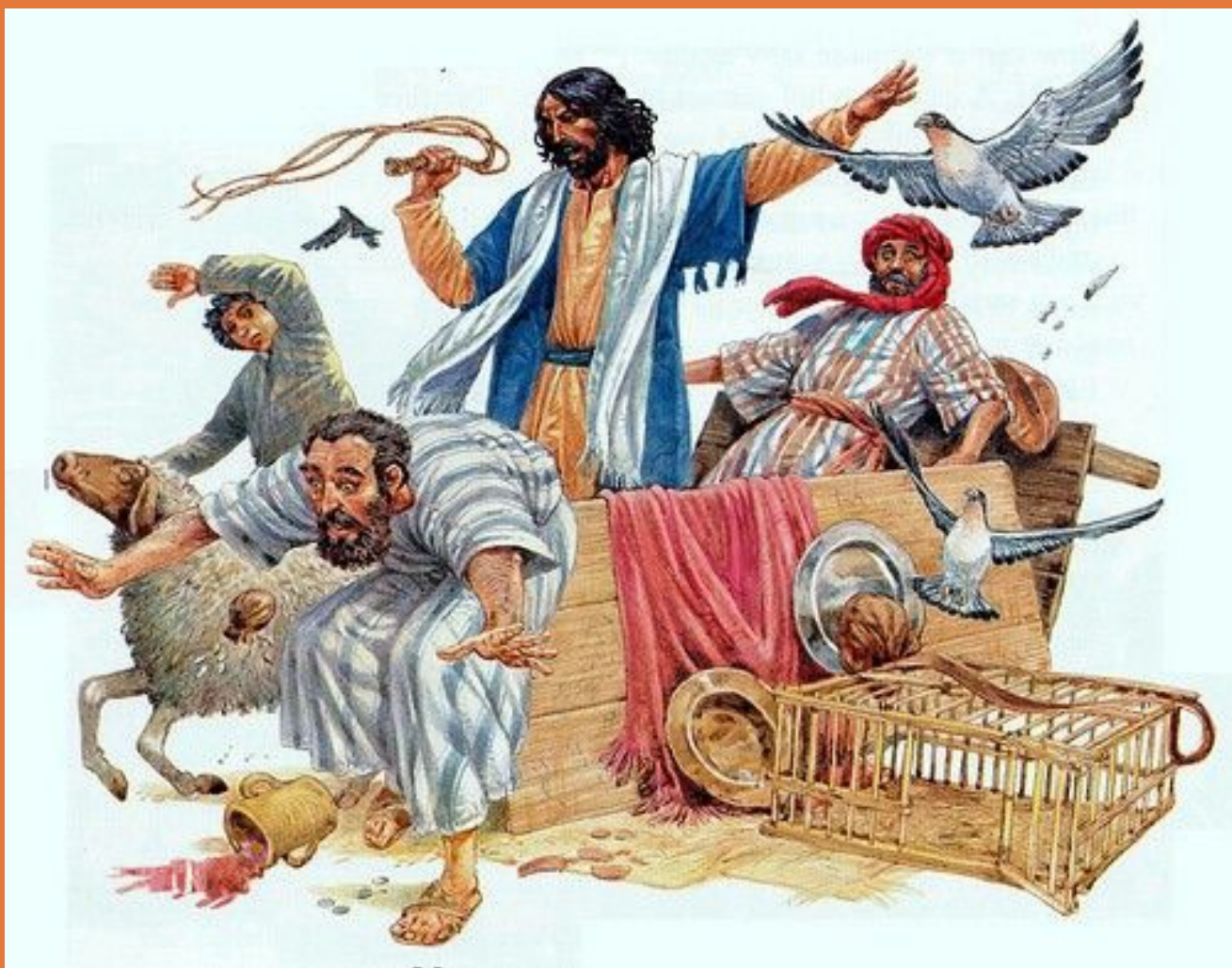
And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables; he overturned the seats of the pigeon-sellers, too. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple courts!

He kept on teaching in the temple every day: "Do not turn my Father's house into a store-front!".

John 2, Luke 19, Mark 11, Matt. 21

The blind and the lame came to him there in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant.

They, along with the principal leaders of the people heard his teaching and were seeking somehow to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching.



Isaiah 56

Thus says YHWH . . .

"Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to YHWH say,
'YHWH will surely separate me from his people!'
and let not the eunuch say, 'Behold, I am a dry tree.'"

For thus says YHWH: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant,
I will give in my house and within my walls
a monument and a name better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.

Isaiah 56

And the foreigners who join themselves to YHWH,
to minister to him, to love the name YHWH,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant —

Isaiah 56

these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my
altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

Adonai YHWH, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares:
“I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”

What about us?

Phineas – What type of person was he?

What one thing did he need in his life?

Behold, **I give to him my covenant of peace**, and it shall be to him and to his descendants after him the covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made **atonement** for the people of Israel.

Shalom and Shalem

Shalom - noun

"Completeness, soundness, welfare, peace"

Strong's 7965

Shalom and Shalem

Shalem - verb

"To make amends"

Strongs 7999

- To bring to completion
- To make safe
- To make whole or good
- To restore something lost or stolen
- To make compensation, to repay
- To make good
- To reward good or evil

Shalom and Shalem

When a man opens a pit, or when a man digs a pit and does not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, the owner of the pit shall **make amends**. He shall give money to its owner, and the dead beast shall be his. -Exodus 21:33-34

Know therefore that YHWH your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and **repays** to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will **repay** him to his face. -Deuteronomy 7:9-10

Our mission for next week

What connections does this passage have to what came before and after it?

In what specific ways do I need a "covenant of peace" from our Father?

What idols have I yoked myself to?





**Would they have
heard
and
felt
the resonance?**

