

# Moses' Great Sin

(Numbers 20:1-13)

- Introduction:
1. Moses was a great example of a faithful servant of God, and is listed in Hebrews 11 in recognition of this truth.
  2. But after nearly 40 years of service in the wilderness, Moses commits a sin that kept him from entering the promised land.
  3. This lesson is intended to examine his sin, and determine why it was so consequential.

## I. Moses' Sin

- A. The Death Of Miriam (20:1).
- B. The Complaint Of Israel (20:2-6).
- C. The Commandment Of God (20:7-8).
- D. The Sin Of Moses (20:9-13).

## II. Why This Sin Was So Consequential

- A. Disobedience.
  1. God told Moses to speak to the rock, but Moses struck it instead (20:8).
  2. God has always demanded strict obedience to His expressed will.
    - a. Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10:1-2).
- B. Anger.
  1. Moses was angry at God's people & openly expressed his anger at them.
  2. He called them a bunch of rebels (20:10).
  3. This is quite a contrast to the normal character of Moses (Num. 12:3).
  4. Our strongest areas are sometimes our most vulnerable.
    - a. Moses was meek, but lost control.
    - b. Peter was brave, but became a coward.
- C. Glorified Self.
  1. Must "WE" bring water forth (20:10).
  2. He did not hallow God (20:12).
- D. Misrepresented God To The People.
  1. Moses was angry with the people, but from (v.8), there is no indication that God is angry.
  2. You'll know it when God is angry (Numbers 16:45).

## III. Lessons We Should Learn From Moses' Sin

- A. Disobedience is not overlooked by God (Acts 17:30; Hebrews 5:9).
- B. Be careful to guard all areas of your life, even your strong areas (1 Cor. 10:12).
- C. Make sure that we give God the glory for the good we can accomplish in our lives (1 Peter 4:11; 1 Cor. 10:31).
- D. If you are going to speak for God, be sure you know what you are talking about (James 3:1).

- Conclusion:
1. Though Moses was a great man of exemplary faith, he battled with sin.
  2. We can expect no less.
  3. But hopefully, we can learn from Moses' mistake, and thus stumble less than we would have.