Numbers 14:11-23, 26-45

GOD'S GLORY REVEALED IN JUDGMENT

- 1. Moses' mediation.
- 1. God threatens to dis-inherit Israel and replace them with Moses's descendants (11,12).
- 2. Moses' mediator-heart responds immediately: God cannot reject Israel.
- 1. God's glory is at stake: Israel must be saved for God's own name's sake.
- 2. God had promised the Messiah through Judah, not through Levi (and Moses).
- 3. And Moses pleads that God show His power to save by forgiving (17-19).
- God answers (20-23) and then enlarges his answer (26-38).
- 1. He has pardoned, yet He will be glorified.
- 1. Pardon is given so the nation as a whole is preserved. God heard Moses' plea.
- 2. But God's glory will also be revealed in His severe judgment.
- 3. Surely the present generation would not see Canaan (23).
- All this reveals God's glory (the radiation of His virtues).
- 1. His glory would be seen in His terrible judgment on the ten spies.
- 2. And God's glory is seen in that He forgives the remnant, who of themselves are really not any better.
- This had an effect on the people: "mourned greatly" (39).
- 1. They now declared themselves willing to enter Canaan, admitted that they had sinned (40).
- 1. They try to reverse God's judgment, and now try to reverse it.
- 2. True repentance is evidenced in humility, in sorrow for offending God, in admitting the justness of the punishment.
- 3. Even when they are warned (41-43), they persist in their rebellion.

• Application.