

# NUMBERS 11-12

People complain; Moses intercedes (11:1-3)



# NUMBERS 11-12

People complain; Moses intercedes (11:1-3)

People and Moses complain (11:4-35)



## People and Moses complain (11:4-35)

People complain (v4-10)



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*



Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers?”

**-Numbers 11:11–12**



Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.' I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness."

**-Numbers 11:13–15**



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God's merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God's merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*

God's judgment response to the people (v18–20)



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God's merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*

God's judgment response to the people (v18–20)

*Moses' doubt and self-reliance (v21–22)*



And the LORD said to Moses, “Is the LORD’s hand shortened? Now you shall see whether my word will come true for you or not.”

**-Numbers 11:23**



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God’s merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*

God’s judgment response to the people (v18–20)

*Moses’ doubt and self-reliance (v21–22)*

*God’s merciful response to Moses enacted (v23–25)*



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God's merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*

God's judgment response to the people (v18–20)

*Moses' doubt and self-reliance (v21–22)*

*God's merciful response to Moses enacted (v23–25)*

*Redemptive moment for Moses (v26–30)*



## **People and Moses complain (11:4–35)**

People complain (v4–10)

*Moses complains (v11–15)*

*God's merciful response to Moses (v16–17)*

God's judgment response to the people (v18–20)

*Moses' doubt and self-reliance (v21–22)*

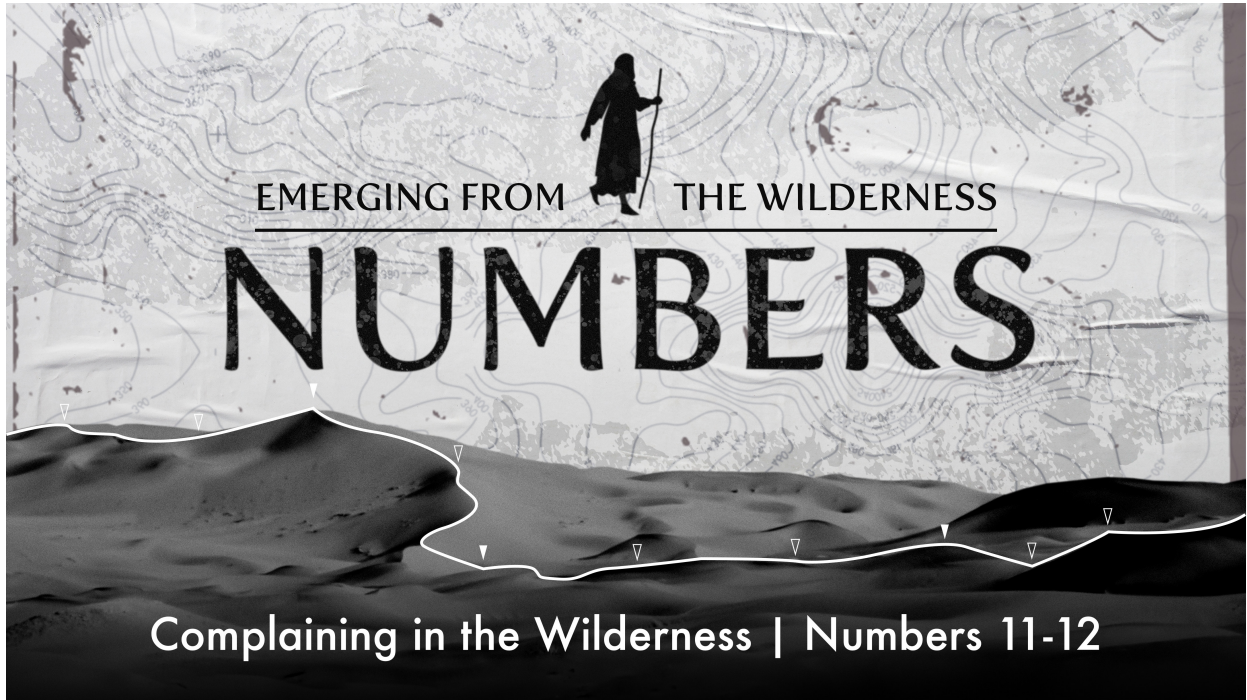
*God's merciful response to Moses enacted (v23–25)*

*Redemptive moment for Moses (v26–30)*

God's judgment response to the people enacted (v31–35)







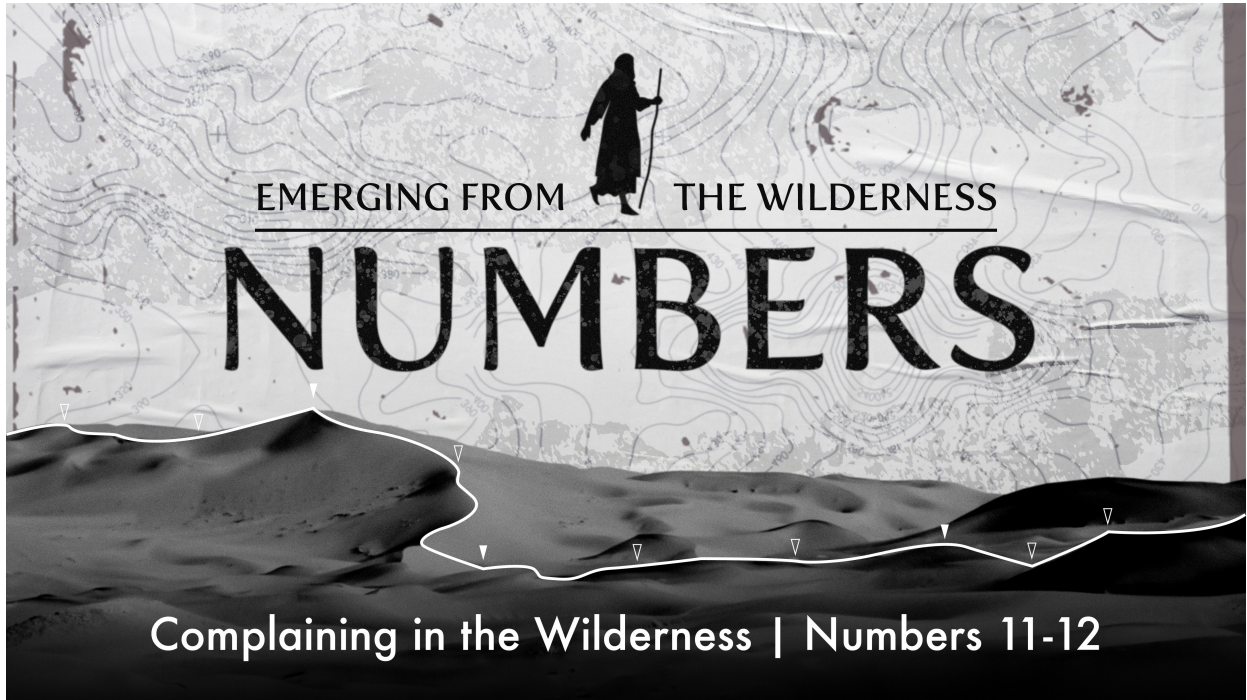
# NUMBERS 11-12

People complain; Moses intercedes (11:1-3)

People *and* Moses complain (11:4-35)

Miriam and Aaron complain (12:1-16)





And they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it.

**-Numbers 12:2**



# NUMBERS 11-12

People complain; Moses intercedes (11:1-3)

People *and* Moses complain (11:4-35)

Miriam and Aaron complain (12:1-16)



*“Aaron now very clearly needs a mediator! Though his job in a certain sense as the high priest is to mediate for Israel in the sacrificial ceremonies that are designed to illustrate the way that God freely forgives the sins of His people through the shedding of blood, now Aaron is the guilty party....*



*“And by Miriam being given the physical penalty of leprosy and Aaron being unable to intercede for her because he himself is the sinful accomplice in the thing which has brought her this physical judgment, we see illustrated why Moses is necessary as the mediator.*

-Ligon Duncan

A topographic map with contour lines and elevation markers. A silhouette of a person in a long robe holding a staff is centered over the map. Below the map is a dark, textured area representing a desert landscape with sand dunes. A white line with small downward-pointing triangles runs across the dunes.

EMERGING FROM THE WILDERNESS

# NUMBERS

Complaining in the Wilderness | Numbers 11-12

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

**-1 Corinthians 10:1–5**



Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

**-1 Corinthians 10:6–8**



We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

**-1 Corinthians 10:9–11**



# COMPLAINING IN THE WILDERNESS

- #1. The sin of complaining
- #2. The temptation of complaining
- #3. The roots of complaining
- #4. The remedy of complaining



# LAMENT

Turn to God

↳ Complain to God

↳ Ask God

↳ Trust God



**There is a massive, biblical  
and spiritual difference  
between complaining TO God  
and complaining ABOUT God**



# Complaining:

Your heart saying "God is not good;  
He has not given me what I need."



# COMPLAINING IN THE WILDERNESS

- #1. The sin of complaining
- #2. The temptation of complaining
- #3. The roots of complaining
- #4. The remedy of complaining





## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony
3. Distorted view of the past



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony
3. Distorted view of the past
4. A perceived lack



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony
3. Distorted view of the past
4. A perceived lack
5. Greedy cravings



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony
3. Distorted view of the past
4. A perceived lack
5. Greedy cravings
6. Heavy burdens



## #2 The temptation of complaining

1. Misfortunes
2. Monotony
3. Distorted view of the past
4. A perceived lack
5. Greedy cravings
6. Heavy burdens
7. Hunger for importance



**When am I most tempted to complain?**



# COMPLAINING IN THE WILDERNESS

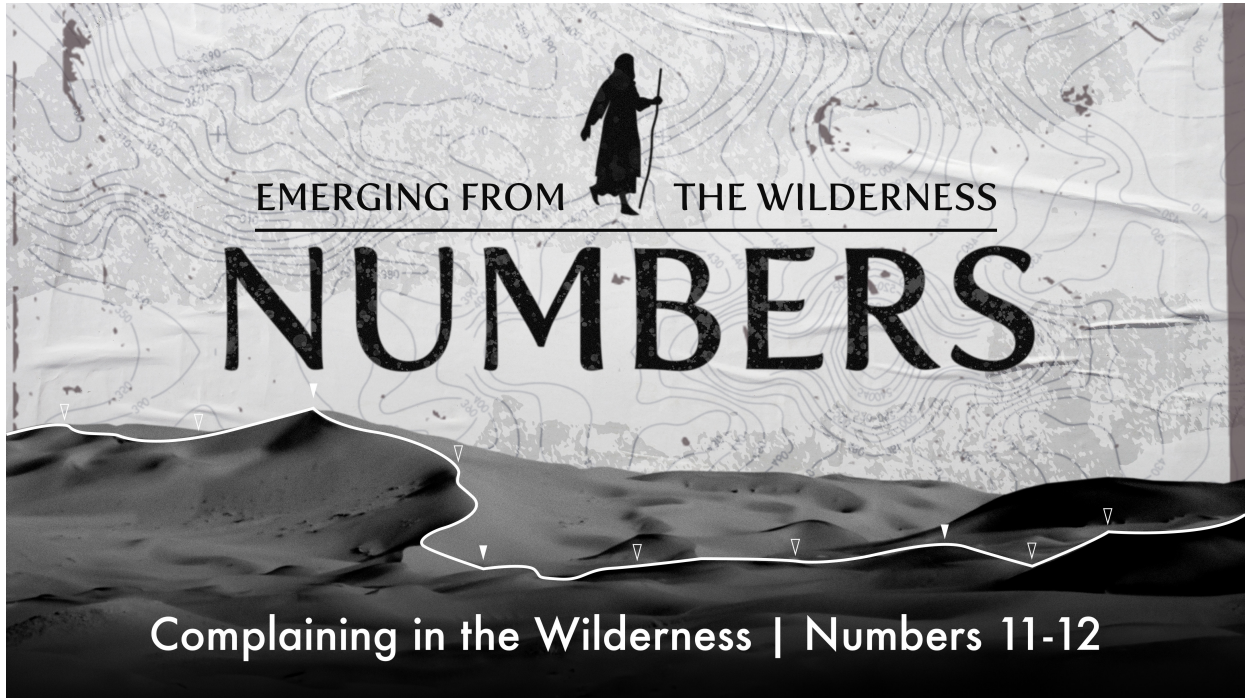
- #1. The sin of complaining
- #2. The temptation of complaining
- #3. The roots of complaining
- #4. The remedy of complaining



...because you have rejected the LORD who is among you and have wept before him, saying, "Why did we come out of Egypt?"

**-Numbers 11:20b**

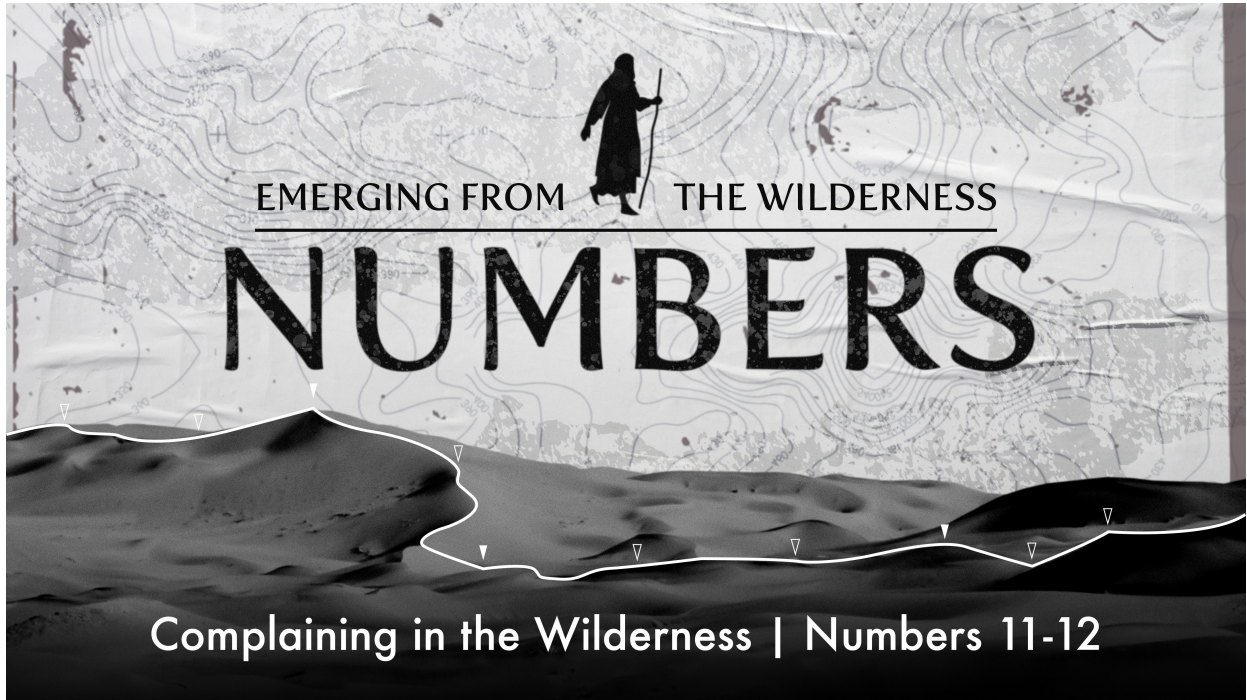




# COMPLAINING IN THE WILDERNESS

- #1. The sin of complaining
- #2. The temptation of complaining
- #3. The roots of complaining
- #4. The remedy of complaining

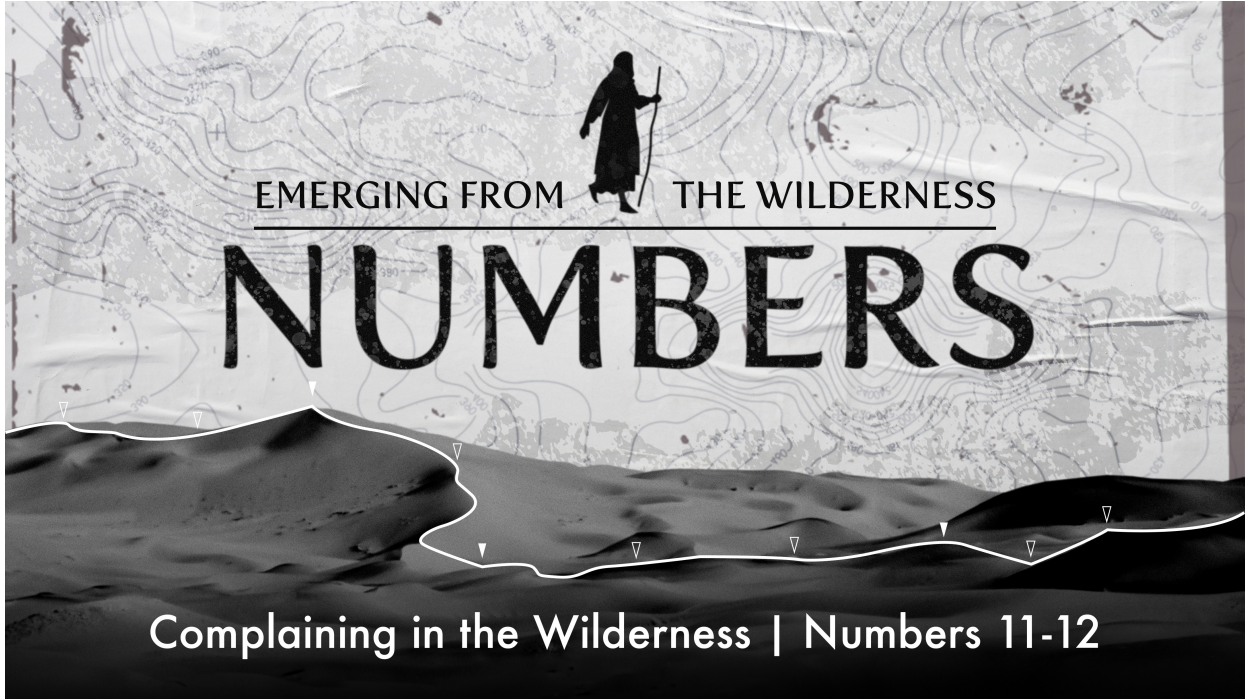




Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

**-Hebrews 7:25**





EMERGING FROM THE WILDERNESS

# NUMBERS

Complaining in the Wilderness | Numbers 11-12