Sermon Notes, March 11, 2018

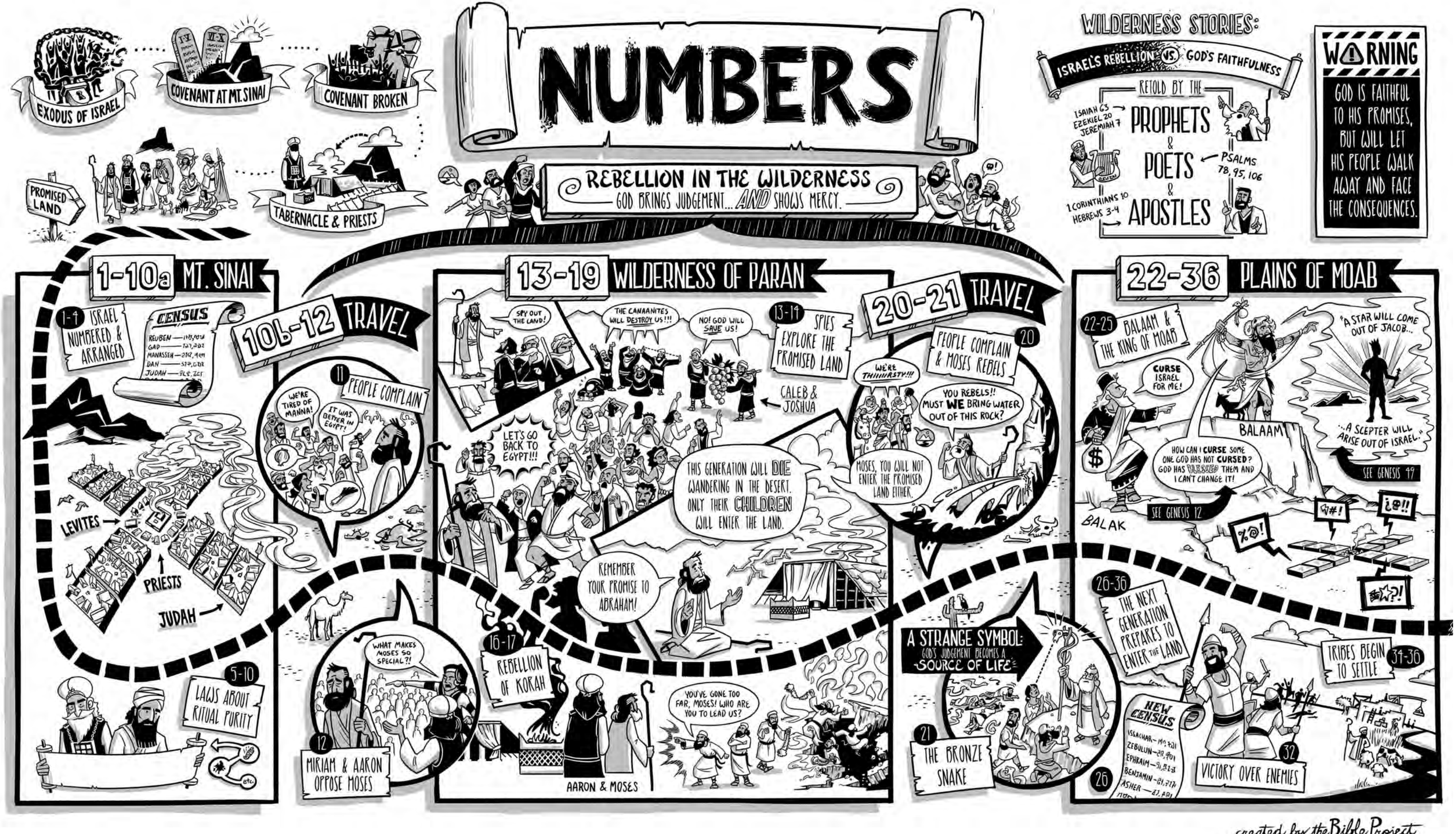
All Readings: http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearB_RCL/Lent/BLent4_RCL.html

Sermon Focus : Promise of Healing and Promise of a King — Numbers 21

Pre-Sermon or Post-**Sermon "Homework":** I highly recommend that you watch a 6 minutes video describing this poster/comic below.

Here is the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tp5MIrMZFqo

I have become enamored with the book of Numbers. This book can be summarized with two censuses and one really bad trip in between. The book starts out fine — Everybody is counted (first census) and the camping trip gets going. The trip turned out to be 40 years of awful. Toward the end of their ill-fated excursion, the Israelites cross enemy territory in Moab. Afraid of them, the Moabite King hires a freelance prophet, Balaam, to curse them. But Balaam can't curse them and ironically blesses the Israelites. He even prophesies of a King who will rule creation righteously—Balaam's words point to David and ultimately Jesus. The Book ends with the next (second census) generation entering the land. Moses finishes the book by blessing a new leader, Joshua (27), and there are instructions on how to live in the land (28-36). Numbers is a promise of judgment and restoration. This promise continues today while God is watching over our own ill-fated road trips. Pastor Todd



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