

PRAYER MEETING

25 January 2016

Text: **Numbers 20**

THE WILDERNESS JOURNEY

1. In the wilderness of Zin (Numbers 20:1)
2. Stayed in Kadesh

DEATH OF MIRIAM

1. Her death was noted (Numbers 20:1)
2. Buried at Kadesh

BRIEF REVIEW OF MIRIAM'S LIFE

1. Looked after Moses when he was put in a bulrush ark (Exodus 2:4)
2. She bravely approached the Pharaoh's daughter (Exodus 2:7)
3. Miriam was called a prophetess (Exodus 15:20)
4. She led the womenfolk in praising the Lord (Red Sea crossing) (Exodus 15:20-21)

DISSENSION OF MIRIAM AND AARON

1. Moses re-married and Ethiopian woman (Numbers 12:1)
2. Aaron and Miriam opposed Moses (Numbers 12:2)
 - a) Claim that God not only spoke through Moses (Numbers 12:2)
 - b) Subtle challenge of the leadership of Moses
 - c) Exalted her own role as a prophetess

THE CHASTENING OF MIRIAM

1. Rebuked for speaking against Moses (Numbers 12:8)
2. God's special regard for Moses

"My servant Moses" Numbers 12:7-8

- a) Moses' role distinguished from prophets
- b) God speaks to him face to face

3. Miriam was struck with leprosy (Numbers 12:10)
4. Aaron confessed foolishness and sin (Numbers 12:11)
5. Aaron pleads with Moses (Numbers 12:12)
6. Moses interceded for Miriam (Numbers 12:13)
 - a) Please heal her
 - b) O God, I pray

GOD'S CHASTISEMENT

1. She shall be shamed for 7 days (Numbers 12:14)
2. She is to be put outside the camp for 7 days (Numbers 12:15)
3. She was restored and was able to return to the community (Numbers 12:16)
4. The children of Israel waited for her return (Numbers 12:16)

DEATH OF MIRIAM

1. Death of Miriam was duly noted
2. Her ministry was not highlighted
3. But was given the rare honour of being called a prophetess