

## NUMBERS CHAPTER 32

<sup>1</sup> And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a multitude of cattle, very great. And they saw the land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead; and the place was a place for cattle. <sup>2</sup> And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad came and spoke to Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and to the princes of the congregation, saying, <sup>3</sup> "Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah, Heshbon, Elealeh, Shebam, Nebo, and Beon, <sup>4</sup> the land which the Lord has delivered up before the children of Israel, is pasture land, and your servants have cattle." <sup>5</sup> And they said, "If we have found grace in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession, and do not cause us to pass over the Jordan."

<sup>6</sup> And Moses said to the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben, "Shall your brothers go to war, and shall you sit here? <sup>7</sup> And why do you pervert the minds of the children of Israel, that they should not cross over into the land, which the Lord gives them? <sup>8</sup> Did not your fathers do thus, when I sent them from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land? <sup>9</sup> And they went up to the Valley of Eshcol, and spied the land, and turned aside the heart of the children of Israel, that they should not go into the land, which the Lord gave them. <sup>10</sup> And the Lord was very angry in that day, and swore, saying, <sup>11</sup> 'Surely these men who came up out of Egypt from twenty years old and upward, who know good and evil, shall not see the land which I swore *to give* to Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, for they have not closely followed after Me; <sup>12</sup> except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who was set apart, and Joshua the son of Nun, for they closely followed after the Lord.' <sup>13</sup> And the Lord was very angry with Israel; and for forty years He caused them to wander in the wilderness, until all the generation which did evil in the sight of the Lord was extinct. <sup>14</sup> Behold, you have risen up in the room of your fathers, a combination of sinful men, to increase yet farther the fierce wrath of the Lord against Israel. <sup>15</sup> For you will turn away from Him to desert Him yet once more in the wilderness, and you will sin against this whole congregation."

<sup>16</sup> And they came to him, and said, "We will build here folds for our cattle, and cities for our possessions; <sup>17</sup> and we will arm ourselves and go as an advanced guard before the children of Israel, until we shall have brought them into their place; and our possessions shall remain in walled cities because of the inhabitants of the land. <sup>18</sup> We will not return to our houses till the children of Israel have been distributed, each to his own inheritance. <sup>19</sup> And we will not any longer inherit with them from the other side of the Jordan and onwards, because we have our full inheritance on the side beyond the Jordan eastward."

<sup>20</sup> And Moses said to them, "If you will do according to these words, if you will arm yourselves before the Lord for battle, <sup>21</sup> and everyone of you will pass over the Jordan fully armed before the Lord, until his enemy be destroyed from before his face, <sup>22</sup> and the land shall be subdued before the Lord, then afterwards you shall return, and be guiltless before the Lord, and as regards to Israel; and this land shall be to you for a possession before the Lord. <sup>23</sup> But if you will not do so, you will sin against the Lord; and you shall know your sin, when afflictions shall come upon you. <sup>24</sup> And you shall build for yourselves cities for your little ones, and folds for your cattle; and you shall do that which proceeds out of your mouth." <sup>25</sup> And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad spoke to Moses, saying, "Your

servants will do as our Lord commands. <sup>26</sup> Our little ones, and our wives, and all our cattle shall be in the cities of Gilead. <sup>27</sup> But your servants will go over all armed and set in order before the Lord to battle, as the Lord says."

<sup>28</sup> And Moses appointed to them *for judges* Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the chiefs of the families of the tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup> And Moses said to them, "If the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad will pass over the Jordan with you, everyone armed for war before the Lord, and you shall subdue the land before you, then you shall give to them the land of Gilead for a possession. <sup>30</sup> But if they will not pass over armed with you to war before the Lord, then shall you cause to pass over their possessions and their wives and their cattle before you into the land of Canaan, and they shall inherit with you in the land of Canaan." <sup>31</sup> And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad answered, saying, "Whatsoever the Lord says to His servants, that will we do. <sup>32</sup> We will go over armed before the Lord into the land of Canaan, and you shall give us our inheritance beyond the Jordan."

<sup>33</sup> And Moses gave to them, even to the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben, and to the half tribe of Mannasseh of the sons of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, the land and its cities with its coasts, the cities of the land round about. <sup>34</sup> And the sons of Gad built Dibon, Ataroth, Aroer, <sup>35</sup> Sophar, Jazer, and they set them up, <sup>36</sup> and Nimrah, and Beth Haran, strong cities, and folds for sheep. <sup>37</sup> And the sons of Reuben built Heshbon, Elealeh, and Kirjathaim, <sup>38</sup> and Baal Meon, surrounded *with walls*, and Shibma; and they called the names of the cities which they built, after their own names. <sup>39</sup> And a son of Machir the son of Mannasseh went to Gilead, and took it, and destroyed the Amorites who dwelt in it. <sup>40</sup> And Moses gave Gilead to Machir the son of Mannasseh, and he dwelt there. <sup>41</sup> And Jair the son of Mannasseh went and took their villages, and called them the villages of Jair. <sup>42</sup> And Nobah went and took Kohath and her villages, and called them Nobah after his name.