

- g. After that takes place, the Lord tells Moses that he is going to die.
 - 1) But Moses is a great leader and he is concerned about his people.
 - 2) So he says to the Lord, "Now Lord, I have this request. You say that I am going to be gathered to my fathers. But before I die, Lord I want you to appoint someone to succeed me. I don't want you to leave Israel a sheep without a shepherd with no one to guide her."
 - 3) So the Lord told Moses, "I want you to take Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and the leaders of the people of Israel. And I want you to lay your hands on him and set him apart to be your successor. I also want you to give him a little bit of authority so that people will get used to following him."
 - 4) Moses obeys the Lord.
 - 5) This was done before Moses ever died so that they had a leader appointed before he died.
 - iii. From chapters 28-30, you have regulations given to the people of Israel.
4. War with Midian (31)
- i. The Lord tells Moses that before he dies there is another task he is to carry out.
 - ii. In 31:2, the Lord tells Moses, "Take vengeance on the Midianites for the Israelites."
 - iii. Why did the Lord tell Moses to do this, "The Midianites used their women to entice the Israelites to commit idolatry so that the judgment of God would come upon them and as a result of that 24,000 Israelites died when the Lord sent a plague upon Israel because of them committing idolatry."
 - a. The Lord had told them at that time, "I want you to kill those Midianites. Treat them as the enemy (see chapter 25)."
 - b. Now the the Lord is going to carry out what he told Moses he wanted done."
 - iv. Moses takes 1,000 men from each of the tribe (12,000 men altogether) and he sends them down into the land of Midian to fight against their five kings.
 - a. The men kill the five kings and everyone in their armies.
 - b. The 12,000 men took all the women and all the children and all the spoil and they brought all them and the spoil from the land of Midian to the plains of Moab.
 - c. When Moses saw all those women, he was really upset and he turned to the commander of those armies and said, "What are you doing bringing those women back here? Don't you realize that they were the women who deceived the Israelites and caused God's judgment to fall so that 24,000 were killed?"