

What Trumps Sin?

Numbers 16

April 19, 2020

Introduction:

Sin. What is it?

The passage before us deals with overt, egregious sin and God's **reaction** to it

Points of interest:

- Korah's rebellion/sin - arrogance; he wanted to **usurp** God's order
- The large number of people (250 prominent men) was designed to **intimidate**
- Sarcasm and irony
- The judgments of God: consumed by the earth, fire, and plague (and excommunication)
- Why does Moses fall on his face?

What does this passage teach us about God?

1. God is **faithful** to himself, his servant Moses, and his word
2. God is **holy**. Sin cannot exist in his presence. The Israelites are his people, and he will make them and keep them holy.
3. God is **just**. Justice demands a response to rebellion. In order for God to be God he must respond to the sin in the camp. But...

God's justice incorporates...

Mercy

God told everyone else to step away lest they be consumed too

Holiness

The purpose was to remind people what happened so that it wouldn't happen again; God was protecting His people

Atonement

Aaron stood between the dead (14,700) and the living and the plague stopped

What have we learned today?

Sin and rebellion are **humanity's** effort to usurp God's authority and place

God is holy and just and **deals** with sin

God destroys sin and death so that sin and death **won't** destroy humanity

God's mercy and grace are **ever present**

God's glory is manifest in his **compassionate** sovereignty and **gracious** holiness

God's grace is **greater** than all our sin.