

A COSTLY MISTAKE

Numbers 20

THE NATURE OF MOSES' MISTAKE

Changed God's plan - spoke to the people, not the rock. **Num. 20:8,10**

- a. This, God will not tolerate. **Heb. 8:5; 2 Jno. 9**
 - (1) Nadab and Abihu. **Lev. 10:1-2**
 - (2) Uzzah. **2 Sam. 6:3-7**
- b. God is just as particular today. **Rev. 22:18-19**
 - (1) "If any man speak.." **1 Pet. 4:11; Mt. 7:21**
 - (2) We must "contend earnestly for the faith." **Jude 3**

THE NATURE OF MOSES' MISTAKE

He robbed God of the glory. **Num. 20:10**

- a. Must "we" bring you forth water? Did not sanctify God. **Num. 20:12**
- b. Same mistake is frequently made today
 - (1) By refusing to wear Christ's name. **Col. 1:18; Acts 4:12**
 - (2) By leaving the church out. **Eph. 3:10, 21**
Establishing schools, church supported.
Other institutions to do benevolent work. **Eph. 4:12**
Missionary organizations to evangelize.

THE NATURE OF MOSES' MISTAKE

He rebelled against God's commandments

Num. 27:14

- a. "Ye believed me not." **Num. 20:12, 24; Deut. 3:26-27**
 - (1) We rebel when we prefer commandments of men. **Mt. 15:1-9**

THE NATURE OF MOSES' MISTAKE

He acted under heat of pressure, or passion. **Num. 20:3-5,10-11**

- a. Spoke unadvisedly with his lips. **Ps. 106:32-33**
- b. Much like saying "Raca", "thou fool." **Mt. 5:22**
- c. Smote the rock twice - unauthorized. Always dangerous.

THE NATURE OF MOSES' MISTAKE

He sinned publicly. **Num. 20:12**

- a. "In the eyes of the children of Israel."
 - (1) We are responsible for our influence. **Rom. 14:7-8; Mt. 5:13-16**
 - (2) For secret sins we must repent and pray. **Rom. 2:16**
 - (3) For public sins make public acknowledgment. **Jms. 5:16**

THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIS MISTAKE

Think of all Moses had done:

1. Delivered Israel; gave the law; was their mediator and their intercessor; their great leader.
2. He longed for Canaan. **Heb. 11:24-28**

THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIS MISTAKE

Yet, he could not enter. **Num. 20:12**

1. What a lesson for us. **Rom. 15:4; Heb. 3:16-19**
2. We should take heed. **1 Cor. 10:10-12**
3. Not all professed believers will enter heaven. **Mt. 7:21-23**

THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS MISTAKE

Not permitted to enter Canaan

Deut. 34:4-5

1. Moses was not kept out of heaven.
Mt. 17:1-5
2. But out of Canaan, a type of heaven.
3. There could not have been a more bitter disappointment.
4. How will it be with you at the judgment?
Beware of mistakes.