

## NUM. 27:15-17 -- PRAYER FOR A NEW LEADER!

12/16/2017 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

### HE LEADETH ME - Joseph Gilmore, sung by George Beverly Shea

*He leadeth me, O blessed thought! O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.*

*Refrain: He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful foll'wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.*

*Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
By waters still, o'er troubled sea, Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me. (Refrain)*

**The Biblical Setting:** Following the Balaam prophecies, in chapter 25, Israel committed harlotry in Moab, the concept which had been introduced and given to King Balak by Balaam. In chapter 27 there was the Second Census of Israel, which totaled 601,350, compared to 603,555 at the beginning of the wilderness march about 40 years earlier. The first part of chapter 27 deals with inheritance laws, introduced by the situation of the daughter of Zelophehad. In verse 12, the LORD told Moses to go up into Mount Abarim and look at the Promised Land. The whole tract of mountains was called Abarim, whereof one of the highest was called Nebo, and the top of that Pisgah. Then the LORD would gather Moses to his people

### NUMBERS 27:15-17 “Then Moses spoke to the LORD, saying:

- Moses, having requested to go into the Promised Land and see it, which was denied him; and understanding that he must soon die, and being concerned for the welfare of the people of Israel, **prays that a successor might be nominated and appointed: saying;**

### [16] "Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation,

- An acknowledgment that man, who is but flesh (compare Gen 6:3 “And the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”) is of himself helpless; and “lives and moves and has his being” in God Act 17:28. The words are suitably used here to introduce a prayer that God would not leave the congregation without a guide and leader, and in Num 16:22 “Then they fell on their faces, and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?” **Moses is interceding that the whole people should not suffer for the sin of a few and in this case, specifically for his own sin.**

### [17] who may go out before them and go in before them, who may lead them out and bring them in,

- A leader, who may lead them out, and go before them in war, command them in battle and bring them in peace, having conquered their enemies; to administer civil government among them, and be diligent in doing it. Such as Solomon prayed, 2Ch 1:10 Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?” That the people of Israel may be lead out of the wilderness, and introduced into the land of Canaan:

**[17b] that the congregation of the LORD may not be like sheep which have no shepherd."**

- That the people would not wander about, having none to guide them into proper pastures, or to protect them from beasts of prey; which is to be in a most distressed condition; see **Mat 9:36** *But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.*
- In the ultimate sense, this is fulfilled by Jesus Christ, who is the Good Shepherd, as **was prophesied in the Old Testament** (**Mic 5:2-4** *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."* [3] *Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. [4] And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth;*), and **revealed in the New Testament: Joh 10:11** *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.*
- Additionally, this is also fulfilled by the New Testament office of pastor-teacher. The Greek word for pastor is the word for shepherd.
- **Acts 20:28** *"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."*
- **1Pe 5:2** *"Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly".*
- As **1Pe 5:4** puts it, *"and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away."*
- The job of shepherds is simple: To feed (**Joh 21:15-17**), and **to lead; to lead them out and bring them in**, that is, **to give guidance and direction for the sheep to follow.**
- Jesus was also moved with compassion when He saw the people as sheep without a shepherd (**Mar 6:34**); Moses is showing the nature of Jesus by his concern.

**SUMMARY:**

- **The LORD has told Moses to go to Nebo and see the land even though he will not lead them in because of his sin at Meribah.**
- **After seeing the land, Moses will be gathered to his people.**
- **Moses responds by praying and interceding for the people, to set a man over the children of Israel to go out before them and bring them in.**
- **That the congregation of the LORD may not be like a sheep that has no shepherd!**

**Pray Today For:** Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct. Justices: John Roberts, Jr., Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch; President & V.P.: Donald & Melania Trump; Mike & Karen Pence. General James Kelly. The Cabinet and all advisors. Christopher Wray, F.B.I.

Please Note: You may see/download any of the past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to:  
[www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com)