

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FLAWED MASTERPIECE



wisdom from
ancient voices

WEEK 14



FLAWED MASTERPIECE WEEK FOURTEEN

This week, Ron Brown is preaching out of Numbers 26:8-11, focusing on the beauty of mercy and grace. God can work through pain and in ashes of rebellion and shame, bringing glory and blessing.

- What surprised you about Ron Brown's Sermon?
- Read Numbers 26:8-11 (written below). Why is this happening in the text and what does it mean?
- What verses stand out to you?



Numbers 26:8-11

"8 The son of Pallu was Eliab, 9 and the sons of Eliab were Nemuel, Dathan and Abiram. The same Dathan and Abiram were the community officials who rebelled against Moses and Aaron and were among Korah's followers when they rebelled against the Lord. 10 The earth opened its mouth and swallowed them along with Korah, whose followers died when the fire devoured the 250 men. And they served as a warning sign. 11 The line of Korah, however, did not die out."

BLESSING AND GLORY



These are the Dathan and Abiram, representatives of the congregation, who contended against Moses: Notable in the tribe of Reuben were Dathan and Abiram, who were co-leaders with Korah in the rebellion against the LORD and Moses described in Numbers 16. Perhaps one reason Dathan and Abiram resented Moses' leadership was because they were from the tribe of Israel's firstborn son (Reuben); yet Moses, descended from Levi (a younger son) was the leader of the nation.

i. And they became a sign: God's judgment of Dathan, Abiram, Korah and their followers in Numbers 16 surely was a sign, both to the generation in the wilderness and beyond.



DISCUSS WITH YOUR GROUP

- What do you think about God taking ashes of rebellion and shame and bringing glory and blessing from it? (Moses; Levi)
- Based on Ron Brown's sermon, where do you see this impacting your daily life?
- Does this story reflect the relationship between Israel and God?
- Why does this text matter or how does it relate to your life?

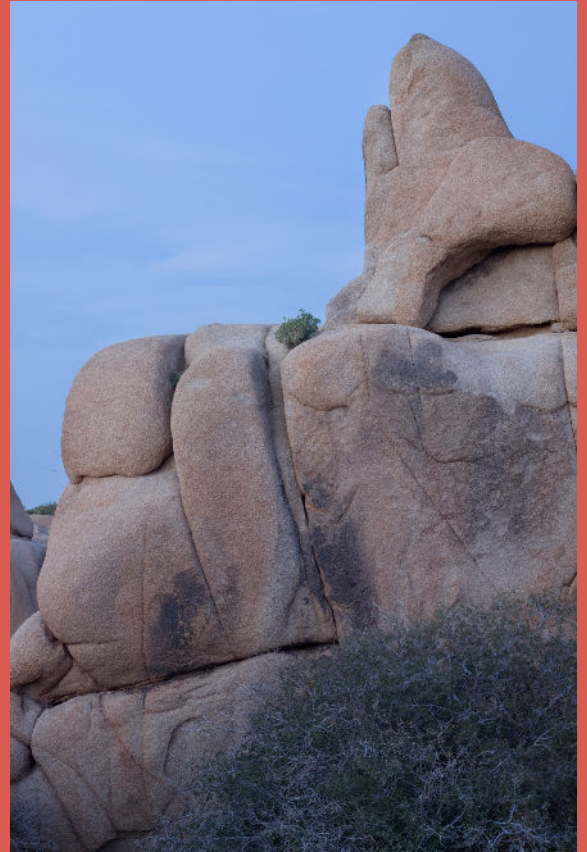
24 After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, [e] an ephah [f] of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 25 When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli. 26 and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. 27 I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. 28 So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord." And he worshiped the Lord there.



FINAL THOUGHTS

Take a final few minutes to apply this passage to your lives:

- How can you apply this passage and sermon to your life in relation to giving?
- How might God be inviting you to reconsider how you give?
- What does/would extravagant giving look like in your life?



**Here are some online commentaries
you can consider:**

Free:

biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/
blueletterbible.org/study.cfm

Paid:

accordancebible.com
logos.com