

~~our own~~ growth in grace and to help others. So much for Capital B which was The Book of Num. looks forward similarly to the Promised Land which is still ahead.

Now Capital C.

C. The Book of Num. is the principal record of Israel's wilderness journey, and the Christian is now in a wilderness journey. We noticed last time how 1 Pet. Dearly beloved 2.11 says, /I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. We are in a pilgrimage journey on our way from the time when we were under the dominion of sin, on our way to the promised land which we shall not attain in this life, but we are on this journey and we must become entangled ⁱⁿ with the affairs of this world too much because are moving forward and we must be ready to leave them behind when necessary.

I have had the experience in my life at various times ^{of} ~~with~~ being connected with groups of people whom I love and having wonderful fellowship with them and accomplishing much for the work of Christ in them, and the time has come when it ^{has been} ~~is~~ necessary for me to move in a direction that some of them could not understand. And I have had people of whom I thought very highly who have reviled me and criticized me ^{for} ~~with~~ having broken with some human organization, some human institution, having left some human thing which God might have wonderfully used at one time, but God wants us all to remember that we are strangers and pilgrims in the ^{earth} ~~earth~~ and not to get too tied to any particular human thing. Jesus said, If a man hate not father or mother he is not worthy of me. Of course he did not mean to ~~has~~ hate your father and mother; We are commanded to love our parents. but we are not to become ^{so} /tied even to the finest of human associations that they will they will prevent us from keeping our eyes strictly on the Lord and putting Him first in all things. Now Roman Numeral Three.

III The Situation at the Beginning of the Book of Numbers.

The Book of Num. is not the complete picture of Israel's wilderness journey. The book is very properly titled in ^{the} Heb. "in the wilderness." It is primarily a record of Israel's wilderness journey. but that does not mean that it is the whole