Sermon Discussion Questions: Numbers 31-

September 2nd, 2018

1. What in the sermon encouraged you, comforted you, challenged you, or informed you?

2. What are the distinct characteristics of a Holy War and why should we be hesitant to identify modern wars as Holy Wars?

3. How does this Holy War point to God's judgment, atonement and peace for the Israelites and ultimately through Christ?

4. Unfortunately, there have been Christian movements that have used Old Testament Holy Wars as a pattern for Christian advancement of the Gospel. They used violence to respond to those who did not receive the message. Read Matthew 26:47-56. Looking at Jesus' interaction with Peter, why does He call Peter to put away his sword and discourage us from the use of physical force? What did Jesus do with all of his power in response to His enemies?

5. In Ephesians 6, Paul clarifies that the Christian life is lived in a cosmic battle between God's kingdom and Satan's authorities. Ephesians 6:12 says, "**12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." This reminds us that we do not fight with weapons, but with the proclamation of the Gospel to enemies of God. Read through Ephesians 6:13-20. In what ways do all of these "tools for warfare" point to the Gospel and direct us in our call to minister to others?