

**A Memorial of Faith for Faith**

1. **Scripture Lesson**

Numbers 31:1-4, 48-54 (ESV)

**1**The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2“Avenge the people of Israel on the Midianites. Afterward you shall be gathered to your people.” 3So Moses spoke to the people, saying, “Arm men from among you for the war, that they may go against Midian to execute the Lord's vengeance on Midian. 4You shall send a thousand from each of the tribes of Israel to the war”…48Then the officers who were over the thousands of the army, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, came near to Moses 49and said to Moses, “Your servants have counted the men of war who are under our command, and there is not a man missing from us. 50And we have brought the Lord's offering, what each man found, articles of gold, armlets and bracelets, signet rings, earrings, and beads, to make atonement for ourselves before the Lord.” 51And Moses and Eleazar the priest received from them the gold, all crafted articles. 52And all the gold of the contribution that they presented to the Lord, from the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, was 16,750 shekels. 53(The men in the army had each taken plunder for himself.) 54And Moses and Eleazar the priest received the gold from the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and brought it into the tent of meeting, as a memorial for the people of Israel before the Lord.

1. **Introduction**

“Memorials exist at the intersection of memory and history and bond us to our past.”

 - Robert P. Watson

1. **Big Idea**

The cross and empty tomb are God's memorial of provision and protection in Jesus Christ to move the Church towards radical faith and benevolence in life.

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1. **Perspective – God’s war on sin**

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2“Avenge the people of Israel on the Midianites. Afterward you shall be gathered to your people.” 3So Moses spoke to the people, saying, “Arm men from among you for the war, that they may go against Midian to execute the Lord's vengeance on Midian. 4You shall send a thousand from each of the tribes of Israel to the war”…

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1. **Provision and Protection – God’s grace in Jesus Christ**

48Then the officers who were over the thousands of the army, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, came near to Moses 49and said to Moses, “Your servants have counted the men of war who are under our command, and there is not a man missing from us.

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1. **Purpose – Our response**

52And all the gold of the contribution that they presented to the Lord, from the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, was 16,750 shekels

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1. **Conclusion**

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