

Lesser-known Heroes of the Bible ***Phinehas***

He intervenes to stop a terrible plague. Num. 25:1-15

Moabites and Midianites try to stop Israel's advance, see 22:1-7. Balaam fails to curse Israel, but he offers advice, 31:16, 25:18. Phinehas' jealous anger reflects God's, and his action halts the plague (cf. 16:41-50). See also Ps. 106:28-31, Hos. 9:10.

How is Phinehas' response here a model for us today?

He helps prevent a potential civil war. Josh. 22:10ff.

Phinehas leads a team that defuses a tense moment and prevents a war. How is this a guide for us?

He offers advice to help end a civil war. Jdgs. 20:26-28

Phinehas inquires of God for guidance about an ongoing civil war, which results in a victory against the Benjamites. Where should we turn when we are in a mess?



Phinehas shows up in three very tense situations where either a terrible sin has already occurred or a possible sinful action may have occurred. In each case his presence helps to resolve the tension and restore peace.