

**(5) God expressed His anger by judging them and causing them to die in the wilderness, rather than allowing them to enter the Promised Land (verses 11 and 17-19).**

**I would like to suggest that all of these actions on the part of the Israelites were related to unbelief, as we read in verse 19 – "So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief."**

**But now you may be thinking, "How did the actions of the Israelites in the wilderness relate to unbelief? Let me explain.**

**(1) They were deceived by the lure of sin. They chose to believe that sin is better than righteousness, when the truth of the matter is that righteousness is always better than sin – better in itself, and better in what it produces.**

**(2) They hardened themselves against God's revealed will. They chose to believe that doing what they wanted to do was better than what God wanted them to do, even though the truth is that God's will is always best – best for God's glory and best for our highest well-being.**