<u>Third</u>, they wanted a God who would allow them to <u>explore their sexual</u> <u>potential</u> to a greater degree than was possible within the <u>limits</u> set by the Mosaic codification of the Law of God.

Even though God had commanded their married men to be sexually faithful to their wives, and their single men to abstain from fornication and to find wives among the daughters of Israel, they were restless with these restrictions, and wanted to break out of them and explore a greater range of sexual experiences. After all, <u>God</u> had created them with sexual potential, and they merely wanted to realize that potential more fully!

So when the daughters of Moab were sent out to entice the Israelite men, the men became easy marks!

But what about the problem of being drawn into pagan sacrifices to Baal by the Moabite women? Well, no doubt the Israelite men thought that pagan sacrifice was a necessary evil that had to be accommodated if they were going to realize their sexual potential! (You know, if you <u>want</u> something badly enough, you can justify almost <u>anything</u> to get it!)

<u>Fourth</u>, they wanted a God who would <u>relieve</u> them of the <u>hardships and the</u> <u>tedium</u> of their wilderness wanderings, and would make their road to the Promised Land an easy, comfortable, and speedy one.

They were discouraged because of the difficulty and roundabout route of the journey, the hostilities they met with in passing through the territories of nations