

FINAL STUDY NOTES – Numbers Chapters 1 – 3

10/12-13/26

ROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,87858644763# US (Houston)

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US

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Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbUX7eWEpN>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: **2 Chronicles Chapter 35 – Josiah** Keeps the Passover; Josiah Dies in Battle; **Amon's** Reign and Death. **Chapter 36 –** The Reign and Captivity of **Jehoahaz**; The Reign and Captivity of **Jehoiakim**; The Reign and Captivity of **Jehoiachin**; **Zedekiah** Reigns in Judah; The Fall of Jerusalem; The Proclamation of Cyrus.

THIS WEEK: Numbers Chapter 1 – The First Census of Israel – (vs 1-54). **Chapter 2 –** The Tribes and Leaders by Armies - (vs.1-34). **Chapter 3 –** The Sons of Aaron – (vs. 1-4); The Levites Serve in the Tabernacle – (vs.5-13); Census of the Levites Commanded – (vs. 14-39); Levites Dedicated Instead of the Firstborn – (vs. 40-51).

Numbers is the book of wanderings. It takes its name from the two numbering of the Israelites – the first at Mount Sinai and the second on the plains of the wilderness. The lesson of Numbers is clear. While it may be necessary to pass through wilderness experiences, one does not have to live there. For Israel, an eleven-day journey became a forty-year agony.

The title of Numbers comes from the first word in the Hebrew text, “Wayyedabber. “and He said.” Jewish writings, however, usually refer to it by the fifth Hebrew word in 1;1. *Bemidbar*, “In the Wilderness.”

Which more nearly indicates the content of the book. The Greek title in the Septuagint is *Arithmoi*, “Numbers” The Latin Vulgate followed this title and translated it *Liber Numeri*, “Book of Numbers.”

These titles are based on the two numberings; the generation of Exodus (*Num. 1*) and the generation that grew up in the wilderness and conquered Canaan (*Num. 26*). Numbers has also been called the “Book of the Journeys,” the “Book of the Murmurings,” and the “Fourth Book of Moses.”

Chapter 1 - A Census of Israel's Warriors –

[1] Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying:

- We see the Book of Leviticus tucked in this one month from (*Exo 40:17*) *And it came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was raised up. Numbers will cover a period of about 38 years.*

[2] "Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' houses, according to the number of names, every male individually, [3] from twenty years old and above—all who are able to go to war in Israel. You and Aaron shall number them by their armies. [4] And with you there shall be a man from every tribe, each one the head of his father's house.

- Moses wanted to number every male person of the children of Israel twenty years old and above for the purpose of establishing an army. They are going to Canaan where they are not only going to possess the land, but to dispossess other people out of the land. He establishes an army, putting together some structure and discipline among the men that will really serve them well when they go in to conquer the land.

[5] "These are the names of the men who shall stand with you: from Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur; [6] from Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai;

[7] from Judah, Nahshon the son of Amminadab; [8] from Issachar, Nethanel the son of Zuar;

[9] from Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon;

[10] from the sons of Joseph: from Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud; from Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur;

[11] from Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni; [12] from Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai;

[13] from Asher, Pagiel the son of Ocran; [14] from Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel;

[15] from Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan." [16] These were chosen from the congregation, leaders of their fathers' tribes, heads of the divisions in Israel.

[17] Then Moses and Aaron took these men who had been mentioned by name, [18] and they assembled all the congregation together on the first day of the second month; and they recited their ancestry by families, by their fathers' houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, each one individually. [19] As the LORD commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the Wilderness of Sinai. (Just think of the detail here in having hundreds of thousands of names recited!)

[20] Now the children of Reuben, Israel's oldest son, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, every male individually, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [21] those who were numbered of the tribe of Reuben were 46,500.

[22] From the children of Simeon, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, of those who were numbered, according to the number of names, every male individually, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war:

[23] those who were numbered of the tribe of Simeon were 59,300. (2nd census; 22,200, the largest decrease of any tribe!)

[24] From the children of Gad, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [25] those who were numbered of the tribe of Gad were 45,650. [26] From the children of Judah, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [27] those who were numbered of the tribe of Judah were 74,600. (largest tribe!)

[28] From the children of Issachar, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [29] those who were numbered of the tribe of Issachar were 54,400. [30] From the children of Zebulun, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of

names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [31] those who were numbered of the tribe of Zebulun were 57,400.

[32] From the sons of Joseph, the children of Ephraim, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [33] those who were numbered of the tribe of Ephraim were 40,500. [34] From the children of Manasseh, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [35] those who were numbered of the tribe of Manasseh were 32,200 (smallest tribe!) [36] From the children of Benjamin, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [37] those who were numbered of the tribe of Benjamin were 35,400. (2nd census, 45,600; an increase of

Two Census of Israel (Numbers chapters 1 & 26)

Tribe	1st census Num ch 2	2nd census Num ch 26	Increase/dec. Change	
Reuben	46,500	43,730	-2,770	
Simeon	59,300	<u>22,200</u>	-37,100	biggest loss
Gad	45,650	40,500	-5,150	
Judah	<u>74,600</u>	<u>76,500</u>	1,900	
Issachar	54,400	64,300	9,900	
Zebulun	57,400	60,500	3,100	
Ephraim	40,500	32,500	-8,000	
Manasseh	<u>32,200</u>	52,700	20,500	biggest gain
Benjamin	35,400	45,600	10,200	
Dan	62,700	64,400	1,700	
Asher	41,500	53,400	11,900	
Naphtali	53,400	45,400	-8,000	
	603,550	601,730	-1,820	-0.3%

10,200, the largest increase of any tribe.) [38] From the children of Dan, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [39] those who were numbered of the tribe of Dan were 62,700. [40] From the children of Asher, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [41] those who were numbered of the tribe of Asher were 41,500. [42] From the children of Naphtali, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war: [43] those who were numbered of the tribe of Naphtali were 53,400.

[44] These are the ones who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, with the leaders of Israel, twelve men, each one representing his father's house. [45] So all who were numbered of the children of Israel, by their fathers' houses, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war in Israel— [46] all who were numbered were 603,055.

- In (Num 26:51) the second census, the number was 601,750, a decrease of 1,805 men – basically a zero-population growth. This would result in an overall estimate of 2-3 million people! Think what it would be like to have this many walking from Los Angeles to the Colorado River, living off the desert!
- Imagine all the logistics! Unless the Lord was with them, providing the manna and the water, they would surely have perished! They were learning in this period to trust in God for their survival.
- **How wonderful it is when we are consciously depending upon God for our survival. How consciously and continually is my dependency upon God being demonstrated in my life?**

Levites Exempted – No soldiers, they would not fight; Appointed by the LORD over the tabernacle.

[47] But the Levites were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe; [48] for the LORD had spoken to Moses, saying: [49] "Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor take a census of them among the children of Israel; [50] but you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony, over all its furnishings, and over all things that belong to it; they shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; they shall attend to it and camp around the tabernacle. [51] And when the tabernacle is to go forward, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall set it up. The outsider who comes near shall be put to death. [52] The children of Israel shall pitch their tents, everyone by his own camp, everyone by his own standard, according to their armies; [53] but the Levites

shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the children of Israel; and the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the Testimony." [54] Thus the children of Israel did; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so they did.

Chapter 2 – The Tribes and Leaders by Armies; Cross-like Arrangement of the Camp

[1] And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: [2] "Every one of the children of Israel shall camp by his own standard (banner), beside the emblems of his father's house; they shall camp some distance from the tabernacle of meeting.

- **Everyone shall stand...by his own standard, or banner. (Exo 17:15) And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-Is-My-Banner; How closely and how steadfastly am I standing to my LORD? Is He truly my Banner?**

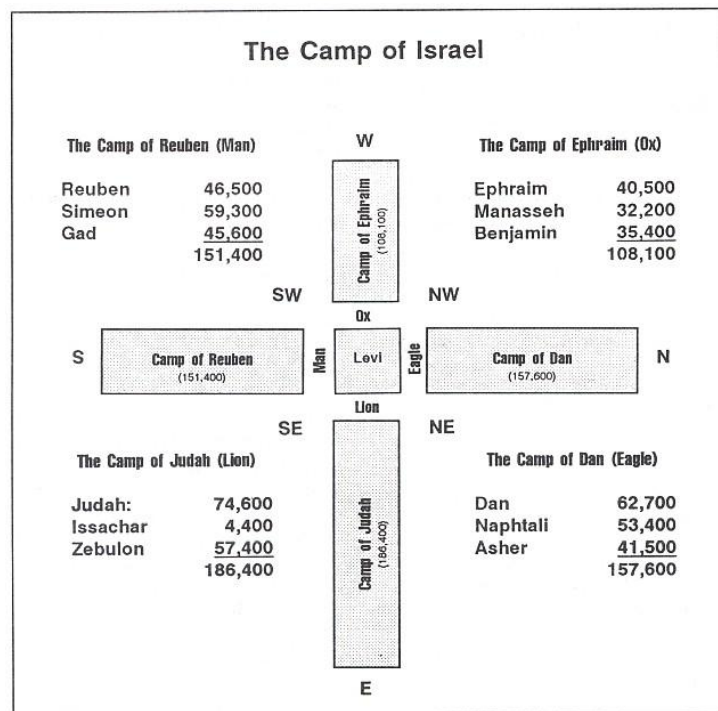
[3] On the east side, toward the rising of the sun, those of the standard of the forces with Judah shall camp according to their armies; and Nahshon the son of Amminadab shall be the leader of the children of Judah." [4] And his army was numbered at seventy-four thousand six hundred. [5] "Those who camp next to him shall be the tribe of Issachar, and Nethanel the son of Zuar shall be the leader of the children of Issachar." [6] And his army was numbered at fifty-four thousand four hundred. [7] "Then comes the tribe of Zebulun, and Eliab the son of Helon shall be the leader of the children of Zebulun." [8] And his army was numbered at fifty-seven thousand four hundred. [9] "All who were numbered according to their armies of the forces with Judah, one hundred and eighty-six thousand four hundred—these shall break camp first.

- (Num 10:34-35) And the cloud of the LORD was above them by day when they went out from the camp. [35] So it was, whenever the ark set out, that Moses said: "Rise up, O LORD! Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You." [36] And when it rested, he said: "Return, O LORD, To the many thousands of Israel."

[10] "On the south side shall be the standard of the forces with Reuben according to their armies, and the leader of the children of Reuben shall be Elizur the son of Shedeur." [11] And his army was numbered at forty-six thousand five hundred. [12] "Those who camp next to him shall be the tribe of Simeon, and the leader of the children of Simeon shall be Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai." [13] And his army was numbered at fifty-nine thousand three hundred. [14] "Then comes the tribe of Gad, and the leader of the children of Gad shall be Eliasaph the son of Reuel." [15] And his army was numbered at forty-five thousand six hundred and fifty. [16] "All who were numbered according to their armies of the forces with Reuben, one hundred and fifty-one thousand four hundred and fifty—they shall be the second to break camp. [17] "And the tabernacle of meeting shall move out with the camp of the Levites in the middle of the camps; as they camp, so they shall move out, everyone in his place, by their standards.

[18] "On the west side shall be the standard of the forces with Ephraim according to their armies, and the leader of the children of Ephraim shall be Elishama the son of Ammihud." [19] And his army was numbered at forty thousand five hundred. [20] "Next to him comes the tribe of Manasseh, and the leader of the children of Manasseh shall be Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur." [21] And his army was numbered at thirty-two thousand two hundred. [22] "Then comes the tribe of Benjamin, and the leader of the children of Benjamin shall be Abidan the son of Gideoni." [23] And his army was numbered at thirty-five thousand four hundred. [24] "All who were numbered according to their armies of the forces with Ephraim, one hundred and eight thousand one hundred—they shall be the third to break camp. [25] "The standard of the forces with Dan shall be on the north side according to their armies, and the leader of the children of Dan shall be Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai." [26] And his army was numbered at sixty-two thousand seven hundred. [27] "Those who camp next to him shall be the tribe of Asher, and the leader of the children of Asher shall be Pagiel the son of Ocran." [28] And his army was numbered at forty-one thousand five hundred. [29] "Then comes the tribe of Naphtali, and the leader of the children of Naphtali shall be Ahira the son of Enan." [30] And his army was numbered at fifty-three thousand four hundred. [31] "All who were numbered of the forces with Dan, one hundred and fifty-seven thousand six hundred—they shall break camp last, with their standards."

- God could have taken and mixed these tribes up any way He wanted to. It would have been very easy for Him to mix these numbers so that when you looked down on that a camp of the children of Israel, you would have seen four equal groups of people, but He does not do that. It would still be the shape of a cross, but not of a Roman cross for crucifixion. He numbers them deliberately is that you would see the very shape of the cross that Jesus was going to come into the world and be crucified on in order to bring us into the true land flowing eternally with milk and honey!
- **The cross and the things of Christ are in the Bible from end to end! It is beautiful. Jesus said to the religious leaders, (Joh 5:39) You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. How true that is! Indeed we see the cross throughout the Bible What a great picture of His love for us here!**



[32] These are the ones who were numbered of the children of Israel by their fathers' houses. All who were numbered according to their armies of the forces were six hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty.

[33] But the Levites were not numbered among the children of Israel, just as the LORD commanded Moses. [34] Thus the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses; so they camped by their standards and so they broke camp, each one by his family, according to their fathers' houses.

Chapter 3 - The Sons of Aaron

[1] Now these are the records of Aaron and Moses when the LORD spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai. [2] And these are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab, the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. [3] These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the anointed priests, whom he consecrated to minister as priests. In chapters 3 and 4, the LORD is going to give detailed instructions as it relates to the Levites.

- He begins with Moses and Aaron. They were both from the tribe of Levi. He is speaking first about the priests. All the priests of the children of Israel were descendants of Aaron who was the first high priest in the nation of Israel. The Levites are going to be given to Aaron the high priest to help him do the considerable work that the priests were called to.
- The sons of Aaron are listed here. He has four sons, and the priesthood is going to come through those sons. [4] Nadab and Abihu had died before the LORD when they offered profane fire before the LORD in the Wilderness of Sinai
- (Lev 10:1-2) Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. [2] So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD; and they had no children. So Eleazar and Ithamar ministered as priests in the presence of Aaron their father.

The Levites Serve in the Tabernacle - [5] And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [6] "Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may serve him.

- **Bring Near.** The position of a servant, as standing before his master to receive his commands.

[7] And they shall attend to his needs and the needs of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of meeting, to do the work of the tabernacle. [8] Also they shall attend to all the furnishings of the tabernacle of meeting, and to the needs of the children of Israel, to do the work of the tabernacle.

- They were to keep the vessels of the tabernacle, and to attend to all that was binding upon the children of Israel in relationship to them. They were to take the oversight of the furniture, to keep it safe and clean.

[9] And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are given entirely to him from among the children of Israel. [10] So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall attend to their priesthood; but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death."

- Aaron and his sons were to be appointed by Moses to take charge of the priesthood; as no stranger, no one who was not a son of Aaron, could approach the sanctuary without being put to death. (Lev 22:10).

[11] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [12] "Now behold, I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine (Exo chapter 13), [13] because all the firstborn are Mine. On the day that I struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the LORD."

- He still asks every family to give Him not only our possessions but to give Him the members of our family. Have you dedicated your own to the LORD? Have you turned them over to Him? It is a wonderful thing to be able to dedicate your own to Him.
- The firstborn belongs to the LORD. That doesn't mean that he must go into the ministry, but he was to be redeemed to show that he belonged to God. In Israel, instead of taking the firstborn from each tribe, God had them numbered; and He took the whole tribe of Levi.

Census of the Levites Commanded - *[14] Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, saying: [15] "Number the children of Levi by their fathers' houses, by their families; you shall number every male from a month old and above." [16] So Moses numbered them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded. [17] These were the sons of Levi by their names: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. [18] And these are the names of the sons of Gershon by their families: Libni and Shimei. [19] And the sons of Kohath by their families: Amram (Moses and Aaron's father), Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.*

[20] And the sons of Merari by their families: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites by their fathers' houses. [21] From Gershon came the family of the Libnites and the family of the Shimites; these were the families of the Gershonites. [22] Those who were numbered, according to the number of all the males from a month old and above—of those who were numbered there were seven thousand five hundred. [23] The families of the Gershonites were to camp behind the tabernacle westward. [24] And the leader of the father's house of the Gershonites was Eliasaph the son of Lael. [25] The duties of the children of Gershon in the tabernacle of meeting included the tabernacle, the tent with its covering, the screen for the door of the tabernacle of meeting, [26] the screen for the door of the court, the hangings of the court which are around the tabernacle and the altar, and their cords, according to all the work relating to them.

- The family of Gershon is counted. They are told to pitch their tents behind the tabernacle westward. Their assignment was to take care of the curtains, coverings and cords of the tabernacle.

[27] From Kohath came the family of the Amramites, the family of the Izharites, the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites; these were the families of the Kohathites. [28] According to the number of all the males, from a month old and above, there were eight thousand six hundred keeping charge of the sanctuary. [29] The families of the children of Kohath were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle. [30] And the leader of the fathers' house of the families of the Kohathites was Elizaphan the son of Uzziel. [31] Their duty included the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the utensils of the sanctuary with which they ministered, the screen, and all the work relating to them. [32] And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest was to be chief over the leaders of the Levites, with oversight of those who kept charge of the sanctuary.

- The family of Kohath is counted. They are to pitch on the side of the tabernacle southward. Their assignment is to be in charge of the articles of furniture of the tabernacle.

[33] From Merari came the family of the Mahlites and the family of the Mushites; these were the families of Merari. [34] And those who were numbered, according to the number of all the males from a month old and above, were six thousand two hundred. [35] The leader of the fathers' house of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail. These were to camp on the north side of the tabernacle. [36] And the appointed duty of the children of Merari included the boards of the tabernacle, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, its utensils, all the work relating to them, [37] and the pillars of the court all around, with their sockets, their pegs, and their cords.

- The family of Merari is counted. They are to pitch on the side of the tabernacle northward. Their assignment is to be in charge of the boards, bars, pillars, sockets, and vessels of the tabernacle.

[38] Moreover those who were to camp before the tabernacle on the east, before the tabernacle of meeting, were Moses, Aaron, and his sons, keeping charge of the sanctuary, to meet the needs of the children of Israel; but the outsider who came near was to be put to death.

- Moses, Aaron, and his sons were given the place of honor on the east of the tabernacle and gave overall supervision to the Levites. Eleazar oversaw the Kohathites; Ithamar oversaw the Gershonites; and Merarites.
- **But the outsider who came near was to be put to death.** Whoever entered into the holy place who was no priest, though an Israelite, and even a Levite, or into the most holy place, excepting the high priest, it was death for him, either by the civil magistrate, or by the hand of heaven, per the Targum of Jonathan.

[39] All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, by their families, all the males from a month old and above, were twenty-two thousand.

- The actual total of the male Levites is 22,300 (Num 3:22, 28, 34). The extra 300 are considered by some to represent those who, being first-born themselves in the tribe of Levi, and could not be available to redeem the first-born in other tribes. Others consider the difference due to an error in translation of the Hebrew text.

Levites Dedicated Instead of the Firstborn - Redemption of the Firstborn –

[40] Then the LORD said to Moses: "Number all the firstborn males of the children of Israel from a month old and above, and take the number of their names. [41] And you shall take the Levites for Me—I am the LORD—instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the livestock of the children of Israel."

- After this, Moses numbered the first-born of the children of Israel, to exchange them for the Levites according to the command of God and to adopt them for the service at the sanctuary.

[42] So Moses numbered all the firstborn among the children of Israel, as the LORD commanded him. [43] And all the firstborn males, according to the number of names from a month old and above, of those who were numbered of them, were twenty-two thousand two hundred and seventy-three.

- The number of the first-born of the twelve tribes amounted to 22,273 of a month old and upwards. Of this number 22,000 were exchanged for the 22,000 Levites, and the cattle of the Levites were also set against the first-born of the cattle of the tribes of Israel, though without their being numbered and exchanged head for head.

[44] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [45] "Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of their livestock. The Levites shall be Mine: I am the LORD."

- The command of God concerning the adoption of the Levites is repeated for the purpose of adding further instructions with regard to the 273 of the first-born of the tribes which exceeded those of the Levites.
- **Notice the exactness in specifying the precise number of the 273 difference between the first born of Israel and the number of Levites. And that this difference must be reckoned equal by paying five shekels for each one individually. How clearly and exactly do I treat the difference between my obedience and disobedience? Do I always repent and confess with the same exact standard as My Lord does? Oh, thank You for Your grace and Your mercies!**

[46] And for the redemption of the two hundred and seventy-three of the firstborn of the children of Israel, who are more than the number of the Levites,

[47] you shall take five shekels for each one individually; you shall take them in the currency of the shekel of the sanctuary, the shekel of twenty gerahs. [48] And you shall give the money, with which the excess number of them is redeemed, to Aaron and his sons."

- This was the general price established by the law for the redemption of the first-born of men. The redemption money for 273 first-born, totaling 1,365 shekels, was to be paid to Aaron and his sons as

compensation for the persons who properly belonged to the LORD, and had been appointed as first-born for the service of the priests.

[49] So Moses took the redemption money from those who were over and above those who were redeemed by the Levites. [50] From the firstborn of the children of Israel he took the money, one thousand three hundred and sixty-five shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary. [51] And Moses gave their redemption money to Aaron and his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.

- Notice the obedience here! Moses took and Moses gave! (Num 3:49a) So Moses took the redemption money; (Num 3:51a) And Moses gave their redemption money. (ISA 15:22) So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.
- **How obedient am I to His word? (Joh 14:23)** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.
- **Oh, the grace and mercies of God!**

SUMMARY:

- **Num 1:46** How wonderful it is when we are consciously depending upon God for our survival. How consciously and continually is my dependency upon God being demonstrated in my life?
- **Num 2:2** Everyone shall stand...by his own standard, or banner. (Exo 17:15) **And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-Is-My-Banner;** How closely and how steadfastly am I standing to my LORD? Is He truly my Banner?
- **Num 2:31** The cross and the things of Christ are in the Bible from end to end! It is beautiful. Jesus said to the religious leaders, (Joh 5:39) **You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.** How true that is! Indeed we see the cross throughout the Bible What a great picture of His love for us here!
- **Num 3:45** Notice the exactness in specifying the precise number of the 273 difference, between the first born of Israel and the number of Levites. That this difference must be reckoned equal by paying five shekels for each one individually.
- **How clearly and exactly do I treat the difference between my obedience and disobedience? Do I always repent and confess with the same exact standard as My Lord does?**
- **Oh, thank You for Your grace and Your mercies! For the cross! For the power of Your blood! For the giving of Your life that I might live, forever and ever with You!**

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS – Isaac Watt; Billy Graham Crusade Choir (3:00/3:03)

1 When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;

Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. Thou hast my soul, my life, my all.

CLOSING PRAYER

PRAY AND FAST for the upcoming election

- **PRAY** for a spirit of repentance, revival, and God's mercy on our nation and state.
- **PRAY** we elect leaders who fear God and who will lead with integrity.
- **PRAY** that Christians would exercise their solemn duty to vote.
- **PRAY** for the elections to be fair and honest.
- **PRAY** for voters to have godly wisdom, discernment and to vote for Biblical values.
- **PRAY** for the protection of our candidates and leaders.

NEXT WEEK: Study Numbers Chapters 4 - 6