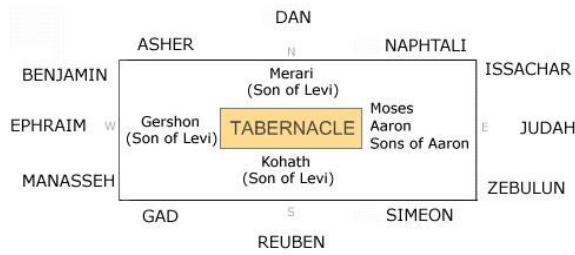


# God's Place in the Camp

From the time Moses arrived to lead Israel out of Egypt, there was a clear message—God is with His people. God protected them during the plagues; fought for them at the Red Sea; accompanied them in the cloud and pillar of fire; spoke from Mt. Sinai; and filled the Tabernacle once it was complete. Numbers continues this narrative, with an emphasis on realizing the centrality of God's presence. God dwelt in their midst (Num. 5:3), and even their encampment showed such. The Tabernacle was to always be in the center of the camp, with three tribes camped on each side. This reminded the whole nation who was at the center of their existence—God! Christians today should remember God dwells with us, and He should also be the center of our existence!



1. Which tribe was not counted in the regular census? \_\_\_\_\_
2. The Lord told Moses that He had taken the Levites to be His instead of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What were the three requirements of the Nazarite vow? \_\_\_\_\_
4. At what age did a Levite “retire” (serve no more)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How did God respond to the people’s complaining in chapter 11? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many elders were appointed to help Moses? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What does God’s response to Aaron and Miriam speaking against Moses (ch. 12) teach us about respecting authority? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How did God speak with Moses? \_\_\_\_\_

**Themes:** Several important themes occur throughout the book of Numbers. Below are a few to look for.

### God

Presence  
Faithfulness  
Patience

### The People

Disobedience & Consequence  
Obedience & Blessing

### The Land

Inheritance  
Mission of God’s People

# “That You May Grow Thereby...”

*A weekly Bible reading plan*



## Numbers 1-12

### Leaving the Mountain

#### Overview

This week we return to the story of Israel. The book of Numbers picks up where Exodus and Leviticus leave off—Israel has escaped Egypt and travelled to the foot of Mt. Sinai. They’ve spent nearly a year encamped there receiving God’s Law and building the Tabernacle. Now it’s time for final preparations to be made and for the nation to head towards the Promised Land. Unfortunately, what should be a few day’s journey will turn into four decades of wandering because of the nation’s disobedience.

The Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament) gives this book the title of “Numbers” because of the two censuses recorded in the book. The Hebrew title is “In the Wilderness.” As one writer said, a more fitting name might be, “A Tale of Two Generations.” Numbers records the tragic disobedience of the generation that left Egypt. Despite all they witnessed, a vast majority of them rejected God, choosing instead to complain, rebel, and long for Egypt. Thankfully, the generation that rose after them had learned better—they would become an obedient and righteous generation ready to inherit God’s promises! We may be separated from the events of Numbers by thousands of years, but God’s children still have much to learn from this Old Testament book!

#### Suggested Reading Schedule

- Monday: Numbers 1-2
- Tuesday: Numbers 3-5
- Wednesday: Numbers 6-7
- Thursday: Numbers 8-9
- Friday: Numbers 10-12

## Outline of Numbers

### I. The Old Generation (1-14)

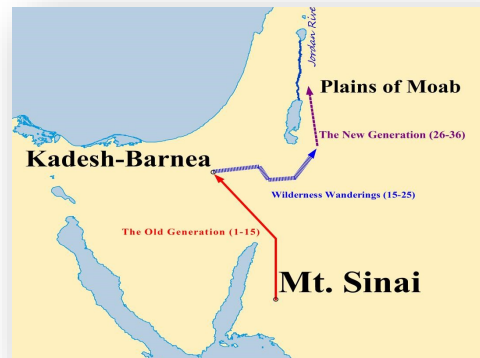
1. Physical Numbering (1-4)
2. National Sanctification (5-10)
3. Journey to Kadesh (11-14)

### II. Wilderness Wandering (15-25)

1. Reminders of the Law (15, 18-19)
2. Rebellion & Leadership (16-17, 20-21)
3. Balaam and Moab (22-25)

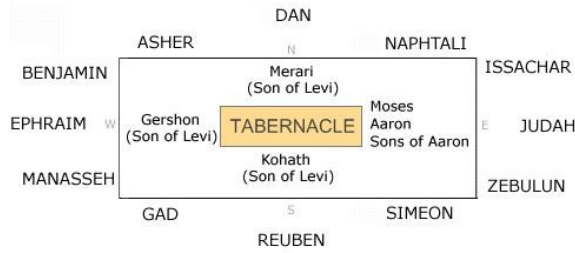
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1. Reminders from the Past (26-30, 32-36)
2. Vengeance Against Midian (31)



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