

Outline of Numbers

1-4	Census & Camping
5-8	Cleansing Congregation
9-12	Complaining
13-16	12 Spies, Death in Desert
17-20	Aaron & Levites
21-25	Brazen Serpent & Balaam
26-30	Second Census, Laws
31-33	Moses Last Days Leader
34-36	Conquest & Division

Authorship and Introduction

Moses is the author of the book. Numbers opens about 13 months after the Exodus took place. The book covers about 39 years. To be exact, it was 38 years, 9 months, and 10 days (compare with Deuteronomy (De.1:3, 1st day, 11th month of 40th year). This is the period of actual wanderings.

Numbers 1-25

The Experiences of the First Generation
(Exodus Generation)

Numbers 26-36

The Experiences of the Second Generation
(Wilderness Generation)

Numbers records the tragic story and the consequences of Israel's unbelief. What should have been an 11 day journey turned into a 40 year ordeal. Specifically, because of the rebellion at Kadesh Barnea by accepting the report of 10 of the 12 spies (rejecting Joshua and Caaleb's report), the entire generation of the Exodus will not be in the conquest. The 10 reported that the Canaanite cities were highly fortified. Israel lost faith in God's promise to give them the land. The mission of the spies lasted 40 days.

NUMBERS

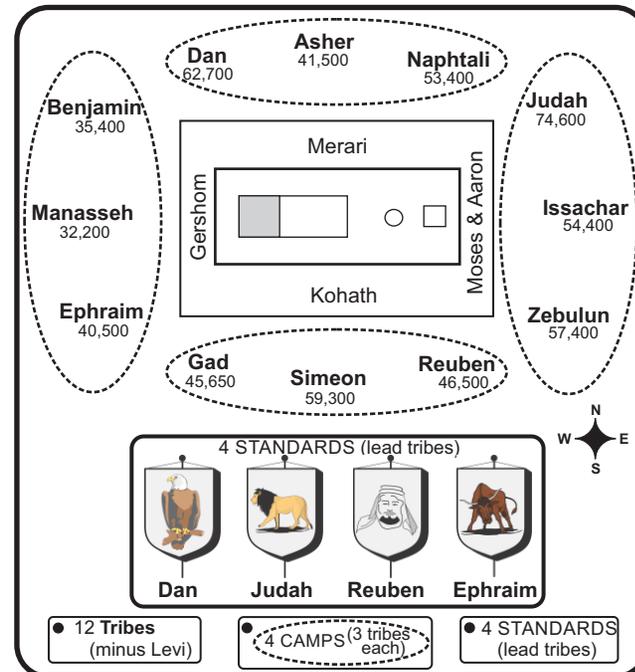
The title "Numbers" come from the fact that two censuses are recorded that number the Israelites. One at Sinai (1:1-3) and another near Canaan (ch.26). Wandering and Murmuring are prominent.

Therefore God assigned one year of wandering for each day the spies spied out the land.

Census of the People

There were two census taken of the people. The first (Nu.1) took place at Mt Sinai. This was the Exodus generation. The number of men over 20 but not counting the Levites was **603,550**.

The second census took place on the Plains of Moab (Nu.36). This was the generation that grew up in the wilderness. The number came to **601,730**.



TORAH

BOOK 04
Nu.
NUMBERS
36 CHAPTERS

A practical application of the book of Numbers is that sin and unbelief, especially rebellion, reap the judgment of God. The New Testament tells us that these events were written as examples for believers to observe and avoid. As Israel wandered in the wilderness because of rebellion, so God sometimes allows us to wander away from Him and suffer loneliness when we rebel against Him.

Foreshadowing Christ

God's demand for holiness (Leviticus) in His people is satisfied in Jesus Christ (Mt.5:17). The concept of the coming Messiah is seen throughout the book. The sacrifice of the red heifer "without defect or blemish" (Nu.19) prefigures the Lamb of God the spotless sacrifice for our sins.

The bronze sake lifted on the pole that provides physical healing (Nu.21) prefigures Christ being lifted up on the cross.



CHRIST IN NUMBERS

- The Cloud (by day) and the Fire (by night) is the presence of Jesus Christ to guide and to give light.