

# Numbers

## 1 – Numbers 1-2—Tribes and Order

What was the purpose of “numbering” Israel at this time? (see the repetition in 1:20-46) How were the families of the tribe of Levi different? Why is this? Note the order and positioning of the tribes in Ch. 2. Why was this necessary? How many people did God rescue out of Egypt and how many will God care for in the Wilderness for 40 years?

## 2 – Numbers 3-4—Levites

What are some differences between the priests and the Levites? (v.5-10) What are some differences between the Levites and the rest of the other 11 tribes? (v.11-13, also v.40-51) What do the Levites teach us about Jesus? Why the specific services of the Levites? (Ch. 4, see v.20,)

## 3 – Numbers 5—Purity Of The Camp

This separation only for practical reasons? What is "the law of jealousy"? What would happen to a wicked husband? What if the wife was jealous of her husband? Why this law?

## 4 – Numbers 6—Nazirites

Would a person take the Nazirite vow? (see Samson, [Judges 13](#); Samuel, [1 Samuel 1:11](#); John the Baptizer, [Luke 1:11-17](#)) How long would it last? (see v.S,13) What did the hair and head have to do with the vow? Note also the Priestly Blessing- v.22-27. What happens when the Benediction is spoken by the pastor? (v.22,27)

## 5 – Numbers 7—Twelve Leaders' Offerings

Why would the Levites need carts and oxen? Why didn't the Kohathites get any? What was the value of each of the 12 offerings? Why so much repetition? Why so much sacrifice? (see v.80)

## 6 – Numbers 8—Levites - Part II

How were the Levites to be made ceremonially clean? Why? (v.14,16-19) What was the "retirement age"? (v.25)

## 7 – Numbers 9—The 2nd Passover & Command

How was this the 2nd Passover? How was it different I the same? Why was it so important that the Israelites celebrate the Passover? In what special way was the LORD the "travel guide" for the nation of Israel?

## 8 – Numbers 10—Trumpets And Travels

Why the addition of the trumpets? How many different sounds did the trumpets make? Why the different sounds? What additional purpose of the trumpets is in v.9? Note the orderliness of the travels of Israel and the "liturgy" Moses used.

## 9 – Numbers 11—Fire And Quails From The LORD

What "hardships" would the people have been complaining? Why the fire from the Lord? What "hardships" do we complain about? Why doesn't God send down fire from heaven today? (or does He?) Recall [Exodus 16](#) with this reference to "again the rabble complained". How is God's anger different from our anger? (What is Moses' response/the Lord's response?) What is the important reminder: "Is the Lord's arm too short"? (v.23) When is this a great question in our lives? (Did you notice that yesterday's OT reading -Pentecost- was v.24-30 - Eldad and Medad? What do these verses have to do with Pentecost? How much quail did each person gather? (see your footnotes in your Bible - "10 homers"!)

## 10 – Numbers 12—Sibling Rivalry

Why did Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses? How was Moses VERY different from his older siblings? When God DID speak to all three of them what was His message to each of them? Why did Miriam alone have the leprosy and not Aaron?

## 11 – Numbers 13—Spies To Canaan!

Why were the representatives from each tribe to explore the land? Why did Moses change Hoshea's name? Why did it take them 40 days to explore the land? Why the negative report? Note: "we looked like grasshoppers in our own eyes"!

## 12 – Numbers 14—Mutiny And Consequences

What miracles had the Lord already done for the people that they forgot? Moses didn't need to tell the Lord anything- therefore, why v.13-19? What does this teach about forgiveness? Consequences? Why 40 years? Why didn't God just kill the disobedient and let the others go into the Promised Land? What happens when "the Lord is not with you"? How can we be assured that the Lord is with us?

## 13 – Numbers 15—"The LORD Said To Moses"

Why talk about offerings when they enter the Promised Land when it would not be for 40 years? Why also the emphasis on unintentional sins? How do we often regard unintentional sins? How does God regard them? Why was the Sabbath-Breaker put to death? (see. V.30-31) We don't use tassels today but what do we use to "remember to obey all of God's commands"?

## 14 – Numbers 16—Mutiny In The Leadership Too!

What false accusation did these leaders make against Moses? What was significant about the way that Moses reacted at first? What does this teach us? Why was this especially sinful of Korah? Why did Moses become angry? Was it a sin of Moses to become angry? Why did Moses and Aaron continue to intercede for the rebellious people? What does this teach us about Jesus? Why did so many people die? Why didn't more of the Israelites die? What do we deserve?

## 15 – Numbers 17—End To The Grumbling?

Why did God command the gathering of the staffs? Did it accomplish what God had intended? (v.5,10) (Note: the answer to the people's question- v.13 is answered in chapters 18-19.)

## 16 – Numbers 18—Priests And Levites Duties

What is so ironic about what just happened to Korah- Ch.16? What was the inheritance for Aaron and his family? Why no land? How were the Levites to also present an offering to the Lord? Why were the Levites also to present a tithe? What does this teach us?

## 17 – Numbers 19—Red Heifer Cleansing

How did the ashes from the red heifer "purify from sin"? How are we "purified" from our sin? What made these ashes so "powerful" and necessary? Why the significance of not "defiling the tabernacle of the LORD"? Why the emphasis on "clean" and "unclean"? How much death and dead bodies would there be throughout the 40 years of wandering in the Wilderness? How much "cleansing" would be necessary? How much is necessary today?

## 18 – Numbers 20—Water From The Rock

How did Moses sin against God? With Miriam's death and the people complaining Moses could've been very frustrated and angry with the people- but why was this NOT an excuse for his disobedience? Note also what Moses said to the people- v.10 What was the punishment for Moses' disobedience? Why did God still give to them water? Not only Miriam died, but also Aaron- what did God require of Moses before Aaron's death? Why was this significant?

## 19 – Numbers 21—The Bronze Snake (John 3)

Why put a bronze snake on a pole? Why did Jesus HAVE to die on the "pole" of the cross? From many travels (v.10-20) to a "settled land" (v.21-31)- but where were the Israelites to finally find "home"? How many battles in this chapter? Why did Israel win the battles? How many "battles" do we have in our lives? What is the only way we can "win" our battles?

## 20 – Numbers 22-24—Balaam Blesses

Who was Balaam? (Note 22:8 and 18- the LORD is Yahweh! And God spoke to Balaam! But also look ahead to 24:1-2!) Why was God angry when Balaam went with the men? Since God had spoken to Balaam why did He send the angel of the LORD? What is the repeated message to Balaam? (22:20, 35,38; 23:3,12, 26; etc.) Why three oracles? Note, the 4th oracle must have been "free"... Note 24:17-19- fulfilled initially in David and ultimately in Jesus!

## 21 – Numbers 25—Sexual Seduction

Sorcery/ cursing didn't work (Balak's desire), but what DID work to seduce Israel? What "works" today also? Why is this? Why did so many die of the plague? What put an end to the plague? Why did God tell Moses to kill the Midianites? What if God treated us the same way today?

## 22 – Numbers 26—Census #2 In Moab

Why take another census? (see Num. 1) Who were included in the census? How did the 2<sup>d</sup> census compare to the first census? ([Numbers 1:46](#) and [Numbers 26:51](#)) What significant events are recalled in this census? How was the inheritance of the land to be done? What bold reminder is included in v.63-65? Why was this important?

## 23 – Numbers 27:1-11—Inheritance

How was inheritance handled when a father died without a son? Why the importance of the inheritance of the land? (keep this in mind when Ahab wants to buy Nabath's vineyard-[1 Kings 21](#)) Why are these verses repeated (expanded I explained) inch. 36?

## 24 – Numbers 27:12-23—Joshua, The Successor

What if God would tell you that you were about to die, so "get your house in order" I appoint your successor... How was Moses' situation different from ours? "Like sheep without a shepherd" see also [Matthew 9:36](#); [1 Kings 22:17](#); [Ezekiel 34:5](#); [Zechariah 10:2](#). Why "lay your hand upon him"? What special occasions do we still do this? What is the significance when we do it?

## 25 – Numbers 28-29—Offerings And Festivals

Why the "regular" burnt offering and drink offering twice a day? Why the special Sabbath burnt offering? Why the monthly offerings? Note The Passover, Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) and all the feasts in the 7th month! Why so many times of feasts and sacrifices?

## 26 – Numbers 30—Vows And Marriage

How serious are vows? Why could the father/husband release his daughter/wife from her vows?

## 27 – Numbers 31—Vengeance On The Midianites

Why this "holy war" vengeance against Midian? (review Ch. 25) How were those who had touched dead bodies cleansed? (review Ch. 19) Note that Balaam was also killed. Why didn't the officers of the army kill the Midianite women? Why did Moses tell them to kill them? What was the result of the vengeance over Midian? How much gold brought to the Tent of Meeting? (They'd be carrying this around as they cross the Jordan River conquer Canaan and finally settle into their territories!)

## 28 – Numbers 32—Eastern Tribes

What special request did the tribes of Rueben and Gad make? Why? What important history did Moses remind them? Note the emphasis on vows Ch. 30- and the vows that are being made here.

## 29 – Numbers 33—Review Of 40 Years

Why review the stages in Israel's journey? (Note, there are 40 of them!) What important reminder was this for this new generation of Israel, just before crossing into the Promised Land? What is the warning in v.55-56?

## 30 – Numbers 34-35—Boundaries In Canaan

Even before they cross the Jordan River, God lines out what their land will be! How would all this land be divided? Why was God so specific about the land that was to be allotted to the Levites? Why the cities of refuge? (look ahead to Joshua 20) How would the land be "polluted"? What was the only way that "atonement" could be made? (How does this point us to Jesus?) (Note- we read Ch. 36 a week ago, with 27:1-11)