

## Numbers

**Author:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Key Words:** Number (ed), journey (ed)

**Key Chapters:**

1. Chapter 13 – Spies sent to Canaan
2. Chapters 14 – Rebellion of the Israelites against Moses

**Key Verses:** Number 1:18-20 – First \_\_\_\_\_ of the people; 13:26-33 – Report of the Spies; 14:28-34 – Judged 40 years to wander in the wilderness

**Themes:**

1. The Lord keeps His \_\_\_\_\_ with His people
2. Advancing for God

**Key People:** Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Caleb, Eleazar, Ithamar, Miriam, Korah, Balaam

**Key Places:** Taberah, Kadeshbarnea,

### General Thoughts and Overview of Leviticus

1. The Hebrew name for this fourth writing of Moses was *Be-midbar*, which means “in the wilderness” (from the words in the first verse of the first chapter), the Greek name given to it by the Septuagint translators was *Arithmoi* (origin of our English word “arithmetic”), which in Latin becomes *Numeri*, and in English *Numbers* - the book being so named because in it the Children of Israel are twice numbered, once at the beginning of the book, and again toward the end.
2. Numbers resumes the narrative where Exodus left-off. It is the story of Israel in the \_\_\_\_\_ as they travel toward the \_\_\_\_\_ land of Canaan.
3. Numbers covers the period of Israel’s history from the second month of the second year after the Exodus (1:1) to the tenth month of the fortieth year (**Deuteronomy 1:3**). So we may speak of it as the book of the forty years of wilderness wanderings.
4. Again and again, the contents of the Book of Numbers are referred to in the New Testament. Indeed, the Holy Spirit has called special attention to it in that classic statement concerning Israel’s early history (**1 Corinthians 10:1-12; Romans 15:4; Hebrews 3:7 - 4:6**). **Note the words:** “All these things happened unto them for ensamples”, that is, they were “types.” The things recorded in Numbers are made immortal by their having been Divinely resolved into types, for our own learning. Other references include our Lord’s referring to the serpent in the wilderness being lifted up as a type of the Son of God becoming sin for the world (**John 3:14,15**).
5. Kadeshbarnea is a town on the Southern frontier of Canaan and it means “holy”.
6. Some Types:
  - A. Egypt is a picture of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Israelite slaves in Egypt is a picture of the \_\_\_\_\_ enslaved in sin.
  - C. Crossing the Red Sea is a picture of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. Traveling from the Red Sea to the Jordan River pictures \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Numbers is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ distinct sections.
  - A. The first half recounts the eventual death of the \_\_\_\_\_ generation of God’s people out of Egypt as they \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness toward the promised land.
  - B. The second half recounts the emergence of a \_\_\_\_\_ generation of God’s people as they \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the promised land.
8. This book wrestles with the transitions from the old generation to the new generation.

9. The book of Numbers is considered an instruction manual to Post-Sinai Israel. The “manual” deals with three areas:
- How the Nation was to conduct itself in its journeyings.
  - How the Priests and Levites were to carry on in the condition of mobility which lay ahead.
  - How they were to prepare themselves for conquest of Canaan and their settled lives there.
10. It is history with the purpose of describing the Lord’s \_\_\_\_\_ and Israel’s \_\_\_\_\_ in a unique period of time.
11. Israel had God’s \_\_\_\_\_ of the land, but had not yet experienced it’s \_\_\_\_\_. Similar to salvation. We’ve been promised a home in heaven and deliverance from our sinful flesh, but these haven’t happened yet until we die or are raptured.
12. The concept of the \_\_\_\_\_ Messiah pervades this book.
13. The Lord speaks to or with Moses over \_\_\_\_\_ times.
14. Moses wrote this book during the period while Israel was wandering in the wilderness.
15. Israel’s wilderness wanderings are described as “the longest funeral march in history”.
16. Only \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the older generation were permitted to enter Canaan. It was because they \_\_\_\_\_ God and \_\_\_\_\_ the decision of the nation to turn back to Egypt at Kadeshbarnea.
17. Moses was forbidden to go into the promised land because of his sin when he smote the rock instead of speaking to it. He got angry at the \_\_\_\_\_ and took it out on \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Canaan was a land of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, as is the Christian life today.
19. Crossing Jordan illustrates death to self and stepping out by faith to claim what Christ has promised.
20. It is interesting to note that the nation of Israel did not grow during their wilderness wanderings. The second census showed 1,820 fewer men of war.
21. Israel wasted 38 years, endured unnecessary afflictions, failed to grow, and failed to honour God. This is what \_\_\_\_\_ does to Christians. It wastes time, effort, manpower, and brings no real blessings.
22. When churches and Christians fail to step out by faith, they start to degenerate \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, **and** \_\_\_\_\_.
23. When we decide to not cross the Jordan in our own life, we just wander.
24. Numbers records the death of two of Moses’ family members - Aaron & Miriam.

## Outline of Events

- I. **Census of Israel** (1:1-2:34)
- II. **Census of Levi** (3:1-4:49)
- III. **Laws Dealing with Uncleaness** (5:1-31) – How to handle and help Lepers, Adultery, and those who have Wronged one another
- IV. **Laws Dealing with Nazarites** (6:1-21) – people who are living a vow to God
- V. **Dedication of Tabernacle** (7:1-8:26)
- VI. **Travelling Through the Wilderness with the Cloud by Day and Fire by Night** (9–14)
  - A. Israel \_\_\_\_\_ (11:1-14:45)
  - B. Rebellion concerning manna (11:4-9)
  - C. Quails come (11:31-32)
  - D. Rebellion of Aaron and Miriam against Moses (12:1-16)
  - E. Rebellion concerning the Promised Land (13:1-14:45) – spies sent in, but only two believed God, Israel condemned to die in the wilderness
- VII. **Laws Regarding Sacrifice** (15:1-31)
- VIII. **A Man Punished by Death for Working on the Sabbath** (15:32-36)
- IX. **Purpose of Fringes on Corners of Garments** (15:37-41)
- X. **Rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram** (16:1-50)
- XI. **Priestly Authority and Responsibility** (17:1-18:32)
- XII. **Laws Regarding Purification** (19:1-22)
- XIII. **Deaths, Difficulties, and Successes** (20:1-21:35)
  - A. Death of Miriam (20:1)
  - B. Moses Gets Angry and Blatantly Disobeys God (20:2-13) – strikes the Rock
  - C. Death of Aaron (20:22-29)
  - D. Victory over Arad (21:1-3)
  - E. **Making a bronze \_\_\_\_\_** (21:8-9) – they were dying because of the complaining!
  - F. Further travels (21:10-20)
  - G. Further victories (21:21-35) Over the Amorites and Bashan
- XIV. **Balaam and His Talking Donkey** (22:1-24:58)
- XV. **Israel Turns to Idolatry** (25:1-18) worship gods of Midian
- XVI. **Census of the New Generation of Warriors** (26:1-65)
- XVII. \_\_\_\_\_ Appointed as Moses' Successor (27:12-23)
- XVIII. **Offerings** (28:1-29:40)
  - A. Daily (28:1-8)
  - B. Sabbath (28:9-10)
  - C. Monthly (28:11-15)
  - D. Passover (28:16-25)
  - E. Festival of Weeks (28:26-31)
  - F. Festival of Trumpets (29:1-6)
  - G. Day of Atonement (29:7-11)
  - H. Festival of Tabernacles (29:12-39)
- XIX. **Vows and Women** (30:1-16)
- XX. **Military Victories over Midian** (31:1-32:42)
- XXI. **Reuben, Gad, and half of the Tribe of Manasseh ask and receive the Transjordan Area** (32:1-42)
- XXII. **Historical Recap of Israel's Journey from Egypt** (33:1-49)
- XXIII. **Preparing to Enter Canaan** (33:50-36:16)

