

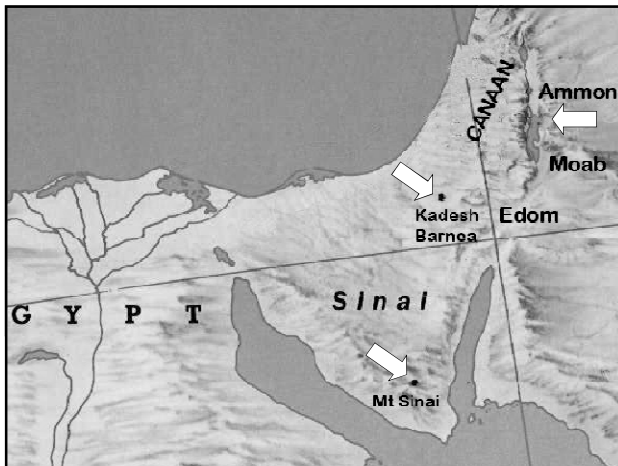
Gleanings from the Pentateuch

Warriors, Levites and a Holy God
Numbers 1- 4

Book of Numbers

Title: *“Towards the Promised Land”*

➤ Israel’s movement from Mt. Sinai to the threshold of the land of Canaan



Numbers 1-4

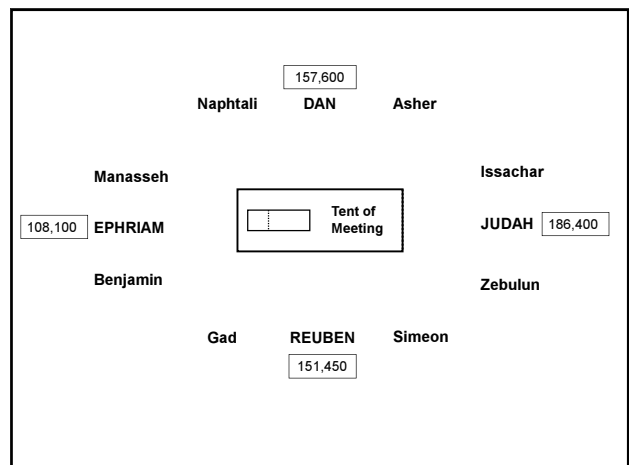
Overview

- Chapter One: census of all men 20 years and older according to their tribes, excluding Levi
 - Magnifies the Lord’s fulfilling of His promise to Abraham of a multitude of descendants
 - Military census – they are God’s army through whom He will conquer His enemies

Numbers 1-4

Overview

- Chapter Two: the order and arrangement of Israel’s encampment by tribes
 - The tabernacle is at the center of the camp
 - Indications of the preeminence of the tribe of Judah



Numbers 1-4

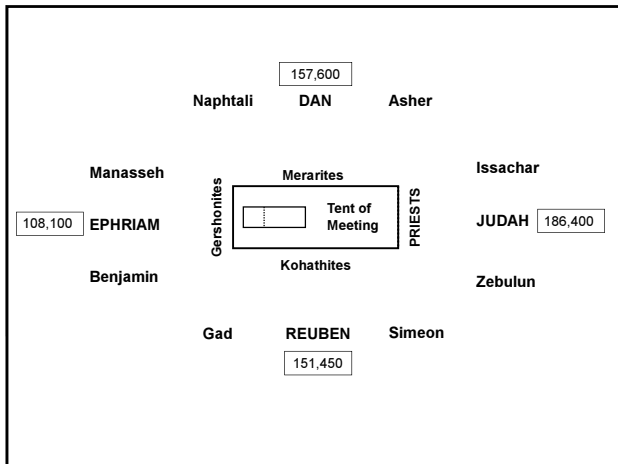
Overview

- Chapter Three: the setting apart, the census and the encampment of the tribe of Levi
 - The Levites are not priests but they serve the priests (Aaron and his sons)
 - They perform “guard duty” and the “physical work” of the tabernacle

Numbers 1-4

Overview

- Chapter Four: the specific work and census of the families of the Levites, males 30-50 yrs. old
 - The Kohathites were given the privileged service of caring for the holy objects
 - The Kohathites could not see or touch the holy objects inside the tabernacle



Numbers 1-4

Principle Emphasis

- The presence of the holy God in their midst

1. Nearness/Blessing

- He is their God and they are His people – they enjoy relationship to Him and blessing from Him
- He will guide them, sustain them and fight for them and bring them into His rest

Numbers 1-4

Principle Emphasis

- The presence of the holy God in their midst

2. Separateness/Danger

- His holiness is their greatest danger – this entire “army” died as a result of God’s judgment
- Approach to God was severely limited upon the threat of death

Numbers 1-4

Kingdom Perspective

- This form of God’s presence with His people points forward to a greater fulfillment in Jesus

1. Presently, we may draw near with confidence to God through Jesus our High Priest

Numbers 1-4

Hebrews 10:19-22

Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,
 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,
 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Numbers 1-4

Kingdom Perspective

➤ This form of God's presence with His people points forward to a greater fulfillment in Jesus

1. Presently, we may draw near with confidence to God through Jesus our High Priest
2. On the new earth (final kingdom), God will dwell in His fulness in the midst of His people

Numbers 1-4

Revelation 21:1-4

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth...
 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.
 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying "Behold the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them,
 and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying or pain..."