

“The Pentateuch”
Numbers 1:1-54
Wednesday June 23, 2010

Genesis – Deuteronomy is referred to as “The Law.”

The Pentateuch – word penta- (Five) teuchos – (Scroll or Book) “Five Books”

Genesis – Explains man’s sin and condemnation.

Exodus – Teaches us the need of redemption.

Leviticus – Teaches us separation and communion.

Numbers – Israel is tested in trusting God and found guilty of the sin of Unbelief.

The book of Numbers – teaches one of the hardest lesson to learn: Our need to trust God rather than our own reason.

Numbers – takes its name from the two numberings of the men for war in Numbers 1-4 and 26-27

Numbers 1:3

The Author – Moses who authored the first five books. Ex. 17:14; Dan. 9:11-13

When Written – Numbers covers almost 39 years of time as Leviticus covers only 1 month. It has been 1 year since Israel has been delivered from Egypt.

Numbers 1-10:10 is 20 days at Mount Sinai.

Numbers 10:11-25:18 is 38 years, 3 months and 10 days in the wilderness.

Numbers 26-36 is 5 months in the plains of Moab.

Where was it Written – During Moses wanderings with Israel. He was literally writing the Bible.

Purpose – As they stand on the verge of entering into the land their faith fails and God disciplines them by making them wander in the wilderness one generation. The unbelievers would die and a new generation would be raised up to enter the land.

Theme – “Wanderings” The consequences of disbelief and disobedience to God and His will. Called “The Book of the Journey’s” “The Book of Murmurings” and “The fourth Book of Moses”

The book of Wandering – because it details the Israelites 39 years of wandering

The book of Murmuring – because it records Israel’s complaints against and rebellions towards God’s directions

Key Words – “Wanderings,” “Wilderness” Over 150X it says “God spoke to Moses.” Numbers ends with God speaking to Moses. Numbers 36:13

Key Passage – Numbers 14:22-23

Numbers 20:12

Key Chapter – Numbers 14

Outline –

1. Numbers 1-20 The Old Generation Set Aside:
2. Numbers 21-36 The New Generation Set Apart:

1. Numbers 1:1-10:10 At Sinai
2. Numbers 10:11-22:1 To Moab
3. Numbers 22:2-36:13 At Moab

1. Numbers 1:1-10:10 Order and Organization
2. Numbers 10:11-22:1 Testing’s and Failures
3. Numbers 22:2-36:13 Repair and Reorganization

Numbers 1-10 Order and Organization:

1. Verses 1-4 – God’s Command:
2. Verses 5-16 – Selecting Tribe Leaders:
3. Verses 17-46 – The First Census:
4. Verses 47-54 – The Tribe Of Levi:

1. Verses 1-4 – God’s Command:

Numbers 1:1

Ex 40:17

Numbers 1:2

Why A Census?

1. It was a Validation of God's Faithfulness to His Word.

Why A Census? Num 1:3

"able to go forth to war" is used 14X in this chapter.

(Gen. 15:13-16; Rom. 1:18).

Num 1:4

Why A Census? "each one head of his father's household." It was a way to set apart the people:

2. Verses 5-16 – Selecting Tribe Leaders:

Num 1:5

"These then are the names of the men who shall stand with you": Note who chose the leaders – God chose them!

Verses 6-15 – Leader of Each Tribe:

Num 1:16 Genesis 49-50

3. Verses 17-46 – The First Census:

Num 1:17-18

1 Cor 15:33

Ps 139:1-6

John 10:3

Num 1:19

1. Verses 20-21 – Tribe of Reuben – 46,500

2. Verses 22-23 – Tribe of Simeon – 59,300

3. Verses 24-25 – Tribe of Gad – 45,650

4. Verses 26-27 – Tribe of Judah – 74,600

5. Verses 28-29 – Tribe of Issachar – 54,400

6. Verses 30-31 – Tribe of Zebulun – 57,400
 7. Verses 32-33 – Tribe of Ephraim – 40,500
 8. Verses 34-35 – Tribe of Manasseh – 32,200
 9. Verses 36-37 – Tribe of Benjamin – 35,400
 10. Verses 38-39 – Tribe of Dan – 62,700
 11. Verses 40-41 – Tribe of Asher – 41,500
 12. Verses 42-43 – Tribe of Naphtali – 53,400
- Num 1:44-46

4. Verses 47-54 – The Tribe Of Levi:

Num 1:47-49

Ex 32:26

Num 1:50-54

Be satisfied where God calls you to serve and do that service to the best of your abilities!

Col 3:23-24

Ps 75:6-7

Application:

1. Each child of God is a part of the body of Christ but at the same time is an individual soul known by God.
2. Victorious Christian living (a life of rest in God) is only possible for those redeemed from the bondage of sin (Those numbered had been delivered from Egypt's bondage).
3. The attainment of spiritual rest comes by spiritual warfare and by the prevailing might of God.
4. Being a Christian is not a guarantee of automatic victorious living. Of all of those numbered, only 2 entered the land. Numbers 14:29-30