

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NUMBERS
"Encampment of the People"
Numbers 2:1-34

REVEIW

1. COMPARED WITH OTHER BOOKS

- a. Genesis--Beginnings
- b. Exodus--Redemption
- c. Leviticus--Worship
- d. Numbers--Warfare

2. CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

Numbers is just one month after the setting up the tabernacle (cf. Ex. 40:17 with Num. 1:1).

3. NUMERICS

There were 602,550 fighting men in the nation. Counting women and children (estimated at four per family) the total would be over 3½ million people.

4. ISSUES

- a. Pedigree 1:18

Every fighting man declared his pedigree i.e. his birth. This is a great spiritual lesson: Jn 3:5; James 1:18

- b. Levites 1:47

These were considered separate from all the others. They were not for war, but worship (1:48-53). Believers today are for both war (Eph. 6:11-20) and worship (Jn 4:24).

MUSTERING

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. It was God's word v. 1
- 2. It was God's order v. 2
 - a. Concerned a banner vv 2, 17, 31, 34
 - b. Related to camp vv. 3, 10, 18, 25
 - c. Included smaller flags: "ensign" v. 2
 - d. Distanced from tabernacle v. 2
- 3. It was God's arrangement vv. 3-31

a. East Side

- 1) Judah vv. 3, 4
- #1 2) Issachar vv. 5, 6
- Rank 3) Zebulun vv. 7, 8

Total v. 9

b. South Side

- 1) Reuben vv. 10, 11
- #2 2) Simeon vv. 12, 13
- Rank 3) Gad vv. 14, 15 (Reuel=Deuel, 1:14; 7:42; 10:30).

Total v. 16

Marching to Caanan

c. West Side

- #3 Rank 1) Ephraim vv. 18, 19
 2) Manasseh vv. 20, 21
 3) Benjamin vv. 22, 23

Total v. 24

d. North Side

- #4 Rank 1) Dan vv. 25, 26
 2) Asher vv. 27, 28
 3) Naphtali vv. 29, 20

Total v. 31

SUMMARY TOTAL v. 32

EXCLUSIVE OF LEVITES v. 33

POINTS TO PONDER

1. Obedience This continues to be a marked characteristic of the nation. So be it for all who are His v. 34.
2. Encampment and movements. These were all in relation to the tabernacle. This affirms three major thoughts:
 - a. All in unity and in relation to one another (1 Cor. 1:10).
 - b. All in relation to divine service (the tabernacle).
 - c. All with worship as a prime consideration (Col. 3:17).
3. Standards
 - a. No one tribe had a standard. Promoted close relationships. No independents.
 - b. Each tribe was in a divinely appointed administrative place. All a matter of divine sovereignty. Responsibility given by God.
 - c. Tribes safeguarded militarily the tabernacle. Ground of unity had to be defended--the tabernacle (Eph. 4:1-6).

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

The testimony was not stationary; it moved! This meant enlargement, adjustment, and increase. Every testimony of God needs progress and spiritual growth 3 Pet. 3:18.

1 Chron 28:20 (Memorize)