

Pentateuch

The Book of Numbers

May 22, 2013 – Lecture 7, Numbers

Lakeside Institute of Theology

Ross Arnold, Spring 2013

Pentateuch (OT3)

1. Introduction to the Pentateuch
2. Genesis 1-11; The Primeval Prologue
3. Genesis 12-50; The Patriarchs
4. Exodus 1-18; God's Deliverance
5. Exodus 19-40; The Covenant at Sinai
6. Leviticus; The Way of Holiness
7. Numbers; In the Desert
8. Deuteronomy; Final Exam

The Book of Numbers

Author: Moses

Date: c. 1445 BC-1400 BC

Theme: Census and History

Key Word: Wanderings

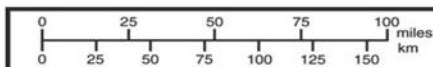
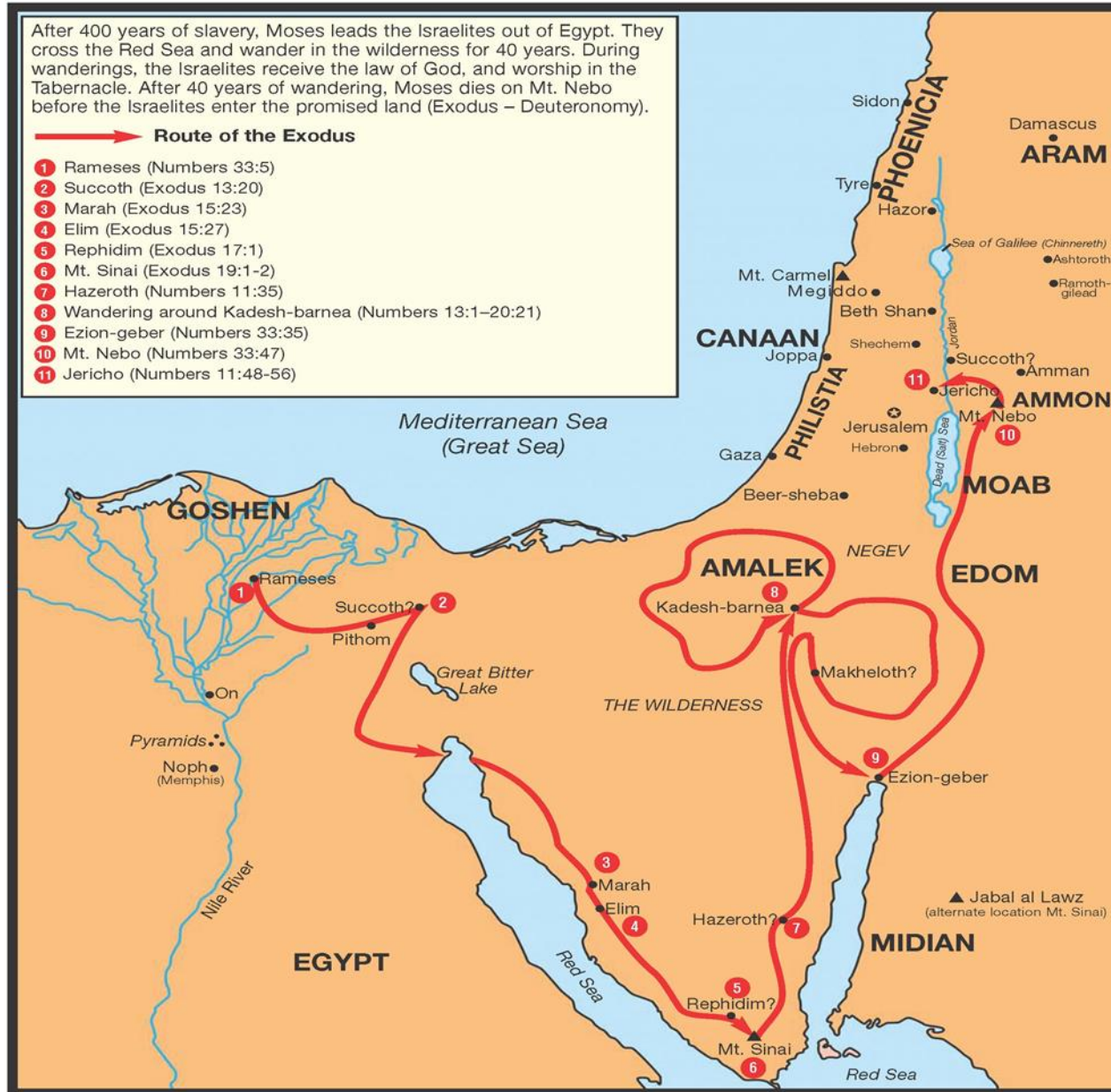
Purpose: Show what can happen when
God's people rebel against Him.

Outline: Census (chs. 1-9)
Sinai to Canaan (chs. 10-12)
Spies and Rebellion (chs. 13-19)
At Moab (chs. 20-36)

After 400 years of slavery, Moses leads the Israelites out of Egypt. They cross the Red Sea and wander in the wilderness for 40 years. During wanderings, the Israelites receive the law of God, and worship in the Tabernacle. After 40 years of wandering, Moses dies on Mt. Nebo before the Israelites enter the promised land (Exodus – Deuteronomy).

Route of the Exodus

- 1 Rameses (Numbers 33:5)
- 2 Succoth (Exodus 13:20)
- 3 Marah (Exodus 15:23)
- 4 Elim (Exodus 15:27)
- 5 Rephidim (Exodus 17:1)
- 6 Mt. Sinai (Exodus 19:1-2)
- 7 Hazeroth (Numbers 11:35)
- 8 Wandering around Kadesh-barnea (Numbers 13:1–20:21)
- 9 Ezion-geber (Numbers 33:35)
- 10 Mt. Nebo (Numbers 33:47)
- 11 Jericho (Numbers 11:48-56)



- City or Town
- ▲ Mountain
- ✠ Ancient Ruins/Sites
- ★ Modern Capital cities

The Book of Numbers

<i>Focus</i>	The Old Generation		The Tragic Transition				The New Generation		
<i>Reference</i>	1:1-----5:1-----10:11---13:1----15:1-----20:1--26:1----28:1----31:1----36:13								
<i>Division</i>	Organiza- tion of Israel	Sanctifica- tion of Israel	To Kadesh	At Kadesh	In the Wilderness	To Moab	Reorg. of Israel	Regulations: Offerings & Vows	Conquest & Division of Israel
<i>Topic</i>	Order		Disorder				Reorder		
	Preparation		Postponement				Preparation		
<i>Location</i>	Mount Sinai		Wilderness				Plains of Moab		
<i>Time</i>	20 Days		30 Years 3 Months 10 Days				c. 5 Months		

The Book of Numbers

- Name: from Greek “*Arithmoi*” meaning “numbers” because of the two census counts.
 - Hebrew name is “*Bemidbar*” – “*In the desert of...*”
 - from the first words of the book.
- **Major divisions of Numbers are based on locations:**
 1. At Mount Sinai
 2. In the wilderness
 3. On the plains of Moab

1. At Mount Sinai

- Numbers 1-4: First census, priestly duties
- Numbers 4-7: Priestly duties, the camp, unfaithfulness and the Nazirite, Tabernacle consecration
- Numbers 8-12: Levites, journeying by cloud & fire, complaints, questioning of Moses

2. In the wilderness

- Numbers 13-15: Mixed report of scouts and Israel's response
- Numbers 16-18: Korah's rebellion, plague, Aaron's staff buds, duties of the Levites
- Numbers 19-21: Red heifer, water from a rock, Miriam's and Aaron's deaths, victories, serpents

3. On the plains of Moab

- Numbers 22-25: Balaam's donkey and blessing
- Numbers 25-29: Phinehas, second census, inheritance, Moses' successor, offerings and holidays
- Numbers 30-34: Vows, Midian, dividing booty, land for Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh
- Numbers 33-36: Stations of the Israelites' journeys, instructions for conquest, cities for Levites

The Book of Numbers – Key Verse

Moses said to the Lord... ¹⁹ In accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people, just as you have pardoned them from the time they left Egypt until now.”

²⁰ The Lord replied, “I have forgiven them, as you asked. ²¹ Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the Lord fills the whole earth, ²² not one of those who saw my glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times— ²³ not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their ancestors. No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it.”

Numbers 14:19-23

Major Themes in Numbers

1. The Promise of God – for posterity, for divine-human relationship, for the Promised Land
2. The Presence of God
3. The Providence and Provision of God
4. The Patience of God
5. Intercession
6. Yahweh and the Nations