



THE ARK MONTEBELLO

11/05/2023

NUMBERS CHAPTER 33

The Long and Winding Road

“And Moses wrote down the starting points of their journeys at the command of the LORD. And these *are* their journeys according to their starting points...”

ITINERARY OF THE WANDERINGS IN THE WILDERNESS

This is a brief review of the travels of the children of Israel through the wilderness. It is a memorable history...and ordained by God Himself.

This list of the *stages, stations* and/or *journeys* was written out by Moses at God's command, **Verses 1-2**.

A brief description of the actual first-day the children of Israel went out from Egypt:

Departing city—*Rameses, Egypt*.

Time— the journey began at night (Exodus 12:42), on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the day after the Passover.

Disposition— the people of Israel went out triumphantly (defiantly, boldness or mighty hand) in the sight of all the Egyptians.

Egyptian, national calamity—For the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom the LORD had killed among them. Also, on their gods the LORD had executed judgments.

Verses 3-5

Forty-two Campsites: This chapter lists a total of 42 stations that the Children of Israel stayed (“camped”) at between their departure location in Egypt and their final resting place by the Jordan River, in Acacia Meadow on the plains of Moab, poised at the entryway to the Promised Land. **Verses 6-49**

This chapter is quite boring. Not many churches bother to teach it—after all, the list contains many names nowhere else occurring, and having no associations for the later generations.

Why study it? Doubtless it is a memorial of God's providential care for His people throughout this long and trying period.

To establish the truth of the history of God's people.

To preserve a memorial of God's majestic interpositions on behalf of Israel.

To record the journey “written for our instruction” (1 Cor. 10:11).

To learn of the great power and protection that God has for us when we are obedient to His will.

To learn that disobedience brings only heartache. Without faith, it is impossible to please God.

“Now Moses called all Israel and said to them: “You have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land—the great trials which your eyes have seen, the signs, and those great wonders. *Yet the LORD has not given you a heart to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day.* And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet.” Deut. 29:2



Bryan Osborne

Wednesday, November 8

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