

Numbers 3p2

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SPEAKERS

Intro Voice, Baruch Korman

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Shalom and welcome to via Israel, a Hebrew phrase, which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes, as our teacher, Dr Baruch, shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zera Avraham Institute based in Israel. Although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel, please visit us on the web@loveisrael.org That's one word, loveisrael.org Now here's Baruch with today's lesson. You listen

Baruch Korman 00:43

Now, we are in the study of the book of Numbers, and we are dealing with the Levitical family, and we see that primarily there are three families that make up the Levites, and we talked about that last week, so let's go back to where we concluded last week, and that is in the book of Numbers. Chapter Three, the book of Numbers. Chapter Three. I want us to look, if we could, to verse 17, the book of Numbers chapter three and verse 17, where it says here, and these were the sons of Levites in their names. And we have the Gershon family, the Kohath family and the Merari family. These are the three primary ones, and we're going to focus in on them and their number according to a census, and also their position, their position of dwelling around that tabernacle, and also their responsibilities. What did God give each of these families to do? So this is going to be at the heart of what we're studying in this passage. Let's begin with verse 18 Numbers chapter three and verse 18, where it says, and these are the names of the children of Gershon, according to their families, and we have two men listed. We have Liveni and she now these two names will become more familiar as we're going to focus on these two families, as we look more closely to this family known as Gershon. Look now to verse 19, where it says and to the sons of Kohath, according to their families, there was Amram and Yitzhar Hebron and Uziel. Now we're going to look at the third family, the one that's called Merari. And it says here in verse 20. And the sons of Merari, according to their families, Mahli and Mushi, these are the families of the Levites, according to the house of their fathers. Now, again, we went through these three families. We're going to come back and look at each one of them in a closer way according to their number, meaning how many of them were there, and also, what were they called to do, and where did they dwell in relationship to the tabernacle. Now, one of the reasons why the tabernacle is so significant in this description is because their work centered upon the tabernacle, let me say that

differently their work centered upon worship, there is an inherent relationship between the tabernacle and worship, and not only between the tabernacle and worship, but when we deal with worship, we are coming before God for God to give us insight, direction, guidance, and to work in our life to bring about a godly change before us, in order that we might be better equipped. And here's the key, better equipped to serve Him. Worship is preparation. We see that before humanity did anything, what did they do? Well, God created humanity. When we look at the book of Genesis in chapter two, we see that God created humanity, and what was the first thing that that humanity did? It. Observe the Shabbat with God, and we see that it wasn't a reward for six days of labor. God had done the labor on the sixth day. Traditionally, towards the end of that day, we find that God created man, male and female, He created them. And what we see is the first thing that that humanity did was to worship God. And this shows us that worship is preparation. We cannot serve God. We cannot do the will of God if we don't initiate everything in our life founded upon worship. Now let's move on to the next scripture. Look with me to verse 21 notice what it says here. And again, we're dealing with that first family, Gershon, verse 21 and two Gershon the family of Livni and the family of Shemi. These are the families of the Gershonites. This, this, this family that was part of the Levitical priesthood. Look at verse 22 we're going to deal more closely with this family, the Gershonites, and what is said there their census, meaning their number was figured based upon the number of every male. Notice only. Males were counted, every male from one month and older. This was their number. This was included in this census. And how many was it? What were there of them from this family, the Gershonites. What we see here, there was 7500 now, before we conclude, we're going to get a total of all the Levites that meet this criteria. First of all, a male. They had to be one month old. Now I made mention to you that a month is the word Hodesh. It is derived from the word Hadash, which is new, it's a kingdom word. And once again, the connection here, and why they chose males that were one month old or older is because this worship has a kingdom purpose. Worship prepares us for Kingdom service and kingdom life. Move on to the next verse, verse 23 the families of the Gershoni, that is the Gershonites. It says here, after the tabernacle, they dwelt, meaning behind the tabernacle, they dwelt towards the sea, which means towards the west. So the Gershonite family, they dwelt around the tabernacle, as we'll see all Levites did, but this family dwelled upon the west side. Move on to verse 24 and the Nasi, that is the president of this family, we might say, of the house of their fathers. Of Gershon, was a man by the name of El Yashaf, the son of Ia El. So God is very specific here we never should doubt that this family existed. We're giving names that could have been checked out. God is a factual God. He is a specific god. We see as we move on to verse 25 it says the Mishmeret. Now the Mishmeret, we've talked about this word before in our study of numbers and our studies of Exodus, we see that the word Mishmeret in modern Hebrew, if there's a factory, it's it's thought of as a shift. We have first shift, second shift, and then the night shift. So Mishmeret is keeping it derives from the word for keeping charge, keeping watch over. It refers to a responsibility that is met, one that is done. And it says, Here, look at verse 25

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the Mishmeret, the shift of the sons of Gershon at the Tent of Meeting of the tabernacle, it says, And the tent and its covering and its screen for the door of the tent of the meeting. So we're getting very specific information. We see that this family Gershon, what did they do? Well, in regard to their responsibility, their charge, their rotation work, it always had to do with the tabernacle. And it says here they had to carry that's the implication, those things that related to the tent, the Tent of Meeting and its coverings. It's its screen for the doorway of the tent of the meeting. And not only that, move on to verse 26 we

have the word for the hanging of the courtyard. Now the courtyard also was, was mapped out. It was designated. It was part of the tabernacle structure, and we see that there were hangings, meaning there were those things that were used to cordon off the courtyard. So the hangings of the courtyard and the screen for the door of the courtyard, which is concerning the tabernacle and concerning the altar around about, and all of the cords and all of its work. So all of these things that we mentioned in this study, this was the responsibility of this family, according to their shift, what they were doing. And look at again, they had to deal with part of the elements and the vessels of the tabernacle. They focus in on the tent, its coverings, its screen for the door of the tent of meaning the hangings of the courtyard, the screen for the door of the courtyard. And we see as well those things that related to the tabernacle, to the altar, which was around about its cords, and all those things that related to that work. So this was the responsibility of the Gershon family. Move on now to verse 27 now we're dealing with the second family, the kahat family, and it says the family of and the primary one that we talked about was the Amram or the Amorites. They were individuals, a family that also served as the primary family for this, this group called the kahaite, look now as we move on, there were other members of those that family, the family of of the the ones related to it's hard, and the family related to Cherone, and the family related to to aziel, these are the families of the COVID. So again, God is being very specific. He gives us the names to show that these are real people who did real work, who served, who labor and who embrace their call as the firstborn. They saw it as a privilege to participate in the things of God. Now we always want to make the Scripture personal. Do you see it as a privilege? Do you see it as something that is valued by you? Your call to serve God, what God has commanded you to do, to participate in his plans, his purposes and his will? We see that these families did. Move on now to to the next verse, verse 28 we see here that the mispar that is the number. And again, we're talking about the census, how many of this families were there? And we're talking about the family, it says here in the number every male from one month and above. How many were there? Will we see at the end of verse 28 there were 8600 those who kept the charge, the holy charge, mishmeric, COVID. So they were ones who actually were serving. And how many? Again, we see that there was 8600 a larger number than it was with the first group. Keep reading. Look, if you would, to verse 29 it says the families of the children of kahat, they would dwell on the the side of the tabernacle, on the southern side. Now this is where Taman. Taman is south of Israel. It's also known as yet. Then. But the word Taman has to do basically with the south so this family dwelt on the southern side where the first one, the Gershonites, dwelt on the the west side. They were on the south side. Keep reading here and see what it says. Look, if you would, to to verse 30, the president or the leader of the house of the father, according to the families of the kahits, who was it, elisafan, the son of Uziel. So again, very specific information, there is a census being taken, and we find that every male, one month and older, is is enrolled. They're counted because they are going to eventually serve. And there's this rotation of labor that is done in regard to the tabernacle for the purpose of worship. Move on. Look, if you would, to verse 31 and their family. What was their tasks? Well, it says here their family the ark. This would be the Ark of the Covenant, and the table, the Showbread table, and the menorah and the altars and the holy vessels which they served with them, and the screen and all of its labor so this family, they they dealt with some of the primary furniture and vessels that was part of the tabernacle, and later on, part of the temple. We're talking about the ark, that table of showbread, the the manure that is, that Golden Lampstand. And we see other things that were mentioned in regard to this family as well. Notice what it says. Move on now to verse verse 32 the president of the leaders of Levite, who was the main leader of them, we're going to be told it was who Eleazar, the son of Aharon, the priests. So Eleazar the son of the high priest, the first

highest priest, Aaron. And notice it says that the Census, this, this depositing, this counting of this family, those who kept the holy church. Think it's so interesting that this rotation, this labor that's being spoken of is being spoken of as a mesh merit, Kodesh, a holy call, a holy service. And this mesh MERIT has to do with consistency. It was something that was done, and how often was it done? Well, every time the children of Israel would move, they would have to gather up everything. And each of these Levitical families, they would be responsible for all the materials. And then when they camped, they would then have to, as well, set up the tabernacle and the designated places according to the instructions that God gave the priests. So this is what the Levites were doing and assisting so that the children of Israel could worship God. Move on to the third family. Look at verse 33 and to the Mary this family, the family of makhli and the family of Mushi. These are the families of Mary. Verse 34 their census, that counting, that depositing of the number according to the number of every male that was one month and older. How many did they have? They had 6200 now, again, later on, before we conclude this session, we're going to get the sum total of all the Levites who were at least one month old, who were serving in this way, verse 35

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and the president of the house of their father, according to the family of Mary. What was his name? Surreal, the son of Avi hail. And upon the the side of the tabernacle they would camp. What side? Well this family Mary would do. On the north. So we've had the the West, we've had the South, and now we have the North. Obviously, there's one more direction that's left. We're coming to that in a moment notice, where what they would do look now to verse 36 and the census. In regard to the the rotation of the sons of Mary, what would they do? What was their service? What was their rotation? Consistent of well, we see the boards of the tabernacle and the the poles, its poles and its stands and its sockets and all of its vessels and all of its work. So those things, let's go over them again. We're talking about the the boards of the tabernacle. We're talking about the poles and the stands and the sockets and all the vessels related to that, this was all of their labor. Verse 37 it says the stands for the the courtyard around and the sockets, their sockets and their pegs and their courts. So all of this was necessary to set up things properly so the people would worship in a house of order, in that tent of meeting that was set up according to the specifications of the Lord. Now this is important, because God has sanctified one family uniquely for unique service, so that worship which is unique can be done. And all of this is to bring about a change, a godly change, among the people that they would experience God, and by experiencing God through worship, that they would be changed, they would be transformed, that they would see things differently. So all of this shows us how important and how significant worshiping God is look now to verse verse 38 you eight says here that these would camp before the tabernacle. Notice what it says they would do so on the the east side, before the Tent of Meeting. Who would be doing this well, we would see that this family would camp before the tabernacle on the east side, before the tent of the meeting. And it's has to do with the shining, meaning the shining, or the rising of the sun on that side where the sun would shine on the east. This is where notice what it says, Moses and Aaron and his sons, keepers of the holy rotation. This, this responsibility. They were the primary ones. Moses and Aaron and their sons, they would keep, as it says here, discharge of the children of Israel, meaning they were the ones that were responsible for the tabernacle, so all the children of Israel could worship God. Now notice something very important. It's a call. Not everyone could just do this because they wanted to they like to do that. It was all dependent upon a call from God. And it says here, look at the end of verse 38 and the stranger or foreigner. Now, what are we

talking about in this context? It's speaking about those who are not part of the Levitical family. Now they're not part of the tribe. Now we see that in this family, there were the Levites, those who escorted and assisted the priests. And of course, there were the priests who were descendants of the house of Aaron. But if there was someone else from another tribe or from another group of people that wanted to do it and would come near to serve what would happen to them? Well, notice the last thing you not that is they would be put to death. Now this is showing something if we don't follow God's order in regard to worship, it brings about death when we follow God's order, it ministers life. It changes life. But when we ignore it and we do it our way, you can't worship God your way. That's the message of this passage. Look now to verse 39 it says all of. The the census of the Levites. Now they were set apart. They were deposited for this service. And it says here, all the member of the Levites, which Moses and Aaron counted. It says here, according to the Lord, according to their family. And what do we see? It says here, every male from one month and above, notice what it says, 22,000 so when we look at this time, very early on, when the children of Israel were still in the wilderness, having not come into the land. But we see that of the firstborn of the children of Israel, meaning the Levitical tribe, there were 22,000 and what we see here is that these 22,000 individuals, some were very young, couldn't do the work yet, but nevertheless, they had a call. They had a call. And that call related to, remember, one month and older, that word Hodesh, relating to Hadash, something new, something Kingdom related. And what we're learning here is a very simple principle that we need to focus in on, and that is this, worship is a kingdom experience. Now we have a foretaste of it in this body, but we as believers in Messiah, there's a time coming when we are going to get a different body, a new body, a body perfectly described or designed for the kingdom of God. And when we are in that body, worshipping God, we are going to see how wonderful, how sanctified, how holy, how glorious worship is. But we can have a foretaste of that now, when we worship God according to his structure, according to His timing, according to his preparation. If we submit ourselves, you are going to be amazed of the worship experience that you can have. God wants us to experience him. What is worship? One of the primary words for worship is simply drawing near to God. That's what worship is being changed by the presence of God, through an experience of being in the presence of God, all of that brings about a godly change in our life, while close with that until next week, Shalom from Israel.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of loveisrael.org again, to find out more about us, please visit our website, loveisrael.org There you will find articles in numerous other lectures by Baruch. These teachings are in video form. May download them or watch them in streaming video until next week. May the Lord bless you in our Messiah, Yeshua, that is Jesus, as you walk with Him, Shalom from Israel. You.