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Tent of Meeting, God's order, worship importance, tribal leadership, census numbers, Israel's journey, God's provision, obedience benefits, spiritual warfare, trust dependence, biblical instructions, Levites' role, camping arrangement, divine guidance, Messianic tribe

SPEAKERS

Baruch Korman, Intro Voice

Intro Voice 00:03

Shalom and welcome to via hafte yesrael, 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 we

Baruch Korman 00:40

Are in the book of Numbers. We have completed the first chapter, so obviously you are now ready for chapter two, and this chapter is going to be somewhat unique. Now, mostly we study God's Word, going through the Scripture, verse by verse, concentrating on each word and the grammatical construction. But this chapter is somewhat unique. It tells a story of how the children of Israel would gather around the the Tent of Meeting. Now it's interesting because the oh hell moed, that's the Hebrew term for the Tent of Meeting, the word oh hell is the Hebrew word for tent, and it is similar to a tabernacle. In fact, these two words can be used interchangeably. Now what's interesting is Mishkan or oh hell speaks about the tabernacle. But notice that next word, oh, hell, Mo Ed. Now mo Ed is that same word many of you are familiar with it, that speaks about an appointed time. And what we find here is that God would move among the people, telling them to travel, leading them where they would travel and when they would stop, how they would dwell and when they would worship Him. In other words, God was functioning mightily among the people, and that is what we should be desiring what we should be praying for, that God would move mightily among us and lead us in every aspect of our life. Now what is so significant is this, the tent of meeting that, oh, hell, moed was a place of worship. Remember the call to worship that we had earlier from Psalm 90. It speaks about God being our dwelling place in generation and generation. Well, that dwelling around him also related to worship, and we're going to see that clearly in this second chapter of the Book of Numbers, and what we need to realize is this, it is worship that brings God's consistency into our life. We see that we dwell so that we might worship God, and this is going to be demonstrated to us by the children of Israel, how we see God orchestrating where each of those 12 tribes would dwell, and more than that, not only how they would dwell and

where they would dwell, but when it was time to move, God gave an order for The leadership. Who would move first, who would move second, who would move third, and then everyone else falling in. So what we see is this that our God is a God of order. He wants to move in our life, but only when we surrender ourselves to his order. Let me say that differently, when God moves in our life, it is because, in other words, it is an outcome of our submissiveness to his instructions. One of the things that we should be praying consistently in our life is God instruct me. God teach me what you want me to do, how you want me to order my life so that I am walking in obedience. Now, let me ask you a question, what is the greatest benefit of walking in obedience? When you're walking in obedience, you are walking with the Lord. He will be that ever present help in times of trouble. He will be there to strengthen you in order to provide for you so that you can overcome that enemy and realize we have a real enemy that wants to accuse. US, discourage us, defeat us and destroy us, and it's only with him that we can find victory. So with that said, take out your Bible. Look with me to the book of Numbers, chapter two. And what we're primarily going to do in this chapter, and we're going to do all of this chapter, is primarily just read it along the way. We'll make some comments, but for the most part, this time is going to be a time of Scripture reading. And let me just simply say what a wonderful use of time to read scripture, to proclaim it to one another, it is not just by speaking God's word, but hearing the Word of God that faith comes. So let's put that into practice by reading the book of Numbers and chapter two. Now remember, we saw this as we began our study of this book that in Hebrew, it's not called the Book of Numbers. It's called bhamid bar in the desert or in the wilderness. And I shared with you that every time that word wilderness or desert appears in the Bible, both in the Old and New Testament, we find that it is calling the people to trust, to depend, to rely upon God. Let me share with you a biblical truth before we go any further, and that's this God will consistently challenge you to trust Him, to depend upon Him, to rely upon Him for everything. It is only when we are wise enough and humble enough to trust, depend and rely upon God, that we're going to experience God's provision in our life, that he's going to be actively involved in our life. Now this trust, dependence and reliance is related to simply having faith. If you believe in the God of Scripture, you know that He is sovereign. He is omnipotent. He knows all things. So why wouldn't we listen to him? Why wouldn't we follow what he says? He knows the future? I certainly don't. You don't We don't know what's going to happen tomorrow, what we're going to encounter, what the enemy is up to, but God knows all of these things. So wisdom and faith demands that we simply surrender to God. And how do we surrender to God? By implementing his instructions. Where do we find his instructions? In the Word of God, throughout Scripture, those things that God says to do we should do, and those things that God says don't do, we should remove ourselves far from these things if we truly have a righteous fear of the Lord. So let's begin. Look with me, if you would, to the book of Numbers. Chapter Two, notice where we begin. Verse one. Chapter Two, the book of Numbers. And verse one and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, Now, whether he's speaking just to Moses, or he's speaking both to Moses and Aaron, as in the case here, we find that this is a formula for revelation, meaning this that God wanted to teach the people. He wanted to give them instructions. He wanted them to receive revelation. And we continue in the second verse, and I want to translate this very literally so we see what the Word of God is saying, because many translations take great liberty and will use idioms, not biblical idioms, but their own language idioms, in order to try To convey biblical truth I am against that. Let's just translate the scripture for what it says. Look at verse two,

Baruch Korman 09:07

a man upon his flag with signs of their forefathers. Now what this is speaking about is this that God is going to assemble his people in order that they might dwell in His presence and worship Him, and to do so in the order that God has called them to be in, and therefore every tribe is going to have a flag or a banner, and what we find is that this banner or flag is going to be where the people assemble. So Look again at verse two, a man upon his flag with signs. Now this word for signs. Often time has to do with a supernatural act of God. Some of the rabbinical commentaries, they point out that it's through worship that we experience the miraculous provision power and presence of God. So we see here that each man doesn't matter what tribe they're from, each man is going to assemble upon his flag, the flag of his tribe, with signs, meaning, God's going to to work. God's going to act. He's going to move to their father's house, and they shall encamp. Who shall encamp? The children of Israel will camp before, and the implication is before and around the tent of meeting, they shall camp. Now this camping has to do with each of the tribes setting up their dwelling place, positioning themselves around the tent of meeting, that they might reflect God's instructions on where they dwell, not only where they dwell, but when they move. And all of this is coming to us within a context of worship. So one dwells and makes that decision. God actually makes it for him, but one acknowledges that decision of God where they dwell in a context of worship. And what this is telling us is you dwell, meaning where you live, and one should live as an outcome of worshipping God. In other words, you have been given life in order that you might worship God. And I think that is a very fundamental principle for humanity. We have been given life so that we can worship God. Look now to verse three, and the ones dwelling east, meaning towards the east from the the rising. And this would be implying the rising of the sun, a flag of the camp of Judah to their armies. Now, again, we need to pay attention to every word in the verse, and we see the camp, and we also see their armies. And it implies something here that there's a connection between the armies of the Lord and worship. It is empowering for us to worship God. Worshipping God prepares us for that spiritual warfare. It is worship that turns us into the armies of God. And notice there's going to be a leader emerging. It has the word Nasi now in modern Hebrew, the word Nasi is president. Think most Bibles, and this is fine, simply translates it in the concept of a leader, one that is lifted up for the purpose of leading to be what's called in Hebrew today, a man, Hig, a leader. So a leader of the tribe of Judah. And who's this leader that's going to emerge from the tribe of Judah, not shown, the son of Amy Nadav. So what we find here, and this is foundational, there is a leader that's going to be emerging, but understand the context only when the people dwell where they're supposed to dwell, and they submit and acknowledge God's authority over them to tell them where to dwell, and it relates to their worship experience. So God is going to provide a leader. God is going to manifest himself and everything about him through worship. And in order to worship, we need to be where God has called us to be. Move on to verse four and his army and their number. Now this is a word for for taking a census, but it's also one that speaks about an order. So their order, what we find here is, again, worship is an outcome of responding to the orders of God. What God commands, and we find here when we look at his army, and we're talking about the tribe of Judah and their numbering, meaning, what number is the tribe of Judah, notice we are given a number. It is 74,600 So what we find here is that first tribe that is mentioned. And by the way, that tribe of Judah is the tribe that Messiah is going to come from. And we see later on in in the Scripture, that Messiah is from the tribe of Judah. We also see it earlier in the book of Numbers, chapter 49, and verse 10, where Yaakov is blessing his sons. We see that Judah emerges as the tribe of of legislation, meaning the leader in order to to enforce the law and to cause law to become a fulfillment among the people. What does law represent? Love. We love the Lord, our God, because the law tells us to. We love our neighbor because God tells us to. But we also see that

the law relates to righteousness. So through the law, I learn how to love, love God and love others, but I also learn through the law what defines righteousness, what are my obligations in in being and demonstrating and testifying towards righteousness? Move now to verse five. Again, there is going to be that emphasis on the people dwelling, meaning camping verse five and the ones who camp by it is the tribe of yeshara. And the leader of the sons of yasachar is a man by the name of Natan El, the son of suar. So again, over and over as these tribes obey God, submit and dwell, and remember that connection between dwelling and worship. As they dwell, what they're supposed to be and as they worship, as God calls them to worship, there's going to be a leader that is going to emerge. We might say that God's going to manifest, and God uses these leaders move now to verse six and his army and his numbering was 54,400, so we see the tribes, their numbers, how strong each tribe was from the number of men that that tribe consisted of. Look now to verse seven. We move to another tribe, the tribe of zevulun. And the leader of the children of zevulun was eliaf, the son of kelon. So this tribe is mentioned, and notice what it says verse eight, his army and his number. Now, notice these two things. They're an army, and the number of that army is what's being conveyed is going to be 57,400 verse nine, all of the numbering of The tribe of Judah was 100,080 meaning 100,000 and 80 to their armies, and they were the first to go forth to travel. So look again at this. All the numbering for the tribe of Judah was 186,400

Baruch Korman 18:42

for the tribes that would go first and travel, meaning they would break the camp first, and that was a sign that others were to follow. And all of this was moving them where, well, moving them closer and closer to the promised land. So we see another principle being taught here, and that is, we're on a journey as well. Where are we heading? Well, Israel is a paradigm. Israel is a paradigm for understanding the kingdom of God. And therefore we, just like the children of Israel, are traveling into the land of Israel. We are traveling into the kingdom of God and worship and US position on ourselves where God has commanded us, is going to influence that journey. It is going to bring order and timing to that journey. So look, if you would, to verse verse 10. It says here, now we move on to another tribe, the flag of the tribe or the camp. Let me get that right. The flag of the camp of Reuben was south of their armies and the leader of the children of Reuben. Was elite sur the son of shadow. So we see these leaders emerging. Now, not much is said about them, but they played a major role at that time. They were the ones that were responsible for each of these tribes that they would submit and obey God. This is why God was bringing up these leaders to help the people learn how to submit and to understand the benefits for doing just that. So again, we focus on the tribe of Reuben at the beginning of verse 10. Notice what it says in verse 11, and his army, and his numbering was 46,500 so we see how each tribe is being counted. There was a census of each tribe to know their strength and to also know the this space needed for for their dwelling places, how they would camp at this time. Move now to verse 12 and the ones who camped concerning the tribe of shamone and the leaders of the tribe of Shimon, or the children of Shimon, was shlom Miel, the son of Suri shadai. So we have this man. I want to read his name again, shmu me El, the son of Suri shadai. He was an important figure among this tribe of of Shimon, verse 13 and his army. And their numbering was 59,300 verse 14, and the tribe of God, the leader of the children of God was El yasaf, the son of Reuel, verse 15 and His army, and their numbering was 45,600, excuse me, 650 so we have these numbers being revealed to us to teach us the size of these tribes. Why? What are they symbolizing? They're symbolizing the fruitfulness, how God took from just one family, from those 12 sons and built up a tribe and built up a people known as

the children of Israel. Verse 15 and his army. And their numbering was 45,650 verse 15, again, sorry about that. Verse 16. All there, all the numbering for the camp of Reuven was 151,450

Baruch Korman 23:19

of their armies, and they were the second to travel. So we saw that Judah was first, and now in verse 16, we're dealing with Reuven, and they were the second to travel. Verse 17, and he traveled, or the Tent of Meeting, traveled the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camps, just as they camped. Thus they traveled, a man upon his hand, their flags. So when they would travel, they would carry these banner, these flags, according to their tribes. And all of this was a way of confirming the order that God had given the people. And basically, one of the things that we should be praying for consistently is God's order in our life, and that requires us hearing from God. And how do you hear from God? This is a question that's very difficult for many. We hear from God by bringing God's order into our life and in being responsive to the instructions of God here, when they would travel and when they wouldn't, when they would worship and when they would rest. God was dictating everything for the people, and they were responding to it, and God was showing Himself faithful in these journeys and what they would encounter. Now let's look at another verse. Verse, look, if you would, to verse, verse 17, and the tent of meeting, traveled the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camp, just as they camped. Thus they traveled a man upon his hand, or man in his hand, we might say, their flags verse 18, the flag of the camp of Ephraim for their armies. Then we would see towards the sea, meaning westward. And the leader of the children of Ephraim was Elishama, the son of AMI hood. So these people were emerging as leaders verse 19 and his army. And their numbering was 45 40,000 and and 500 and and concerning the tribe of mana Shay and the leader of the tribe of banish a was Gamliel, the son of paida Sur. So these people are being revealed. God is raising them up to be the leader and to cause them to fulfill within each tribe the purposes of God, verse 19 and his army. And their numbering was 40,500 and upon the tribe of mana Shay and the leader of the tribe of mana Shay was Gamliel, the son of pedah sur verse 21 and his Army and their county was two and 30,000 so 32,200 let me get that number right. 32,200 verse 22 and the tribe of Binyamin. And the leader of the children of Binyamin was Avidan, the son of gidoni. And notice what it says in verse 23 and his army, and their numbering was 35,400 verse 24 all of the censuses, or their numbering of the tramp tribe of Ephraim were 180 108,100 of their armies, and 30, so 130 of their armies and they would travel, or a third they would travel. Let me get that right. Verse 24 all their numberings of the tribe of Ephraim was 108,100

Baruch Korman 28:17

of their armies, and third they would travel verse verse 25 and the tribe of the flag of the tribe of Dan was towards the north of their armies. And the leader of the children of Dan was achi ezor, the son of AMI Shaddai, verse 26 and his army and their numbering were 62,700, verse 27 and the ones who camped by him of the tribe of Asher. And the leader of the children of Asher was pag eel, the son of achron, verse 28 and his army and their numbering was 41,500 verse 29 and the tribe of Naphtali. And the leader of the tribe of Naphtali was Akira, the son of Enam verse 30 and his army, and their numbering were 53,400, 1400 all verse 31 all their numbering of the tribe of Dan was 157,600

Baruch Korman 29:57

and they were the last that would travel. People according to their flags, verse 32 these are the numbering of the children of Israel for the house of their fathers. All the numbering of the camps of their armies were 600,003

Baruch Korman 30:28

1550 let me say that again verse 32 and these were the numbering of the children of Israel to the house of their forefathers, all the numberings of the camps of their armies. 600,003 603,550

Baruch Korman 30:56

verse, 33 but the Levites, they were not counted in the midst of the children of Israel, just as the Lord commanded Moses, verse 34 our last verse. And the children of Israel did according to what the Lord commanded Moses. Thus they camped to their flags, and thus they traveled. A man, according to his families and the house of his fathers, meaning that God placed order among the people and how they would travel, when they would travel, and the order for who would depart first, who would depart second, and who would depart third. So God was over every aspect of how the people lived, and based upon God's leadership, he determined when they would travel, where they would go on how long they would be there, and obviously, what they would do while they were at that location. And if we want to see God's consistency in our life, we need to submit to His instructions. We need to have God order our life. And it's only in our obedience to God's order for our life, that we're going to experience him and again, experience His provision, His power, His anointing, his guidance and his perspective, so that we can see the things that God would have us to see and able to do the things that God would have us to do, so that we have a witness, that we bear testimony to the fact that we belong to the Lord God of Israel through that new covenant that was established through the blood of His only begotten Son, Messiah, Yeshua, Jesus Christ. Well, I thank you for watching until next week, when we press on to the next chapter, chapter three, until then, Shalom from Israel.

Intro Voice 33:09

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 it, Shalom from Israel. You.