

## The Fourth Book of Moses Called

# NUMBERS

## Chapters 1 – 3

### Introduction:

- **Author:** *Moses*
- **Date of writing:** *1450-1410 B.C.*
- **Theme:** *“Wilderness Wanderings”*
- **Understanding NUMBERS:** In GENESIS we have the believer’s CREATION; in EXODUS we

have the believer’s DELIVERANCE; in LEVITICUS we have the believer’s WORSHIP; in **NUMBERS** we have the *believer’s WALK*. **NUMBERS** derives its name from the record of the two numberings of the Israelite people, in the second year after leaving Egypt (chap. 1) and in the fortieth year (chap. 26). The Hebrew title, *Bemidbar* (“**In the Wilderness**”) describes the contents.

- **Key verses:** **Numbers 14:22-23** - *Because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs*

*which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. Numbers 20:12* - *Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.”*

- **Key chapter:** In chapter 14 we discover the Israelites rejection of God by refusing to go up and conquer the Promise Land. God judges Israel in verse 34, *“according to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection”*.

- **Seven types of Christ in NUMBERS:** (1) The Nazarite (ch. 6); (2) the red heifer (ch. 19); (3) the Bread (11:7-9, as in Ex. 16); (4) the water (20:11, as in Ex. 17; cp. 1 Cor. 10:4); (5) the Brazen Serpent (ch. 21; cp. Jn. 3:14); (6) the Star (24:17, cf. Rev. 22:16); (7) the Cities of Refuge.

- **Book Outline:**

**Chapters 1 – 10 – Prepare to March (Location: Mt. Sinai; Time: 20 days)**

**Chapters 13 – 25 – The Wilderness Journey (Time: 38 years, 3 months, 10 days)**

**Chapters 26 – 36 – A New Generation (Location: Plains of Moab; Time: 5 months)**

### Chapter 1 – “Organizing Israel”

- The first census of Israel. (Observation: 1:46 – 603,550; then in Numbers 26:51 – 601,730, a decrease of 1820 people. Of those in the first numbering, all but two (Caleb and Joshua) perished in the wilderness.

### Chapter 2 – “Arrangement of the Camp”

- On the East; on the South; on the Middle; on the West; on the North; the camp is arranged.

### Chapter 3 – “Organization of the Priests”

- (v1-5) The Family of Aaron; (v6-13) the ministry of the Levites; (v14-39) census of the families of Levi; (v40-51) firstborn redeemed.





**PLACEMENT OF TRIBES IN THE ISRAELITE ENCAMPMENT (2:2)**

