

BIB 201

Lesson 11 - **Israel national history part III** - Numbers

Intro. The book of Numbers picks up from where the story left off in Exodus. Leviticus is given during a one month interval at Sinai and Numbers picks up from there. This book covers the 40 years from leaving Sinai until they are ready to enter the promised land. Name given because of first and second numberings. This book deals with the goodness and severity of God especially as it relates to the children of faith and the children of unbelief.

I. The Old Generation- (1-14)

A. The Numbering (1-4)

II. Numbering of adult males for war (1)

III. Distribution of the tribes (2) everything centered around the ark

IV. Numbering of Levite males for service (3) Levites were taken instead of all of the firstborn - the 273 extra firstborn over the number of Levites had to be paid for.

V. Distribution of duties among the families of Levites (4)

B. The Instructing (5-10)

1. Lepers quarantined (5) must be holiness in camp for God's presence

2. Voluntary Nazarite vow (6)

3. Free offerings of princes for tabernacle (7)

4. Consecrate Levites (8)

5. Keeping the Passover (9)

6. Make silver trumpets (10)

C. The Journeying (11-14)

1. Mixed multitude (11) "In other words, they would rather have fish out of the Nile from Egypt and remain in bondage than to live on manna and go to the promised land. They put their appetites above their relationship with God."
Carroll

Note: the grief of dealing with the "mixed multitude" today in churches. Numbers aren't worth it!

2. Aaron, Miriam rebellion (12)

3. Sending out the 12 spies (13,14)

Trans. This portion can also be divided based on their geographic location. They had gone from Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea on the south of the promised land. From here they will depart Eastward and wander for forty years.

II. The Wandering in the Wilderness (15-20)

A. Instructions for entering the land (15)

B. Gainsaying of Korah (Jude 11) (16-18)

C. The red heifer (19) possible one time atonement and cleansing

D. Aaron and Miriam die, Moses sins (20) They return to Kadesh-Barnea the site of their rebellion against Moses

Note: Moses (law) could not bring into the land of promise

III. The New Generation (21-36)

A. The New Journeying (21-25)

1. Victory over Canaanites, fiery serpents and Brazen serpent (21)
2. Balaam (22-24)
3. Whoredoms with the daughters of Moab (25) killed for false worship

B. The New Numbering (26-27)

1. Registered by families to prepare for inheritance (26)
2. Zelophehad's daughters (27)

C. The New Instructions (28-36)

1. Repeats the necessary offerings (28) Sabbath and new moon
2. Feast offerings (29)
3. Vows (30)
4. Avenging Midianites (31) kill man woman and child, their disobedience
5. Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh petition to stay East of Jordan (32)
6. Journal of wandering (33)
7. Division of land (34)
8. Levites and cities of refuge (35)
9. Security of the inheritance of the land illustrated by Zelophehad's daughters (36)

Conclusion

In the history of the nation of Israel they are now at the threshold ready and waiting to enter the promised land. How far the nation has gone in 40 years. How many "professing" Christians are really just wandering the wilderness? Not entering the life of faith because of unbelief. Heb. 3:7 - 4:11 shows this is to interpretation of that passage.