

# NUMBERS

## AT-A-GLANCE



O.T BOOK #4



AUTHOR: MOSES



WRITTEN: 1400 BC

Covering the time period of 1450 – 1400 BC

4

Old Testament: 39 Books

New Testament: 27 Books

### SUMMARY OF THE BOOK:

**Numbers takes up where Exodus leaves off and includes the 'enumeration' of Israel. The story of the "Wandering in the Wilderness" for 40 years is also included. The Children of Israel believed the evil report of the 10 spies instead of the good report of the 2 spies (Joshua and Caleb).**

### KEY STORIES:

- **12 Spies saw giants in the land God promised to give the children of Israel. 10 of which had no faith in God to deliver them into their hand.**
- **An enemy, Balak, wanted a man named Balaam to curse God's people. They ended up getting blessed three times.**

### KEY VERSES:

But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in the wilderness. And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.  
**Numbers 14:32-33**

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good. **Numbers 23:19**

## Important Points about the Book:

- The reader of Numbers will go on a long journey through the desert that lasted 40 years because of fear, unbelief, and a lack of faithfulness to the one true God—the God of Israel.
- There are some long lists in the book; number of people from each tribe in military service; two censuses (chapters 1, 26); and so on...
- The children of Israel had the land of Canaan (the "Promised Land") in their grasp. All they had to do was obey God and trust Him and His plan. Because of murmuring and complaining, not everybody got to go in and possess the land—including Moses (because of his disobedience at the rock with the water)

# NUMBERS

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Numbers, like Leviticus is an often overlooked book. Following the book of Leviticus, it contains several great accounts that contain important instruction for living today, especially in the area of the church. Numbers (historical) picks up about a year (13 months) after Exodus ends, with the journey of Israel through the wilderness. The reading can be quite engaging if the reader keeps in mind that the Hebrews were extremely accurate and detailed record keepers, both of numbers and events. God's Word is proof enough, but this can be used by God for the skeptics. **Numbers 1:1-4**



## BREAKDOWNS

Numbers 1-4	Orders & Directions
Numbers 5-8	Instructions on Locating Tribes in the Camp
Numbers 9:1-14	Cleansing, Offerings and Celebration
Numbers 9:15-23	Description of the Cloud Israel Followed
Numbers 10:1-10	Silver Trumpets For Battle
Numbers 10:11-36	From Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea
Numbers 12	Miriam and Aaron Rebel
Numbers 13	Spies Find Giants in Canaan
Numbers 14	The Unbelief of Israel
Numbers 15	Various Laws and Instructions
Numbers 16	The Sin of Korah, Dathan, Abiram
Numbers 17	Aaron's Rod That Budded
Numbers 18	Duties of the Priests and Levites
Numbers 19	Water for Cleansing
Numbers 20:1-13	Moses' Sin in Hitting the Rock Twice
Numbers 20:14-29	Death of Aaron
Numbers 21:1-8	The Brazen Serpent
Numbers 21:10-35	Moab, Sihon and Og
Numbers 22-24	Balak, Ballam and Balaam's Ass
Numbers 25	Men and Moabite Daughters
Numbers 26	The Second Census
Numbers 27:1-11	Question about Inheritance and Daughters
Numbers 27:12-23	Moses Prepares for Death and Successor Joshua
Numbers 28-30	Offerings and Vows
Numbers 31	The Judgment of Midian
Numbers 32	The Reubenites and Gadites
Numbers 33	Israel's Journey Mapped Out
Numbers 34	Borders of Canaan Established for Israel
Numbers 35	Cities of Refuge
Numbers 36	More on Inheritance

### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT

#### THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

- Chapters: 36
- Verses: 1,288
- Words: 32,896
- Covers a period of about 40 years
- Because of the unbelief of Israel, what should have been an 11-day journey turned into a 40-year ordeal
- The phrase "the Lord spake unto Moses" appears 51 times in the book
- The spies took 40 days to spy out the land of Canaan
- The Book of Numbers has also been called (in descriptive form)
  - ◇ "The Book of Journeying"
  - ◇ "The Book of Murmurings"
  - ◇ "The Fourth Book of Moses"