
Study Series: Numbers

Questions about Numbers 1.1—10.10

1. Who helped Moses and Aaron count the people of Israel? Why were the people counted? (Chapter 1)
2. Even though the Levites were an important Israelite tribe, they were not counted as warriors and would not receive land when the people moved into Canaan. What were the special duties of the Levite clans? (2.17; 3.5—5.49)
3. Describe the ceremony that was used when a jealous husband suspected his wife of being unfaithful (5.11-30)
What is your reaction to this ceremony?
4. Who were the Nazirites? (Chapter 6) How does a person today show that his or her life is dedicated to serving God?
5. Describe how the Levites were ordained and dedicated to the LORD (8.5-26).
6. What happened during the celebration of Passover? (9.1-14)
What important event was being remembered in this celebration?
7. For what reasons were the silver trumpets blown? (10.1-10)

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Questions about Numbers 10.11—22.1

1. How did the Israelites know when to break camp in the Sinai Desert? In what order did they march? (10.11-28) Where did the Levites clans (Gershonites, Merarites, and Kohathites) march, and what did they carry?
2. What did the people complain to Moses about as they traveled? (11.1-15) How did God respond? (11.31-34) Why did Miriam and Aaron complain? What happened to them? (Chapter 12)
3. Who was sent to Canaan and what task were they given? (13.1—14.10) What did these men report and what did Caleb recommend? How did the people respond? Have you ever been asked to do something that seemed impossible? If so, how did you react? What do you rely upon to help you overcome your fears?
4. Describe the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram (Chapter 16). What happened to them and their families?
5. Why did the priests and Levites receive a portion of the people's offerings? (Chapter 18) What were the Levites supposed to offer to God? What kinds of offerings do people make to God today? What can you "offer" to God?
6. Why was the ceremony to wash away sin important to the people of Israel? (Chapter 19) Notice that the phrase "You will be guilty of making my sacred tent unclean and you will no longer belong to the people of Israel" occurs twice (in 19.13, 20). What does this mean? What is the relationship between "being clean" and belonging to God's people?
7. In chapter 20, what did the people complain about? How did Moses and Aaron respond to the complaint? Why did God decide to punish Aaron and Moses? (20.1-13)
8. What did the people complain about after leaving Mount Hor? (21.4-9) What did the LORD do to them? What did the LORD tell Moses to do when Moses asked for help?

Study Series: Numbers

Question about Numbers 22.2—36.13

1. Why did King Balak and the Midianite leaders hire the prophet Balaam? (22.2—24.25) Did Balak get what he expected from Balaam? Summarize the key points of Balaam's four messages.
2. What happened at the Acacia camp that made the LORD angry with the Israelites? (Chapter 25) Which of the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 20.1-17) was being broken here? How was the problem resolved and what was the lasting effect of the sin committed by the Israelite men?
3. Forty years passed between the first census of the Israelite people (Chapter 1) and the second census (chapter 26). What had happened to the older generation of Israelites that came out of Egypt?
4. Who were the daughters of Zelophehad, and what did they want? (27.1-11) What was God's response to their request? How was this ruling adjusted later? (Chapter 36)
5. How important was offering sacrifices to God to the Israelites in daily life, worship and special festivals? (Chapters 28,29) How important in daily life are offerings, worship, and religious ceremonies today?
6. Describe the Israelites' battle with the Midianites (Chapter 31). What happened to the Midianites' lands? What is your reaction to the concept of a "Holy War"? Explain.
7. What did the men from the tribes of Reuben and Gad want, and how did Moses respond to what they asked for? (Chapter 32) What other tribe was included in Moses' decision?
8. Why were towns given to the Levites? (35.1-8) What were the Safe Towns, and what did they have to do with the laws about accidental killing or murder? (35.9-15)