

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS
NUMBERS 1 – MT. SINAI

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we begin to study the book of Numbers.

Say – The children of Israel, all 12 tribes, are at the foot of Mt. Sinai; they had received the Law of God and were ready to receive the Promised Land. God said “²²Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times (means many times), and have not hearkened to my voice; ²³Surely they shall not see the land which I swore unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it” Numbers 14:22-23. They could not see the land because of lack of faith in God. If we despise God, He will despise us and the opposite is also true; if we love Him, He loves us. The Promised Land is symbolic of the Kingdom of God and God tells us “¹Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest (The weekly Sabbath is symbolic of the Kingdom of God and many reject His Sabbath Day. That is why we keep God’s Sabbath for it looks forward to the Millennium or Kingdom of God and anyone who has contempt for the weekly Sabbath won’t be in the Kingdom of God.), any of you should seem to come short of it (unfortunately many have done it already)” Hebrews 4:1.

Numbers begins with Moses and Aaron counting the 12 tribes of Israel at Mt. Sinai; “all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies” Numbers 1:3.

God had told Abram “¹After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. ²And Abram said, LORD God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? ³And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. ⁴And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels (body) shall be thine heir. ⁵And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell (count) the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, so shall thy seed (descendants) be” Genesis 15:1-5. The 12 tribes of Israel would become the bride of God.

The Promised Land, Canaan, was a land full of wicked people who would try to cause Israel to sin. In Hebrew the book of Numbers is called the book of the wilderness.

Numbers 1

¹And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation (tent of meeting), on the first day of the second month (one month after Passover the numbering began), in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

²Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls;

³From twenty years old and upward (were called the men of service or men of war and they began training), all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

⁴And with you there shall be a man of every tribe (12 men, the firstborn of the family and with Moses and Aaron were 14); every one head of the house of his fathers.

⁵And these are the names of the men that shall stand with you: of the tribe of Reuben; Elizur the son of Shedeur. (God chose these men as He did the disciples.)

⁶Of Simeon; Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

⁷Of Judah; Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

⁸Of Issachar; Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

⁹Of Zebulun; Eliab the son of Helon.

¹⁰Of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim; Elishama the son of Ammihud: of Manasseh; Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

¹¹Of Benjamin; Abidan the son of Gideoni.

¹²Of Dan; Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

¹³Of Asher; Pagiel the son of Ocran.

¹⁴Of Gad; Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

¹⁵Of Naphtali; Ahira the son of Enan.

¹⁶These were the renowned (elect or called one) of the congregation, princes of the tribes of their fathers, heads of thousands in Israel (Remember God had promised Jacob who later became Israel the same promise “¹⁴And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed” Genesis 28:14. (God did not limit the blessing to the land of Canaan but everywhere they went to the end of time.)

¹⁷And Moses and Aaron took these men which are expressed (means to separate or distinguish or call by name) by their names:

¹⁸And they assembled all the congregation together on the first day of the second month, and they declared their pedigrees (ancestry) after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, by their polls. (All of this was important because when they were in the land of Canaan they would be divided into tribes. In the future God will make sure everyone will know where they came from.)

¹⁹As the LORD commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai (How many people and churches live and teach as Moses did.).

²⁰And the children of Reuben, Israel's eldest son, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, by their polls, every male from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war; (Reuben lost his dignity "Unstable as water, thou shall not excel; because thou went up to thy father's bed; then defiled it:...Genesis 49:4. Not many people in number, see vs. 21.)

²¹Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Reuben (Father of the French people), were forty and six thousand and five hundred.

²²Of the children of Simeon, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, those that were numbered of them, according to the number of the names, by their polls, every male from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

²³Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Simeon, were fifty and nine thousand and three hundred.

²⁴Of the children of Gad, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

²⁵Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Gad (Belgium people and some of Italy some think), were forty and five thousand six hundred and fifty.

²⁶Of the children of Judah (head of the sceptre), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war; (The Bible tells us "The sceptre (Shepherd's rod belongs to the Messiah who is a peacemaker and the Lord of righteousness. With Him God's people will be safe and tranquil, happy and prosper.) shall not depart from Judah ("...Judah is my lawgiver" Psalm 60:7), nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come (King of Kings, the Messiah, means the gift of God; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be (into the Kingdom of God)" Genesis 49:10. "I shall see him, not now (speaking about God): I

shall behold him, not nigh (near): there shall come a Star out of Jacob (the Messiah, meaning the 2nd coming) and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth (all the enemies of Israel) Numbers 24:17. The Messiah “To give light to them that sit in (spiritual) darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” Luke 1:78. “...I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star” Revelation 22:16.)

²⁷Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Judah, were threescore and fourteen thousand and six hundred (The biggest tribe.).

²⁸Of the children of Issachar (Finnish people), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

²⁹Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Issachar, were fifty and four thousand and four hundred.

³⁰Of the children of Zebulun (Dutch people, by the sea coast, Holland.), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

³¹Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Zebulun, were fifty and seven thousand and four hundred.

³²Of the children of Joseph (Australia, America, England, the fruitful vine), namely, of the children of Ephraim (2nd born, British people), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

³³Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Ephraim, were forty thousand and five hundred.

³⁴Of the children of Manasseh (“Manasseh” means “forgetful”. America but many remain in Europe and God knows where they are.), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

³⁵Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Manasseh, were thirty and two thousand and two hundred.

³⁶Of the children of Benjamin (people of Norway and came from Rachel), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

³⁷Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Benjamin (Vikings, tall good looking because they came from Rachel also.), were thirty and five thousand and four hundred.

³⁸Of the children of Dan (Irish people, Denmark, India and were seafaring people and traveled with the Phoenicians and some came the U. S. A.) , by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

³⁹Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Dan, were threescore and two thousand and seven hundred. (Huge tribe.)

⁴⁰Of the children of Asher (Known today as Switzerland and S. Italy if records are correct.), by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

⁴¹Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Asher, were forty and one thousand and five hundred.

⁴²Of the children of Naphtali (Swedish people), throughout their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

⁴³Those that were numbered of them, even of the tribe of Naphtali, were fifty and three thousand and four hundred.

⁴⁴These are those that were numbered, which Moses and Aaron numbered, and the princes of Israel, being twelve men: each one was for the house of his fathers.

⁴⁵So were all those that were numbered of the children of Israel, by the house of their fathers, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war in Israel;

⁴⁶Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty (Some look at this number and say this is the count of Israel but not so. This was only the men of war; it does not include children and females.).

⁴⁷But the Levites after the tribe of their fathers were not numbered among them (God did not want them counted "But the Levites were not numbered among the children of Israel, as the LORD commanded Moses" Numbers 2:33.).

⁴⁸For the LORD had spoken unto Moses, saying,

⁴⁹Only thou shalt not number the tribe of Levi, neither take the sum of them among the children of Israel (The ministry of Israel was the Levites.):

⁵⁰But thou shalt appoint the Levites (**only**) over the tabernacle of testimony, and over all the vessels thereof, and over all things that belong to it: they shall bear the tabernacle, and all the vessels thereof; and they shall minister unto it (**no one else**), and shall encamp round about the tabernacle (The role of the Levites was very great; Israel had no access to the Tabernacle but through the Levites. The Levites were the guard of the Tabernacle.).

⁵¹And when the tabernacle setteth forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death (Who is he that dares approach Me – no one can come to the Father unless the Father calls them “⁴⁴No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day” John 6:44.)

⁵²And the children of Israel shall pitch their tents, every man by his own camp, and every man by his own standard, throughout their hosts (According to the law and order of the tribes around the Tabernacle.).

⁵³But the Levites shall pitch round about the tabernacle of testimony, that there be no wrath upon the congregation of the children of Israel: and the Levites shall keep the charge of the tabernacle of testimony.

⁵⁴And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did they (This was true obedience to God. God gives His spirit to those who obey Him.).

Say – When the Levites began to violate the laws of the Temple and fell to pagan practices at the time of the Maccabees in 168 B. C. and those that were faithful followers of God did not follow the Levites and that is when the rise of the Pharisees arose.

MEMORY VERSE

The Messiah/Jesus

“To give light to them that sit in (spiritual) darkness and in death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Luke 1:78.

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

Mt. Sinai

The Messiah/Jesus

“To give light to them that sit in (spiritual) darkness and in death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Luke 1:78.

“Jesus was the shepherd of Israel;”

Psalm 80:1.

The shepherd “...knoweth them that are his...”

2 Timothy 2:19.

“To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy endureth for ever”

Psalm 136:16.

God’s people are in the wilderness today for we are not home; we are waiting to enter the Promised Land or the Kingdom of God. God leads us and guides us and strengthen us when we follow Him.

The Bible tells us

“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

Psalm 27:14

“Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chose thee, and not cast thee away.

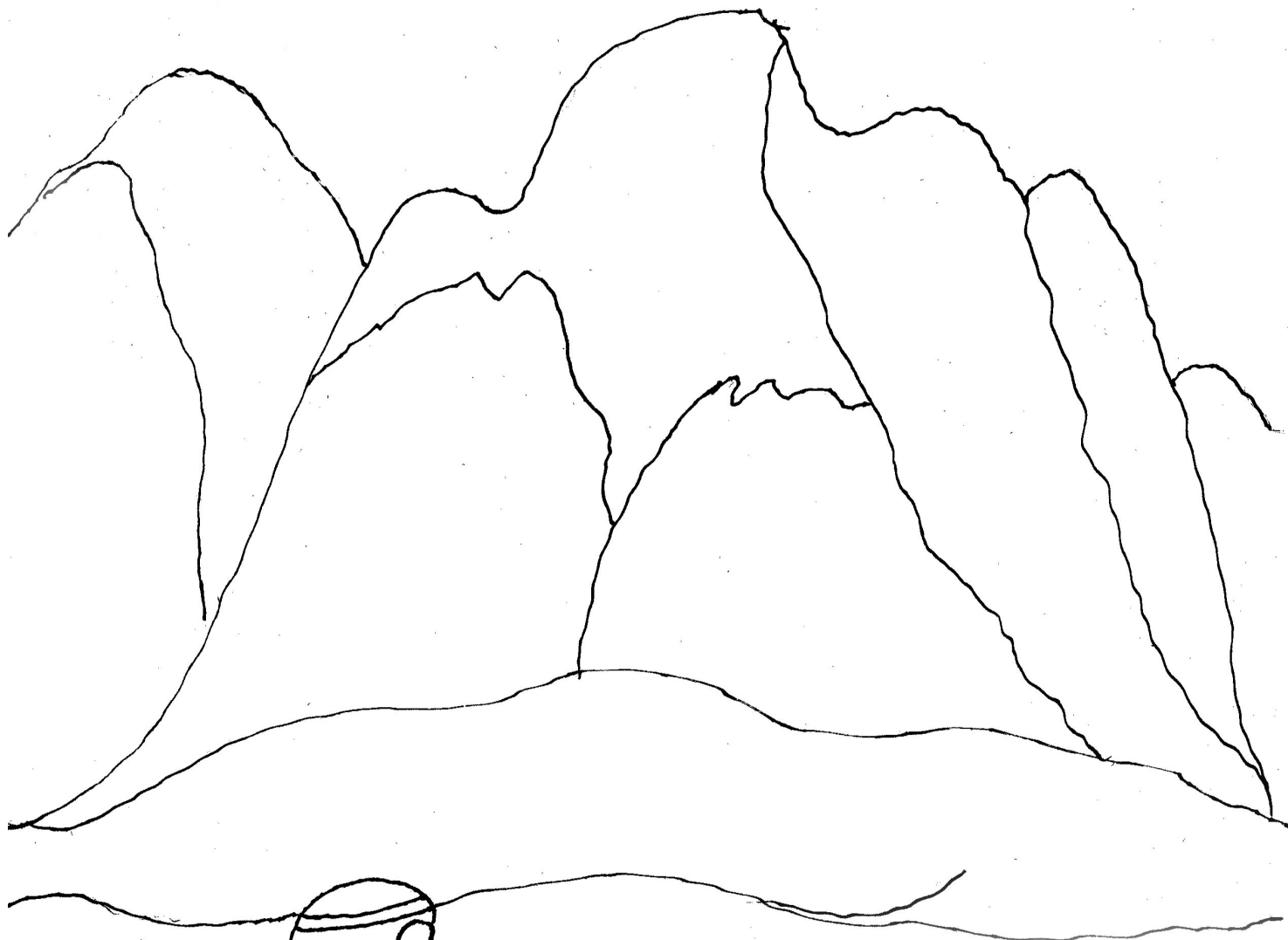
Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”

Isaiah 41:9-10

God tells us “I can do all things through Christ, (our Shepherd) which strengtheneth me.”

Philippians 4:13

MT SINAI



*THE MESSIAH/JESUS...
TO GIVE LIGHT TO THEM THAT
SIT IN (SPIRITUAL) DARKNESS
AND IN DEATH, TO GUIDE
OUR FEET INTO THE WAY OF
PEACE.*

LUKE 1:78