

Numbers



Background

- Why is this book named “Numbers”? What does this tell us about the content of this book? What is the Hebrew title for this book? What does this tell us about this book?
- What type(s) of information are we given in this Book? What does this tell us about the nature of this book? Why does this matter?
- How does Numbers contribute to the narrative story of God’s people? How does it related to the earlier books of the Pentateuch?

Outline

- What are the three main divisions of Numbers? How is Numbers organized? What does this tell us about the content and story of Numbers?

Geography

- How does the geography connect with the story of Numbers? Where did the events of Numbers take place? Why?
- What were the peoples/nations around the promised land at that time? Where did each live in relation to the promised land? Which ones were friendly, and which ones were enemies of God’s people?

Content

- What are the key verses of Numbers? What does each highlight? What does each tell us about the overall content and message of Numbers? What does each tell us about how God relates to His people?
- What happened at Sinai as they were preparing to leave? What was significant about the Passover celebration?
- Why has the Lecture also labeled the second major section of Numbers “Rebellion and Wandering”? What does this tell us about the people of Israel? How is this a warning for us? How should we respond?
- What did the spies report about the promised land? What did they conclude? Why?
- What did the good spies report about the land? How was their report the same as the other spies? How was it different? Why did it differ? What lessons should we learn from this story? How does it apply?
- How did Moses intercede for the people? What should this teach us about prayer? What difference does this make?
- How did God respond to Moses’s intercession? What does this tell us about the character of God? Why is this important?
- Describe the additional examples of rebellion after the episode of the spies? What does this tell us about Israel? How did God respond? What does this tell us about God and His relationship with His people?
- Why did Moses put a bronze snake on a pole? What did this accomplish? What does this symbolize, according to the New Testament? What difference does this make?

- What are the ways that the native kings on the plains of Moab tried to defeat Israel? What ways were not successful? Why? Why is this important? What way was partly successful? Why? What does this tell us about God's character and promises, and His relationship with His people?
- What happened as part of the final preparations to enter the promised land at the end of Numbers?

Themes

- Explain each of the theological themes in your own words. What does each tell about the content, message and significance of Numbers? How should each idea be applied in current life?
- What are the two categories of behavior that the Israelites displayed in the Book of Numbers? What was the consequence of each of these categories? What is the obvious lesson and application from this? How should you respond?
- What lesson does Numbers teach about the leadership of God's people? How does this apply?
- What does the last theme teach about the character of God and His promises? What difference does this make?
- How are each of these themes related to each other? Why does this matter?

Review

Review the three sections of Numbers and work toward committing this to memory.
Review the key themes of Numbers and work toward committing them to memory.