

## NUMBERS

### Name

Numbers – The English title for Numbers comes from the Latin Vulgate. *Numeri* is the title for the book in the Vulgate. The basis for this title comes from the census lists in chapter 1-4, and 26. The book has different titles in different copies of the Torah. The most common and descriptive title is *bemidbar* or \_\_\_\_\_. Numbers tells us the history of the wilderness wanderings of the people of Israel.

### Author

Moses – Moses has been counted as the traditional author of the first five books of the Bible for the history of God's people. There has been a movement by modern scholars of the last 200 years to deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch based on higher critical methods. No manuscript has ever been discovered to support any evidence for multiple later authors of Pentateuch.

### Dates

The dating of the writing of Numbers is dependent on the dating of the Exodus for those who hold to a traditional view of Mosaic authorship. Based on the genealogies and dating in the OT, the Exodus occurred in 1446BC. Therefore, Numbers was written approximately 40 years following the Exodus at the conclusion of the wilderness wanderings.

### Theme

The theme of Numbers is the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Numbers show us the consequences of walking according to our own standards and disobeying the path set forth by God. The Law and plans of God were clearly laid out in Exodus and Leviticus, but they were rejected to the detriment of God's people in Numbers.

### Genre

Numbers is a book of \_\_\_\_\_. Numbers covers everything in the journey from Mt. Sinai to the edge of the Promised Land.

### Structure

- I. Preparation for the Wilderness Journey (1:1-10:10)
  - A. The Census (1:1-4:49)
  - B. Commands and Rituals before the march (5:1-10:10)
- II. The Journey to Kadesh-Barnea (10:11-14:45)
  - A. Departing Sinai (10:11-36)
  - B. Miracle of the quail and the establishment of elders (11:1-35)

- C. The Opposition of Aaron and Miriam (12:1-16)
- D. 12 spies go to spy out Canaan (13:1-33)
- E. The Failure to enter the Promised Land (14:1-45)
- III. The Wilderness Wanderings (15:1-21:35)
  - A. Various Laws (15:1-14)
  - B. The Rebellion of Korah and Budding of Aaron's Staff (16:1-17:12)
  - C. Duties of the Priests and Levites (18:1-19:22)
    - D. Events at Water of Meribah (20:1-29)
    - E. The Bronze Serpent (21:1-20)
    - F. Defeating the kings of the Amorites (21:1-35)
- IV. Israel in Moab (22:1-36:13)
  - A. The Story of Balaam and his prophecies (22:1-25:23)
  - B. The Second Census (26:1-65)
  - C. Daughters of Zelophehad (27:1-11)
  - D. Joshua succeeds Moses (27:12-23)
  - E. Instructions on Offerings and Vows (28:1-30:16)
  - F. Vengeance on Midian (31:1-54)
  - G. Settling east of the Jordan (32:1-35:34)
  - H. Marriage of Israelite Heiresses (36:1-13)

### Main Characters

- \_\_\_\_\_ - the holy LORD who guides Israel to the Promised Land
- \_\_\_\_\_ - God's chosen prophet to redeem His people and give them God's Law
- \_\_\_\_\_ - siblings of Moses
- \_\_\_\_\_ - a false prophet who is forbidden from cursing God's people
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Levite who led a rebellion against Moses
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Leader of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of the people of God

### Audience

We may state that the original recipients of the book were the people of Israel in the second generation from the Exodus, awaiting the command of God to cross the Jordan to conquer the land of Canaan. The book describes the affairs of the people of the first generation, but its teaching is for their children who are now mature and are about to enter Canaan.

We may also venture the purpose of the book in this manner: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ to Yahweh by members of the new community by reminding them of the wrath of God on their parents because of their breach of covenant; to encourage them to trust in the ongoing promises of their Lord as they follow him into their heritage in Canaan; and to provoke them to the worship of God and to the enjoyment of their salvation. Thus the book that describes the "Desert Years" is designed to encourage spiritual confidence on the part of the people who are about to leave the desert. Despite its sorry record of blemish, betrayal, and benighted living, the Book of Numbers as a whole portrays a confident life of faith in the fear of Yahweh. Further, this confident living, this triumphalism, becomes a major element in the worship of Yahweh. – Ron Allen

## DEUTERONOMY

### Name

Deuteronomy – The English title for Deuteronomy comes from the Latin Vulgate. Deuteronomy means \_\_\_\_\_. The first Law was given on the slopes of Mt. Sinai, and the second was given in the plains of Moab. The Hebrew title is *debarim* or \_\_\_\_\_.

### Author

Moses – Moses has been counted as the traditional author of the first five books of the Bible for the history of God's people. There has been a movement by modern scholars of the last 200 years to deny the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch based on higher critical methods. No manuscript has ever been discovered to support any evidence for multiple later authors of Pentateuch.

### Dates

The dating of the writing of Deuteronomy is dependent on the dating of the Exodus for those who hold to a traditional view of Mosaic authorship. Based on the genealogies and dating in the OT, the Exodus occurred in 1446BC. Therefore, Deuteronomy was written approximately 40 years following the Exodus at the conclusion of the wilderness wanderings.

### Theme

The theme of Deuteronomy is the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The theme of Deuteronomy is present in chapter 30 verse 19 "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants." The people of Israel are presented with the way to life and fellowship with God.

### Genre

Deuteronomy is a book of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Structure

- I. A summary of the journey to the Promised Land (1:1-4:43)
- II. The Covenant Law (4:44-26:19)
  - A. Introduction (4:44-4:48)
  - B. The Ten Commandments (5:1-33)
  - C. The Greatest Commandment (6:1-25)
  - D. Challenges to the Covenant (7:1-9:5)
  - E. Recounting Past Failures (9:6-10:11)
  - F. Circumcise Your Heart (10:12-11:32)
  - G. A call to Worship the LORD alone (12:1-13:18)

## The Pentateuch

- H. Food Laws (14:1-21)
- I. Tithe Laws (14:22-29)
- J. Laws on the Sabbath (15:1-23)
- K. Laws Governing the Feasts and Worship (16:1-17:7)
- L. Laws for Spiritual and Political Leaders (17:8-18:22)
- M. Various Law on Living in the Promised Land (19:1-26:19)
- III. The Blessings and Cursing on Mount Ebal (27:1-28:68)
  - A. Copy the Law (27:1-8)
  - B. The Curses (27:9-26)
  - C. The Blessings (28:1-14)
  - D. More Curses (28:15-68)
- IV. The Covenant Renewed (29:1-30:20)
- V. The Transfer of Leadership from Moses to Joshua (31:1-34:12)
  - I. Joshua to Succeed Moses (31:1-8)
  - J. Reading the Law (31:9-13)
  - K. Joshua Commissioned to Lead (31:14-28)
  - L. The Song of Moses (31:29-32:43)
  - M. Prophecy of Moses' Death (32:48-52)
  - N. The Blessing of Moses (33:1-29)
  - O. The Death of Moses (34:1-12)

### Main Characters

- \_\_\_\_\_ - the holy LORD who has entered into Covenant with the people of Israel
- \_\_\_\_\_ - God's chosen prophet who delivered the Law and led them to the Promise Land
- \_\_\_\_\_ - the successor to Moses

### Audience

The book of Deuteronomy, along with the rest of Pentateuch was written for the instruction, edification, and admonition of the children of Israel as they settle in the Promised Land and come together as the Chosen People of God. This book should be seen as God's dramatic call to His people as they finally enter the land. God is calling on His people to live according to \_\_\_\_\_.