

The Law XII – Numbers I
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Numbers 1

- 1-16 The Lord directs Moses to take the first census and gives the names of the men – hence the name of this book
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- 17-19 Moses and Aaron conduct the census and each person recited their ancestry by families
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- 20- 43 gives the numbers counted by tribe
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- 44 These are the ones who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, with the leaders of Israel, twelve men, each one representing his father's house.
- 45 So all who were numbered of the children of Israel, by their fathers' houses, from twenty years old and above, all who were able to go to war in Israel-
- 46 all who were numbered were six hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty.
 - 603,550 men above 20 years old able to go to war
- 47 But the Levites were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe;
- 48 for the LORD had spoken to Moses, saying:
- 49 "Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor take a census of them among the children of Israel;
- 50 "but you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony, over all its furnishings, and over all things that belong to it; they shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; they shall attend to it and camp around the tabernacle.
- 51 "And when the tabernacle is to go forward, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall set it up. The outsider who comes near shall be put to death.
- 52 "The children of Israel shall pitch their tents, everyone by his own camp, everyone by his own standard, according to their armies;
- 53 "but the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the children of Israel; and the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the Testimony."
- 54 Thus the children of Israel did; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so they did.

Numbers 2

- 1-34 describes the tribes, the leaders by the armies and the placement of the tribes in the Israelite encampment
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Numbers 3

- 1-4 Names the sons of Aaron
-
- 5-13 Describes the duties of the Levites serving the Tabernacle
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- 14-39 Moses takes census of the Levites
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- 39 All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, by their families, all the males from a month old and above, were twenty-two thousand.
 - 22,000
- 40-51 The Levites were dedicated to the Lord
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Numbers 4

- 1-20 Describes the duties of the sons of Kohath
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- 21-28 Describes the duties of the sons of Gershon
-
- 29-33 Describes the duties of the sons of Merari
-
- 34-49 Describes the details of the Levites census
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Numbers 5

- 1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:
- 2 "Command the children of Israel that they put out of the camp every leper, everyone who has a discharge, and whoever becomes defiled by a corpse.
- 3 "You shall put out both male and female; you shall put them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camps in the midst of which I dwell."
- 4 And the children of Israel did so, and put them outside the camp; as the LORD spoke to Moses, so the children of Israel did.
- 5 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
- 6 "Speak to the children of Israel: 'When a man or woman commits any sin that men commit in unfaithfulness against the LORD, and that person is guilty,
- 7 'then he shall confess the sin which he has committed. He shall make restitution for his trespass in full, plus one-fifth of it, and give it to the one he has wronged.
- 8 'But if the man has no relative to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for the wrong must go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of the atonement with which atonement is made for him.
- 9 'Every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel, which they bring to the priest, shall be his.
- 10 'And every man's holy things shall be his; whatever any man gives the priest shall be his.'"
- 11-31 The Lord gives instructions for dealing with unfaithful wives. The intent of the instructions seems to regulate the jealousy of the husband. The functions are carried out by the priest, which we know we no longer have, so we will skip this section.
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Numbers 6

- 1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
- 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When either a man or woman consecrates an offering to take the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself to the LORD,
- 3 'he shall separate himself from wine and similar drink; he shall drink neither vinegar made from wine nor vinegar made from similar drink; neither shall he drink any grape juice, nor eat fresh grapes or raisins.
- 4 'All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, from seed to skin.
- 5 'All the days of the vow of his separation no razor shall come upon his head; until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to the LORD, he shall be holy. Then he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow.
- 6 'All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he shall not go near a dead body.
- 7 'He shall not make himself unclean even for his father or his mother, for his brother or his sister, when they die, because his separation to God is on his head.
- 8 'All the days of his separation he shall be holy to the LORD.
- 9 'And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him, and he defiles his consecrated head, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing; on the seventh day he shall shave it.
- 10 'Then on the eighth day he shall bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of meeting;
- 11 'and the priest shall offer one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering, and make atonement for him, because he sinned in regard to the corpse; and he shall sanctify his head that same day.
- 12 'He shall consecrate to the LORD the days of his separation, and bring a male lamb in its first year as a trespass offering; but the former days shall be lost, because his separation was defiled.
- 13 'Now this is the law of the Nazirite: When the days of his separation are fulfilled, he shall be brought to the door of the tabernacle of meeting.
- 14 'And he shall present his offering to the LORD: one male lamb in its first year without blemish as a burnt offering, one ewe lamb in its first year without blemish as a sin offering, one ram without blemish as a peace offering,
- 15 'a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mixed with oil, unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and their grain offering with their drink offerings.
- 16 'Then the priest shall bring them before the LORD and offer his sin offering and his burnt offering;
- 17 'and he shall offer the ram as a sacrifice of peace offering to the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread; the priest shall also offer its grain offering and its drink offering.
- 18 'Then the Nazirite shall shave his consecrated head at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and shall take the hair from his consecrated head and put it on the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offering.

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- 19 'And the priest shall take the boiled shoulder of the ram, one unleavened cake from the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and put them upon the hands of the Nazirite after he has shaved his consecrated hair,
- 20 'and the priest shall wave them as a wave offering before the LORD; they are holy for the priest, together with the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the heave offering. After that the Nazirite may drink wine.'
- 21 "This is the law of the Nazirite who vows to the LORD the offering for his separation, and besides that, whatever else his hand is able to provide; according to the vow which he takes, so he must do according to the law of his separation."
- 22 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:
- 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:
- 24 "The LORD bless you and keep you;
- 25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;
- 26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.'"
- 27 "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

Numbers 7

- 1-89 Describes the offerings of the leaders
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Numbers 8

- 1-4 Describes the arrangement of the lamps
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- 5-26 Describes the cleansing and dedication of the Levites
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Numbers 9

- 1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying:
- 2 "Let the children of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time.
- 3 "On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time. According to all its rites and ceremonies you shall keep it."
- 4 So Moses told the children of Israel that they should keep the Passover.
- 5 And they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, at twilight, in the Wilderness of Sinai; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did.
- 6 Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; and they came before Moses and Aaron that day.
- 7 And those men said to him, "We became defiled by a human corpse. Why are we kept from presenting the offering of the LORD at its appointed time among the children of Israel?"
- 8 And Moses said to them, "Stand still, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you."

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- 9 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
- 10 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean because of a corpse, or is far away on a journey, he may still keep the LORD'S Passover.
- 11 'On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight, they may keep it. They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
- 12 "They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it.
- 13 'But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and ceases to keep the Passover, that same person shall be cut off from among his people, because he did not bring the offering of the LORD at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin.
- 14 'And if a stranger dwells among you, and would keep the LORD'S Passover, he must do so according to the rite of the Passover and according to its ceremony; you shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger and the native of the land.'"
- 15 Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire.
- 16 So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.
- 17 Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would pitch their tents.
- 18 At the command of the LORD the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the LORD they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.
- 19 Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the tabernacle, the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not journey.
- 20 So it was, when the cloud was above the tabernacle a few days: according to the command of the LORD they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the LORD they would journey.
- 21 So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey.
- 22 Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey.
- 23 At the command of the LORD they remained encamped, and at the command of the LORD they journeyed; they kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

Numbers 10

- 1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

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- 2 "Make two silver trumpets for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps.
- 3 "When they blow both of them, all the congregation shall gather before you at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.
- 4 "But if they blow only one, then the leaders, the heads of the divisions of Israel, shall gather to you.
- 5 "When you sound the advance, the camps that lie on the east side shall then begin their journey.
- 6 "When you sound the advance the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall begin their journey; they shall sound the call for them to begin their journeys.
- 7 "And when the assembly is to be gathered together, you shall blow, but not sound the advance.
- 8 "The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets; and these shall be to you as an ordinance forever throughout your generations.
- 9 "When you go to war in your land against the enemy who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, and you will be remembered before the LORD your God, and you will be saved from your enemies.
- 10 "Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be a memorial for you before your God: I am the LORD your God."
- 11 Now it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle of the Testimony.
- 12 And the children of Israel set out from the Wilderness of Sinai on their journeys; then the cloud settled down in the Wilderness of Paran.
- 13 So they started out for the first time according to the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.
- 14-28 Describes the order in which the tribes left camp
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- 29 Now Moses said to Hobab the son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, "We are setting out for the place of which the LORD said, 'I will give it to you.' Come with us, and we will treat you well; for the LORD has promised good things to Israel."
 - They still had others with them in camp
- 30 And he said to him, "I will not go, but I will depart to my own land and to my relatives."
- 31 So Moses said, "Please do not leave, inasmuch as you know how we are to camp in the wilderness, and you can be our eyes.
- 32 "And it shall be, if you go with us—indeed it shall be—that whatever good the LORD will do to us, the same we will do to you."
- 33 So they departed from the mountain of the LORD on a journey of three days; and the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them for the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them.

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- 34 And the cloud of the LORD was above them by day when they went out from the camp.
- 35 So it was, whenever the ark set out, that Moses said: "Rise up, O LORD! Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You."
- 36 And when it rested, he said: "Return, O LORD, To the many thousands of Israel."

Numbers 11

- 1 Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the LORD burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.
- 2 Then the people cried out to Moses, and when Moses prayed to the LORD, the fire was quenched.
- 3 So he called the name of the place Taberah, because the fire of the LORD had burned among them.
- 4 Now the mixed multitude who were among them yielded to intense craving; so the children of Israel also wept again and said: "Who will give us meat to eat?"
- 5 "We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;
- 6 "but now our whole being is dried up; there is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!"
- 7 Now the manna was like coriander seed, and its color like the color of bdellium.
- 8 The people went about and gathered it, ground it on millstones or beat it in the mortar, cooked it in pans, and made cakes of it; and its taste was like the taste of pastry prepared with oil.
- 9 And when the dew fell on the camp in the night, the manna fell on it.
- 10 Then Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, everyone at the door of his tent; and the anger of the LORD was greatly aroused; Moses also was displeased.
- 11 So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have You afflicted Your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You have laid the burden of all these people on me?"
- 12 "Did I conceive all these people? Did I beget them, that You should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a guardian carries a nursing child,' to the land which You swore to their fathers?"
- 13 "Where am I to get meat to give to all these people? For they weep all over me, saying, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.'
- 14 "I am not able to bear all these people alone, because the burden is too heavy for me.
- 15 "If You treat me like this, please kill me here and now-if I have found favor in Your sight-and do not let me see my wretchedness!"
- 16 So the LORD said to Moses: "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

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- 17 "Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.
- 18 "Then you shall say to the people, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat; for you have wept in the hearing of the LORD, saying, "Who will give us meat to eat? For it was well with us in Egypt." Therefore the LORD will give you meat, and you shall eat.
- 19 'You shall eat, not one day, nor two days, nor five days, nor ten days, nor twenty days,
- 20 'but for a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you, because you have despised the LORD who is among you, and have wept before Him, saying, "Why did we ever come up out of Egypt?"'"
- 21 And Moses said, "The people whom I am among are six hundred thousand men on foot; yet You have said, 'I will give them meat, that they may eat for a whole month.'
- 22 "Shall flocks and herds be slaughtered for them, to provide enough for them? Or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to provide enough for them?"
- 23 And the LORD said to Moses, "Has the LORD'S arm been shortened? Now you shall see whether what I say will happen to you or not."
- 24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tabernacle.
- 25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.
- 26 But two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp.
- 27 And a young man ran and told Moses, and said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."
- 28 So Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, one of his choice men, answered and said, "Moses my lord, forbid them!"
- 29 Then Moses said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the LORD'S people were prophets and that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!"
- 30 And Moses returned to the camp, both he and the elders of Israel.
- 31 Now a wind went out from the LORD, and it brought quail from the sea and left them fluttering near the camp, about a day's journey on this side and about a day's journey on the other side, all around the camp, and about two cubits above the surface of the ground.

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- 32 And the people stayed up all that day, all night, and all the next day, and gathered the quail (he who gathered least gathered ten homers); and they spread them out for themselves all around the camp.
- 33 But while the meat was still between their teeth, before it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was aroused against the people, and the LORD struck the people with a very great plague.
- 34 So he called the name of that place Kibroth Hattaavah, because there they buried the people who had yielded to craving.
- 35 From Kibroth Hattaavah the people moved to Hazeroth, and camped at Hazeroth.

Numbers 12

- 1 Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.
- 2 So they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it.
- 3 (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)
- 4 Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out.
- 5 Then the LORD came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.
- 6 Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.
- 7 Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.
- 8 I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"
- 9 So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed.
- 10 And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly Miriam became leprous, as white as snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, a leper.
- 11 So Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord! Please do not lay this sin on us, in which we have done foolishly and in which we have sinned.
- 12 "Please do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb!"
- 13 So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "Please heal her, O God, I pray!"
- 14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not be shamed seven days? Let her be shut out of the camp seven days, and afterward she may be received again."
- 15 So Miriam was shut out of the camp seven days, and the people did not journey till Miriam was brought in again.
- 16 And afterward the people moved from Hazeroth and camped in the Wilderness of Paran.