

## Numbers 1

Verses 1- 3

**Then the Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting, on the first of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Take a census of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, by their families, by their fathers’ households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head <sup>3</sup>from twenty years old and upward, whoever *is able to go out to war in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their armies.***

**Then the Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting**

The tent of meeting here refers to the tent which was outside the camp where God often talked with Moses. (Not the Tabernacle)

**On the first of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt**

See Chart 105      Timeline

<b>End of Exodus and all of Leviticus</b>			
<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Year 2 - 1445</b>	<b>Place</b>
Exodus 40:1	Set up the Tabernacle	1-1	The Desert of Sinai
Leviticus	The whole book	1-1 thru 1-30	The Desert of Sinai

  

<b>Numbers time line</b>			
<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Year 2 - 1445</b>	<b>Place</b>
1:1	Census	2-1	The Desert of Sinai
9	Passover	1-14	The Desert of Sinai
10:11	At Sinai for almost a year	2-20	Leave Sinai
11	Quail / 70 Elders		Kibroth-hattaavah
12	Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses		Hazereth
12:16	Arrive at Kadesh-barnea	3-2	At Kadesh
13	Explore Canaan	40 days	At Kadesh
14	The people rebel	4th month	At Kadesh
14:44-45	Defeated by Amorites	4th month	Hill country

**Take a census of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, every male, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *is able to go out to war* in Israel**

From the time Abraham offered Isaac to God (but was stopped) until the Exodus was 430 years.

See pic 110            430 years

Time of slavery			
Genesis 15:16	In the 4th generation		Levi - Kohath - Amram - Moses
Genesis 22	1876	Abraham is 120	Abraham offers Isaac
		Isaac is 20	
Genesis 47:9	1706	Jacob is 130	70 go to Egypt
		Joseph is 39	
Exodus 1:6-11	1635	Joseph is 110	Joseph dies
	1606	30 years later	slavery begins
Exodus 12	1446	Moses is 80	The Exodus
Exodus 12:40-41 should read 430 years in Egypt and Canaan (Footnote in most bibles)			

During that time the family of Abraham increased into a nation of about 2.5 million people.

The 2.5 million is an estimate based on the number of fighting men that would be available to go to war. (That census will be discussed shortly)

God wanted this group of people to destroy the 7 nation states in the land of Canaan

However, during the last 160 years none of the Hebrew slaves had seen war and their faith was not strong enough to trust God.

See chart 110 above concerning the 160 years

See Exodus 13:17 concerning them not having seen war.

Regardless of their fears, God will soon tell them to destroy the people of Canaan.

The prophecies concerning the slavery of the Jews can be confusing for several reasons so even though we covered this issue back in Genesis 15, it may be helpful to refresh our memories with this topic again.

See pic 115            The prophesy issues

### Explaining Genesis 15:13

In Exodus 12:40-41 we learn that the exact period of time was 430 years  
 God simply rounded it off to "four hundred" whe he spoke to Abraham  
 Stephen did the same thing in Acts 7:6 when he spoke before the council  
 Rounding off dates that cover long periods of time is not uncommon

There is one other issue that is important to understand  
 The text in Genesis 15:13 should read in Canaan and Egypt  
 Some versions leave Canaan out but mention it in a footnote  
 Knowing this explains the other so called contradiction in the text

Scripture	Event	Person	year
Genesis 22	Abraham offers Isaac	Abraham is 120	1876
Genesis 47:9	70 go to Egypt	Jacob is 130	1706
Exodus 1:6-11	Joseph dies	Joseph is 110	1635
Exodus 1:6-11	slavery begins	30 years later	1606
Exodus 12	The Exodus	Moses is 80	1446

Using the dates above we can determine the following

Years in Canaan	1876-1706	170
Years in Egypt	1706-1446	260
Total	1876-1446	430
Years in slavery	1606-1446	160

Once the 430 vs. 400 years is resolved and the Egypt vs. Canaan & Egypt issue is understood, the prophecies become much clearer.

Verses 4 - 16

**<sup>4</sup> With you, moreover, there shall be a man of each tribe, each one head of his father's household. These then are the names of the men who shall stand with you:**

**of Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur;  
of Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai;  
of Judah, Nahshon the son of Amminadab;  
of Issachar, Nethanel the son of Zuar;  
of Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon; <sup>10</sup>  
of Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud;  
of Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur;  
of Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni;  
of Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai;  
of Asher, Pagiel the son of Ocran;  
of Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel;  
of Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan.**

**These are they who were called of the congregation, the leaders of their fathers' tribes; they were the heads of divisions of Israel."**

These 12 princes were the military commanders of the 12 tribes

Verses 17 – 44

**<sup>17</sup> So Moses and Aaron took these men who had been designated by name, <sup>18</sup> and they assembled all the congregation together on the first of the second month. Then they registered by ancestry in their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, head by head, <sup>19</sup> just as the Lord had commanded Moses. So he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.**

<sup>20</sup> Now the sons of Reuben, Israel's firstborn, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, head by head, every male from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>21</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Reuben *were 46,500*.

<sup>22</sup> Of the sons of Simeon, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, their numbered men, according to the number of names, head by head, every male from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>23</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Simeon *were 59,300*.

<sup>24</sup> Of the sons of Gad, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>25</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Gad *were 45,650*.

<sup>26</sup> Of the sons of Judah, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>27</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Judah *were 74,600*.

<sup>28</sup> Of the sons of Issachar, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>29</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Issachar *were 54,400*.

<sup>30</sup> Of the sons of Zebulun, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>31</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Zebulun *were 57,400*.

<sup>32</sup> Of the sons of Joseph, *namely*, of the sons of Ephraim, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>33</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Ephraim *were 40,500*.

<sup>34</sup> Of the sons of Manasseh, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>35</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Manasseh *were 32,200*.

<sup>36</sup> Of the sons of Benjamin, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>37</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Benjamin *were 35,400*.

<sup>38</sup> Of the sons of Dan, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>39</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Dan *were 62,700*.

<sup>40</sup> Of the sons of Asher, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>41</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Asher *were 41,500*.

<sup>42</sup> Of the sons of Naphtali, their genealogical registration by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war*, <sup>43</sup> their numbered men of the tribe of Naphtali *were 53,400*.

<sup>44</sup> These are the ones who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, with the leaders of Israel, twelve men, each of whom was of his father's household. <sup>45</sup> So all the numbered men of the sons of Israel by their fathers' households, from twenty years old and upward, whoever *was able to go out to war in Israel*, <sup>46</sup> even all the numbered men were 603,550.

### 1st and 2nd Census

Tribe	Chapter 1	Chapter 26
	1ST Census	2ND Census
Reuben	46,500	
Simeon	59,300	
Gad	45,650	
Judah	74,600	
Issachar	54,400	
Zebulun	57,400	
Ephraim	40,500	
Manasseh	32,200	
Benjamin	35,400	
Dan	62,700	
Asher	41,500	
Naphtali	53,400	
<b>Total</b>	<b>603,550</b>	

Units of less than fifty were not included

Verses 47 - 54

<sup>47</sup> The Levites, however, were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe.

<sup>48</sup> For the Lord had spoken to Moses, saying, <sup>49</sup> "Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor shall you take their census among the sons of Israel. <sup>50</sup> But you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the testimony, and over all its furnishings and over all that belongs to it. They shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings, and they shall take care of it; they shall also camp around the tabernacle. <sup>51</sup> So when the tabernacle is to set out, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle encamps, the Levites shall set it up. But the layman who comes near shall be put to death. <sup>52</sup> The sons of Israel shall camp, each man by his own camp, and each man by his own standard, according to their armies.

<sup>53</sup> But the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the testimony, so that there will be no wrath on the congregation of the sons of Israel. So the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the testimony." <sup>54</sup> Thus the sons of Israel did; according to all which the Lord had commanded Moses, so they did.

**<sup>47</sup> The Levites, however, were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe.**

The tribe of Levi was not numbered among those prepared to go to war

Their sole task was to serve as priesthood and oversee the tabernacle

Their numbers were 22,270 in the first census