

Numbers 33

Verses 1 – 4

These are the journeys of the sons of Israel, by which they came out of the land of Egypt by their armies, under the leadership of Moses and Aaron. ² Moses recorded their starting places according to their journeys by the command of the Lord, and these are their journeys according to their starting places. ³ Now they journeyed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the day after the Passover the sons of Israel started out boldly in the sight of all the Egyptians, ⁴ while the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn whom the Lord had fatally struck among them. The Lord had also executed judgments against their gods.

Now they journeyed from Rameses

See Map 3305 Rameses



Rameses means store-city

See pic 3306

Rameses (Raamses, Zoan- Means "Store Cities")

Rameses was the capital of Egypt, also known in history as Raamses or Zoan. It was a large coastal city and all of Pharaoh's business was conducted from Rameses. Rameses was one of two such storage-cities (Strong Cities or Garrison Cities) built for Pharaoh by the Hebrews.

"Come on, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply and in the event of war, they also join themselves to those who hate us, and fight against us, and depart from the land. So they appointed taskmasters over them to afflict them with hard labor. And they built for Pharaoh storage cities, Pithom and Raamses."
Ex. 1:10-11

These cities probably provided lodging and storage for all of Pharaoh's armies and their weaponry, which would account for their being called "Garrison Cities" in the New Jerusalem Bible. History mentions a third storage city at Heliopolis near Cairo.

On the fifteenth day of the first month; on the day after the Passover

The Passover took place on 01-14-01 (1446 BC)

These verses describe what happened the next day on the 15th.

The Egyptians were burying all their firstborn

We shouldn't think of burying as digging a grave because mummification was a common practice in Egypt.

The Lord had also executed judgments against their gods.

These 10 plagues were a judgment on Egypt for their worship of many false gods.

Verses 5 – 15

⁵ Then the sons of Israel journeyed from **Rameses** and camped in **Succoth**. ⁶ They journeyed from Succoth and camped in **Etham**, which is on the edge of the wilderness. ⁷ Then they journeyed from Etham and turned back to Pi-hahiroth, which faces Baal-zephon; and they camped before **Migdol**. ⁸ They journeyed from Pi-hahiroth and passed through the midst of the sea to the wilderness; and they went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham and camped at **Marah**. ⁹ They journeyed from Marah and came to Elim; and in **Elim** there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they camped there. ¹⁰ They journeyed from Elim and camped **by the Red Sea**. ¹¹ And they journeyed from the Red Sea and camped in **the wilderness of Sin**. ¹² They journeyed from the wilderness of Sin and camped at **Dophkah**. ¹³ They journeyed from Dophkah and camped at **Alush**. ¹⁴ And they journeyed from Alush and camped at **Rephidim**; now it was there that the people had no water to drink. ¹⁵ And they journeyed from Rephidim and camped in **the wilderness of Sinai**.

These verses cover year 1 in the wilderness (12 places)

See Chart 3315

#	Scripture	Event	Year 1 - 1446	Place
1	Ex 12:37	The Exodus from Egypt	1-15-01	Rameses
2		1st stop		Succoth
3	Ex 13:20			Etham
4	Ex 14:2			Migdol
5	Ex 15:23	Bitter water		Marah
6	Ex 15:27	12 springs and 70 palm trees		Elim
7				By the Red Sea
8	Ex 16:1	2-15-01 Manna and quail	3-15-01	The Desert of Sin
9				Dophkah
10				Alush
11	Ex 17:1	no water, Amalekites defeated		Rephidim
12	Ex 19:1	Law given & Tabernacle completed	Months 4-12	The Desert of Sinai

Verses 16 - 17

¹⁶ They journeyed from the wilderness of Sinai, and camped at **Kibroth-hattaavah**.

¹⁷ They journeyed from Kibroth-hattaavah and camped at **Hazeroth**.

These two verses cover year 2 in the wilderness.

See Chart 3320

Numbers	Event	Year 2 - 1445	Place
9	Passover	1-14-02	The Desert of Sinai
1:1	Census	2-1-02	The Desert of Sinai
10:11	Leave Sinai	2-20-02	Sinai into the wilderness
11	Quail / 70 Elders		Kibroth-hattaavah
12	Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses		Hazeroth
12:16	Arrive at Kadesh-barnea	3-2-02	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
Deut 9:25	Moses pleads with the Lord	40 days & 40 nights	At Kadesh

It is interesting that Kadesh is not listed as one of the places that Israel camped.

Verses 18 - 35

¹⁸ They journeyed from Hazeroth and camped at **Rithmah**. ¹⁹ They journeyed from

Rithmah and camped at **Rimmon-perez**. ²⁰ They journeyed from Rimmon-perez

and camped at **Libnah**. ²¹ They journeyed from Libnah and camped at **Rissah**.

²² They journeyed from Rissah and camped in **Kehelathah**. ²³ They journeyed from

Kehelathah and camped at **Mount Shepher**. ²⁴ They journeyed from Mount

Shepher and camped at **Haradah**. ²⁵ They journeyed from Haradah and camped at

Makheloth. ²⁶ They journeyed from Makheloth and camped at **Tahath**. ²⁷ They

journeyed from Tahath and camped at **Terah**. ²⁸ They journeyed from Terah and

camped at **Mithkah**. ²⁹ They journeyed from Mithkah and camped at **Hashmonah**.

³⁰ They journeyed from Hashmonah and camped at **Moseroth**. ³¹ They journeyed

from Moseroth and camped at **Bene-jaakan**. ³² They journeyed from Bene-jaakan

and camped at **Hor-haggidgad**. ³³ They journeyed from Hor-haggidgad and

camped at **Jotbathah**. ³⁴ They journeyed from Jotbathah and camped at **Abronah**.

³⁵ They journeyed from Abronah and camped at **Ezion-geber**.

This section covers years 3 thru 39 (18 places)

See Chart 3325

#	Numbers	Event	Place	Years 3 - 39
15	15 - 19		Rithmah	1444 - 1408
16	15 - 19		Rimmon-perez	1444 - 1408
17	15 - 19	Chp 15 The Sabbath breaker Chp 16 The Korah rebellion Chp 17 Budding of Aaron's staff These events took place during this time period but we don't know when or where they took place	Libnah	1444 - 1408
18	15 - 19		Rissa	1444 - 1408
19	15 - 19		Khelathah	1444 - 1408
20	15 - 19		Mount Shepher	1444 - 1408
21	15 - 19		Haradah	1444 - 1408
22	15 - 19		Makeloth	1444 - 1408
23	15 - 19		Tahath	1444 - 1408
24	15 - 19		Terah	1444 - 1408
25	15 - 19		Mithkah	1444 - 1408
26	15 - 19		Hashmonah	1444 - 1408
27	15 - 19	Moseroth	1444 - 1408	
28	15 - 19	Bene-jaakan	1444 - 1408	
29	15 - 19		Hor-haggidgad	1444 - 1408
30	15 - 19		Jotbathah	1444 - 1408
31	15 - 19		Abronah	1444 - 1408
32	15 - 19		Ezion-geber	1444 - 1408

Verses 36 - 49

³⁶ They journeyed from Ezion-geber and camped in the wilderness of **Zin**, that is, Kadesh. ³⁷ They journeyed from Kadesh and camped at **Mount Hor**, at the edge of the land of Edom. ³⁸ Then Aaron the priest went up to Mount Hor at the command of the Lord, and died there in the fortieth year after the sons of Israel had come from the land of Egypt, on the first *day* in the fifth month. ³⁹ Aaron was 123 years old when he died on Mount Hor. ⁴⁰ Now the Canaanite, the king of Arad who lived in the Negev in the land of Canaan, heard about the coming of the sons of Israel. ⁴¹ Then they journeyed from Mount Hor and camped at **Zalmonah**. ⁴² They journeyed from Zalmonah and camped at **Punon**. ⁴³ They journeyed from Punon and camped at **Oboth**. ⁴⁴ They journeyed from Oboth and camped at **Iye-abarim**, at the border of Moab. ⁴⁵ They journeyed from Iyim and camped at **Dibon-gad**. ⁴⁶ They journeyed from Dibon-gad and camped at **Almon-diblathaim**. ⁴⁷ They journeyed from Almon-diblathaim and camped in **the mountains of Abarim**, before Nebo. ⁴⁸ They journeyed from the mountains of Abarim and camped in **the plains of Moab**, by the Jordan *opposite* Jericho. ⁴⁹ They camped by the Jordan, from Beth-jeshimoth as far as Abel-shittim, in the plains of Moab.

These verses cover year 40, the last year in the wilderness. (10 places)

See Chart 3330

#	Scripture	Event	Place	Year 40 - 1407
33	20:01	Miriam dies	Kadesh	1st Month
34	20:22	Aaron dies	Mount Hor	5-1-40
35			Zalmonah	
36			Punon	
37	21:10		Oboth	
38	21:10	Opposite Moab to the east	Iye-abarim, (Iyim)	
39			Dibon-gad	
40			Almon-diblathaim	
41		before Nebo	The Mts of Abarim	
42	22-36	by the Jordan opposite Jericho	The plains of Moab	months 6-9

A total of 42 places are recorded over the 40 years in the wilderness.

12 of the places are mentioned nowhere else in the Bible and 17 of them have no known location.

So what is the importance of this chapter?

The significance may lie in the number 42

Some commentators believe the wilderness wandering is symbolic of the Christian dispensation.

The church is in the wilderness for 1260 days or 42 months or 3 ½ years

See Revelation 12:6

Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for 1,260 days.

See Revelation 13:5

The great scarlet Sea-Beast will continue 42 months

Revelation 12:14

The church is protected for "time, and times, and half a time" or 3 1/2 years

Verses 50 - 56

⁵⁰ Then the Lord spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan *opposite* Jericho, saying, ⁵¹ “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan, ⁵² you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from you, and destroy all their *idolatrous* sculptures, destroy all their cast metal images, and eliminate all their high places; ⁵³ and you shall take possession of the land and live in it, for I have given the land to you to possess it. ⁵⁴ You shall maintain the land as an inheritance by lot according to your families; to the larger you shall give more inheritance, and to the smaller you shall give less inheritance. Wherever the lot falls to anyone, that shall be his. You shall pass on *land* as an inheritance according to the tribes of your fathers. ⁵⁵ But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from you, then it will come about that those whom you let remain of them *will be* like thorns in your eyes and like pricks in your sides, and they will trouble you in the land in which you live. ⁵⁶ And just as I plan to do to them, I will do to you.’”

When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan, ⁵² you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from you, and destroy all their *idolatrous* sculptures, destroy all their cast metal images, and eliminate all their high places

Did God order Israel to **kill** all the Canaanites?

The text says, **you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from you**

See Joshua 11:20

God insured the death of the Canaanites by hardening their hearts.

God ordered them to destroy all of their religious sculptures, images, and high places.

This was done that Israel might not be hindered by pagan customs.

But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from you, then just as I plan to do to them, I will do to you

Failure to drive them out will result in Israel being driven out.

The Israelites possessing the Promised Land was conditional.