

# INTRODUCTION TO Numbers

## READ ALONG

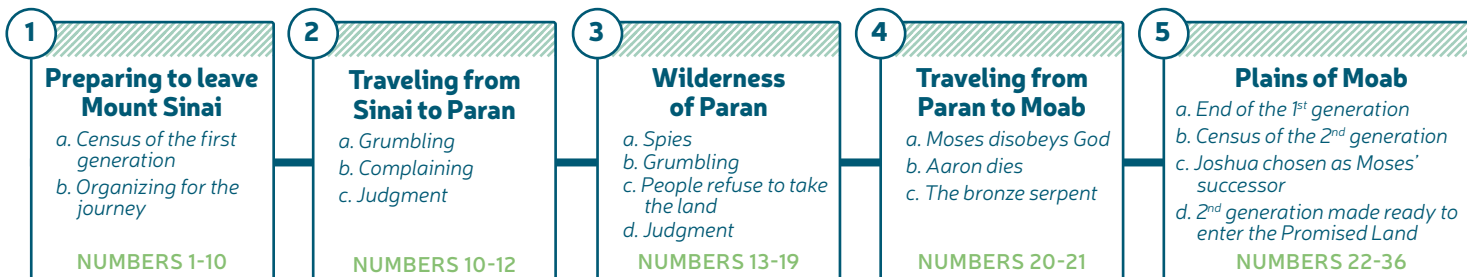
- 02/10-02/12 Numbers 1-5
- 02/15-02/19 Numbers 6-13
- 02/22-02/26 Numbers 14-20
- 03/01-03/05 Numbers 21-28
- 03/08-03/12 Numbers 29-36

## WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

1. GENESIS
2. EXODUS
3. LEVITICUS
4. **NUMBERS**
5. DEUTERONOMY
6. JOSHUA
7. JUDGES

## BASIC STRUCTURE

36 CHAPTERS



## KEY THEMES

- **The Judgment of God** – God’s judgment and consequences come to the people of God because of their disobedience.
- **The Grace and the Faithfulness of God** – God doesn’t abandon His people even in their rebellion

## KEY VERSES

**Numbers 14:11-24** *The Lord said to Moses, “How long will these people despise me? How long will they not trust in me despite all the signs I have performed among them? I will strike them with a plague and destroy them. Then I will make you into a greater and mightier nation than they are.” But Moses replied to the Lord, “The Egyptians will hear about it, for by your strength you brought up this people from them. They will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you, Lord, are among these people, how you, Lord, are seen face to face, how your cloud stands over them, and how you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. If you kill this people with a single blow, the nations that have heard of your fame will declare, ‘Since the Lord wasn’t able to bring this people into the land he swore to give them, he has slaughtered them in the wilderness.’ “So now, may my Lord’s power be magnified just as you have spoken: The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in faithful love, forgiving iniquity and rebellion. But he will not leave the guilty unpunished, bringing the consequences of the fathers’ iniquity on the children to the third and fourth generation. Please pardon the iniquity of this people, in keeping with the greatness of your faithful love, just as you have forgiven them from Egypt until now.” The Lord responded, “I have pardoned them as you requested. Yet as I live and as the whole earth is filled with the Lord’s glory, none of the men who have seen my glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tested me these ten times and did not obey me, will ever see the land I swore to give their ancestors. None of those who have despised me will see it. But since my servant Caleb has a different spirit and has remained loyal to me, I will bring him into the land where he has gone, and his descendants will inherit it.*

## BOOK BASICS



**DATE**

Circa 1400 BC



**TYPE**

Narrative



**AUTHOR**

Moses

The book of Numbers is part of the Pentateuch which is the first five books of the Bible. The English title comes from the two censuses found in the book (chapters 1 and 26). The Hebrew title translated, “In the Wilderness,” is perhaps an even more accurate description of the book’s content. The book of Numbers carries forward the story of God’s people after their exodus from slavery. It is the story of Israel’s journey through the desert on their way to the Promised Land. A journey that should have only taken a couple of weeks, but instead it took them about 40 years because the people failed to trust God and chose to disobey. But God is faithful to keep His promises and the book ends with a new generation of Hebrews preparing to enter the Promised Land. Readers are left wondering if that generation will trust God or be disobedient like the generation before them that died in the desert.