

## **200210-4 Nu 26, Israel's Second Census—CThurman**

The children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam committed whoredom, fornication against the LORD and joined themselves to Baal-Peor.

*Ps106.28 They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.*

*Nu 25:2 And they (the daughters of Moab) called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.*

To eat the sacrifices of the dead means to fellowship with them that are without life, and in this case to partake with them that have not the one and only true, living God.

*29 Thus they provoked him to anger with their inventions (affections, doings, gleanings): and the plague brake in upon them.*

*inventions, a noun from the Hebrew מַעֲלָל, tss. their works, doings, endeavors; the Hebrew לַעֲלֹל, is tss. to affect, to do, to glean.*

*30 Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment: and so the plague was stayed.*

*31 And that was counted unto him for righteousness unto all generations for evermore.*

As you might recall fornication was a gateway sin through which the children of Israel were corrupted to further apostatize by worshipping the god of the Moabites. For this the Lord sent a plague among the people that killed 24,000 of the Israelites. The LORD also commanded that Moses hang all the chiefs of the people in the light of day. Moses also commanded the judges to slay everyone involved in this sin.

*Deu.4.3 Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baalpeor: for all the men that followed Baalpeor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them from among you.*

4 But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God are alive every one of you this day.

Phinehas was particularly noted as having satisfied the justice of the LORD against Israel when he killed the son and daughter of prominent figures in Israel and Midian. For this the LORD stayed the plague.

The LORD commends Phinehas for his zeal and blesses him with a covenant of peace (there would be no repercussions for his zealous act) and an everlasting priesthood (as long as this priesthood continues so he and his descendants shall have it).

Notice that the judgment of the LORD came first upon Israel and then it will fall upon the Midianites. (i.e., cf. 1Pe.1.17, *...judgment must begin at the house of God ...*) At the end of Numbers chapter 25 the LORD commands Moses to trouble and smite them for their part in corrupting Israel. How long a time passed I cannot say, but we come to this event when we reach Numbers chapter 31.

The 26<sup>th</sup> chapter of Numbers is the 2<sup>nd</sup> census of Israel's warriors.

Census of Israel's 20+ yr. old. men, at the beginning and ending of the 40-yr. sojourn  
(Noted also the order of the tribes prominence from least to greatest. See also below.)

Before the 40 yr. (Nu.1:19-44)		After the 40 yrs. (Nu.26:7-51)	
Reuben	46500 7 <sup>th</sup>	43730 9 <sup>th</sup>	dif. -2,770
Simeon	59300 3 <sup>rd</sup>	22200 12 <sup>th</sup>	-37,100
Gad	45650 8 <sup>th</sup>	40500 10 <sup>th</sup>	-5,150
Judah	74600 1 <sup>st</sup>	76500 1 <sup>st</sup>	+1,900
Issachar	54400 5 <sup>th</sup>	64300 3 <sup>rd</sup>	+9,900
Zebulon	57400 4 <sup>th</sup>	60500 4 <sup>th</sup>	+3,100
Ephraim	40500 10 <sup>th</sup>	32500 11 <sup>th</sup>	-8,000
Manasseh	32200 12 <sup>th</sup>	52700 6 <sup>th</sup>	+20,500
Benjamin	35400 11 <sup>th</sup>	45600 7 <sup>th</sup>	+10,200
Dan	62700 2 <sup>nd</sup>	64400 2 <sup>nd</sup>	+1,700
Asher	41500 9 <sup>th</sup>	53400 5 <sup>th</sup>	+11,900
<u>Naphtali</u>	<u>53400 6<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>45400 8<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>-8,000</u>
Total	<b>603550</b>	<b>601730</b>	E.O. 40 yrs. -1,820
<u>Levites</u>	<u>22000 mo.+ (Nu.3.39)</u>	<u>23000 (Nu.26.62)</u>	<u>+1,000</u>

Simeon incurred the greatest losses, -37,100. Manasseh the greatest gains, +20,500. At the beginning, these numbered 603,550. At the ending, 601,730. A diff. of -1,820.

The <i>camp</i> of Ephraim increased in number from 108,100 to 130,800 = +22,700
The <i>camp</i> of Judah increased in number from 186,400 to 201,300 = +14,900
The <i>camp</i> of Dan increased in number from 157,600 to 163,200 = +5,600
<u>The <i>camp</i> of Reuben decreased in number from 151,450 to 106,430 = -45,020</u>
Totals 603,550 to 601,730 = -1,820

Proximity to the tabernacle noted as E-S-N-W (east, south, north & west). See now the order from the greatest to the least at the beginning and at the ending of the 40-yr. sojourn:

	E	N	S	E	E	N	S	S	N	W	W	W
<b>Before:</b>	Judah	Dan	Simeon	Zebulon	Issachar	Naphtali	Reuben	Gad	Asher	Ephraim	Benjamin	Manasseh
<b>After:</b>	Judah	Dan	Issachar	Zebulon	Asher	Manasseh	Benjamin	Naphtali	Reuben	Gad	Ephraim	Simeon
	E	N	E	E	N	W	W	N	S	S	W	S

Order of the Camps by strength at the beginning, then at the end of the 40-yr. sojourn:

Beginning: Judah – Reuben – Dan – Ephraim  
 Ending: Judah – Dan – Ephraim – Reuben

## Chapter 26

**1 ¶ And it came to pass after the plague, that the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying,**

Why Eleazar and not Ithamar? The simplest answer is that the LORD has appointed Eleazar to be High Priest at the death of Aaron, his father. (cf. Nu.20.25-28) Why Eleazar over Ithamar? There are 15 texts of Scripture which cite the name of Eleazar first, then Ithamar. There are no texts which cite Ithamar first, then Eleazar. This usually indicates the eldest son. In this case the two eldest sons of Aaron, Nadab, the oldest, then Abihu, the second born, died (cf. Lev.10.1, 2), leaving Eleazar and Ithamar.

**2 Take the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, from twenty years old and upward, throughout their fathers' house, all that are able to go to war in Israel.**

**3 And Moses and Eleazar the priest spake with them**

[cf. Nu.1.4, very likely they spoke to the heads of each of the twelve tribes of Israel.]

**in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho, saying,**

**4 Take the sum of the people, from twenty years old and upward; as the LORD commanded Moses and the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt.**

**as the LORD commanded Moses** – These words tell us that this census was to be taken in the same manner as the first. And also, that Eleazar has in fact taken the place of His father Aaron, to be Moses’ spokesman. As Aaron was appointed to be Moses’ spokesman, so Eleazar appears to have assumed the same ministry of his father Aaron in behalf of his uncle, Moses.

*Ex 4:16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.*

*Ex 7:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.*

*2 Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land.*

### **Vss 5-18, The Census of the Southern Camp of Reuben**

**5 ¶ Reuben, the eldest son of Israel: the children of Reuben; Hanoch, of whom cometh the family of the Hanochites: of Pallu, the family of the Palluites:**

**6 Of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites: of Carmi, the family of the Carmites.**

**7 These are the families of the Reubenites: and they that were numbered of them were forty and three thousand and seven hundred and thirty.**

The Southern Tribe & Standard of Reuben	
Reuben at the first census:	46,500
Reuben at the second census:	<u>43, 730</u>
Difference of	-2,770

Vss.8-11 explain the deaths of some infamous figures in Reuben that died during the rebellion of Korah.

**8 And the sons of Pallu; Eliab.**

**9 And the sons of Eliab; Nemuel, and Dathan, and Abiram.**

Eliab was great grandson to Jacob. Nemuel, Dathan and Abiram were his great, great grandsons.

***This is that Dathan and Abiram, which were famous in the congregation, who strove against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah, when they strove against the LORD:***

***10 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up together with Korah, when that company died, what time the fire devoured two hundred and fifty men: and they became a sign.***

Dathan and Abiram died for being a part of Korah’s rebellion. (cf. Nu.16.26, 31-33; Deu.11.6; Ps.106.17)

***11 Notwithstanding the children of Korah died not.***

Levi ———	Kohath ———	Amram ———	Moses Aaron Miriam
		Izhar ———	Korah (v.58, the Korathites?) Nepheg Zicri
		Hebron Uzziel	

***12 The sons of Simeon after their families: of Nemuel, the family of the Nemuelites: of Jamin, the family of the Jaminites: of Jachin, the family of the Jachinites:***

***13 Of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites: of Shaul, the family of the Shaulites.***

***14 These are the families of the Simeonites, twenty and two thousand and two hundred.***

The Southern Tribe of Simeon under the Standard of Reuben	
Simeon at the first census:	59,300
Simeon at the second census:	<u>22,200</u>
Difference of	-37,100

Of the twelve tribes of Israel Simeon was diminished more than any of the other tribes during the 40-yr. sojourn. Whether this reduction in the

number of able warriors was an indication of their involvement in the whoredom of Baal-Peor, I cannot say, though Scripture does reveal that it was the son of a prince of the tribe of Simeon that brazenly committed whoredom in the sight of Moses and all the congregation. (cf. Nu.25.6, 14)

**15 The children of Gad after their families: of Zephon, the family of the Zephonites: of Haggi, the family of the Haggites: of Shuni, the family of the Shunites:**

**16 Of Ozni, the family of the Oznites: of Eri, the family of the Erites:**

**17 Of Arod, the family of the Arodites: of Areli, the family of the Arelites.**

**18 These are the families of the children of Gad according to those that were numbered of them, forty thousand (40,000 + ...) and five hundred.**

The Southern Tribe of Gad under the Standard of Reuben	
Gad at the first census:	45,650
Gad at the second census:	<u>40,500</u>
Difference of	-5,150

Total for the Southern Camp of Reuben: -45,020

Reuben is the only camp that was reduced in warriors at the end of the sojourn. The other three camps saw an increase in warriors during this same period of time. (Ephraim [+22,700], Judah [+14,900], and Dan [+5,600])

### **Vss 19-27, The Census of the Eastern Camp of Judah**

**19 The sons of Judah were Er and Onan: and Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan.**

**20 And the sons of Judah after their families were; of Shelah, the family of the Shelanites: of Pharez, the family of the Pharzites: of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites.**

**21 And the sons of Pharez were; of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites: of Hamul, the family of the Hamulites.**

Situated here is an interesting history. If we compare this to the genealogies of Mt.1.3; Lk.3.32, 33 we're reminded of the lineage through which our Lord Jesus descends. Judah fathered Pharez through the ill

relationship with his daughter-in-law Tamar. Pharez fathered Hezron. Hezron fathered Aram (Ram, Mt.1.4; Lk.3.33). Aram fathered Amminadab. Amminadab fathered Nahshon (cf. Ex.6.23; Mt.1.4; Lk.3.32; 1Chr.2.10), captain of the tribe of Judah (cf. Ex.6.23; Nu.1.7; 10.14). Nahshon fathers Salmon. Salmon marries Rahab and fathers Boaz. Boaz married Ruth a Moabite and fathers Obed. Obed fathers Jesse. Jesse fathers David. And so forth.

**22 These are the families of Judah according to those that were numbered of them, threescore and sixteen thousand (so, 60,000 + 16,000 or 76,000 + ... ) and five hundred.**

The Eastern Tribe & Standard of Judah	
Judah at the first census:	74,600
<u>Judah at the second census:</u>	<u>76,500</u>
Difference of	+1,900

**23 Of the sons of Issachar after their families: of Tola, the family of the Tolaites: of Pua, the family of the Punites:**

**24 Of Jashub, the family of the Jashubites: of Shimron, the family of the Shimronites.**

**25 These are the families of Issachar according to those that were numbered of them, threescore and four thousand (60,000 + 4,000 or 64,000 + ...) and three hundred.**

The Eastern Tribe of Issachar under the Standard of Judah	
Issachar at the first census:	54,400
<u>Issachar at the second census:</u>	<u>64,300</u>
Difference of	+9,900

**26 Of the sons of Zebulun after their families: of Sered, the family of the Sardites: of Elon, the family of the Elonites: of Jahleel, the family of the Jahleelites.**

**27 These are the families of the Zebulunites according to those that were numbered of them, threescore thousand (60,000 + ...) and five hundred.**

The Eastern Tribe of Zebulun under the Standard of Judah	
Zebulun at the first census:	57,400
<u>Zebulun at the second census:</u>	<u>60,500</u>
Difference of	+3,100

Total for the Eastern Camp of Judah: +14,900

**Vss 28-41, The Census of the Western Camp of Ephraim**

Of the difference in the order of the census of Ephraim and Manasseh: the first census (cf. Nu.1.32-35) it taken according to the birthright, Ephraim, then Manasseh; and the second census (cf. Nu.26.28-37) is taken according to the firstborn, Manasseh was born first, and then Ephraim.

- 28** *The sons of Joseph after their families were Manasseh and Ephraim.*  
**29** *Of the sons of Manasseh: of Machir, the family of the Machirites: and Machir begat Gilead: of Gilead come the family of the Gileadites.*  
**30** *These are the sons of Gilead: of Jeezer, the family of the Jeezerites: of Helek, the family of the Helekites:*  
**31** *And of Asriel, the family of the Asrielites: and of Shechem, the family of the Shechemites:*  
**32** *And of Shemida, the family of the Shemidaites: and of Hopher, the family of the Hopherites.*  
**33** *And Zelophehad the son of Hopher had no sons, but daughters: and the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.*  
**34** *These are the families of Manasseh, and those that were numbered of them, fifty and two thousand and seven hundred.*

The Western Tribe of Manasseh under the Standard of Ephraim	
Manasseh at the first census:	32,200
<u>Manasseh at the second census:</u>	<u>52,700</u>
Difference of	+20,500

Manasseh was increased in military strength more than any other tribe, and as a result the overall camp under the standard of Ephraim increased more than any of the other three camps.

- 35** *These are the sons of Ephraim after their families: of Shuthelah, the family of the Shuthalhites: of Becher, the family of the Bachrites: of Tahan, the family of the Tahanites.*  
**36** *And these are the sons of Shuthelah: of Eran, the family of the Eranites.*



**37 These are the families of the sons of Ephraim according to those that were numbered of them, thirty and two thousand and five hundred. These are the sons of Joseph after their families.**

The Western Tribe & Standard of Ephraim	
Ephraim at the first census:	40,500
<u>Ephraim at the second census:</u>	<u>32,500</u>
Difference of	-8,000

**38 The sons of Benjamin after their families: of Bela, the family of the Belaites: of Ashbel, the family of the Ashbelites: of Ahiram, the family of the Ahiramites:**

**39 Of Shupham, the family of the Shuphamites: of Hupham, the family of the Huphamites.**

**40 And the sons of Bela were Ard and Naaman: of Ard, the family of the Ardites: and of Naaman, the family of the Naamites.**

**41 These are the sons of Benjamin after their families: and they that were numbered of them were forty and five thousand and six hundred.**

The Western Tribe of Benjamin under the Standard of Ephraim	
Benjamin at the first census:	35,400
<u>Benjamin at the second census:</u>	<u>45,600</u>
Difference of	+10,200

Total for the Western Camp of Ephraim: +22,700

### Vss 42-50, The Census of the Northern Camp of Dan

**42 These are the sons of Dan after their families: of Shuham, the family of the Shuhamites. These are the families of Dan after their families.**

**43 All the families of the Shuhamites, according to those that were numbered of them, were threescore and four thousand (60,000 + 4,000 + ...) and four hundred.**

The Northern Tribe & Standard of Dan	
Dan at the first census:	62,700
<u>Dan at the second census:</u>	<u>64,400</u>
Difference of	+1,700

**44 Of the children of Asher after their families: of Jimna, the family of the Jimnites: of Jesui, the family of the Jesuites: of Beriah, the family of the Beriites.**

**45 Of the sons of Beriah: of Heber, the family of the Heberites: of Malchiel, the family of the Malchielites.**

**46 And the name of the daughter of Asher was Sarah.**

I don't why this daughter is mentioned here, but she is.

*Ge.46.17 And the sons of Asher; Jimnah, and Ishuah, and Isui, and Beriah, and **Serah** their sister: and the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel.*

**47 These are the families of the sons of Asher according to those that were numbered of them; who were fifty and three thousand and four hundred.**

The Northern Tribe of Asher under the Standard of Dan	
Asher at the first census:	41,500
Asher at the second census:	<u>53,400</u>
Difference of	+11,900

**48 Of the sons of Naphtali after their families: of Jahzeel, the family of the Jahzeelites: of Guni, the family of the Gunites:**

**49 Of Jezer, the family of the Jezerites: of Shillem, the family of the Shillemites.**

**50 These are the families of Naphtali according to their families: and they that were numbered of them were forty and five thousand and four hundred.**

The Northern Tribe of Naphtali under the Standard of Dan	
Naphtali at the first census:	53,400
Naphtali at the second census:	<u>45,400</u>
Difference of	-8,000

Total for the Northern Camp of Dan: +5,600

### **Vss 51, The Census Totals for the Whole Camp (Excluding Levi)**

**51 These were the numbered of the children of Israel, six hundred thousand and a thousand seven hundred and thirty.**

The Census of These Twelve Tribes under These Four Standards	
Israel at the first census:	603,550
Israel at the second census:	<u>601,730</u>
Difference of	-1,820

Directions follow now concerning the distribution of the promised land.  
(vss.52-56)

For what it's worth, I'm not sure what to make of this yet:

The difference between the census taken in the beginning of the 40 year sojourn, and the census taken at the ending is -1,820 soldiers. Taking into consideration the difference in their census at the beginning and ending of the 40-year census is either +1,000 or +700 that were of a month old and upward. This means that the census difference for the entire nation at the end of 40 years was either -820 or -1,120. The number -1,120 divided by the 5 major camps (Judah, Reuben, Ephraim, Dan, and Levi) equals 24, the number for the priesthood.

**52 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**53 Unto these the land shall be divided for an inheritance according to the number of names.**

**54 To many thou shalt give the more inheritance, and to few thou shalt give the less inheritance: to every one shall his inheritance be given according to those that were numbered of him.**

**55 Notwithstanding the land shall be divided by lot: according to the names of the tribes of their fathers they shall inherit.**

**56 According to the lot shall the possession thereof be divided between many and few.**

The LORD will have the land proportionately distributed among the nation according to their size, but the land they receive will be by lot. In other words, it is the LORD that determines who shall have what land for their inheritance.

### **The Census of Levi**

The families of Levi are cited. (cf. vss.57-62) A brief lineage is given of Aaron, Moses and Miriam, and the total number of the family of Levi is given, but not by tribe (Gershon, Kohath, and Merari), as it was in the first census. (cf. Nu.3.17, 22, 28, 34, 39)

**57 ¶ And these are they that were numbered of the Levites after their families: of Gershon, the family of the Gershonites: of Kohath, the family of the Kohathites: of Merari, the family of the Merarites.**

cf. Ex.6.16-24

**58 These are the families of the Levites: the family of the Libnites,**

*Nu 3:21 Of **Gershon** was the family of the Libnites, and the family of the Shimites: these are the families of the Gershonites.*

*Ex.6.17 The sons of Gershon; **Libni**, and Shimi, according to their families.*

Shimi is not mentioned.

**the family of the Hebronites,**

*Nu 3:27 And of **Kohath** was the family of the Amramites, and the family of the Izeharites, and the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites: these are the families of the Kohathites.*

*Ex.6.18 And the sons of Kohath; Amram, and Izhar, and **Hebron**, and Uzziel: and the years of the life of Kohath were an hundred thirty and three years.*

No mention of Izhar or Uzziel.

**the family of the Mahlites, the family of the Mushites,**

*Nu 3:33 Of **Merari** was the family of the Mahlites, and the family of the Mushites: these are the families of Merari.*

*Ex.6.19 And the sons of Merari; **Mahali** and **Mushi**: these are the families of Levi according to their generations.*

**the family of the Korathites.**

Which might be the descendants of Korah through Izhar, son of Kohath.

**And Kohath begat Amram.**

**59 And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt:**

Levi begets a son ... & a daughter, Jocebed	Kohath begets a son ...	Amram marries Jocebed and beget these children ...	Miriam, Aaron, & Moses
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So according to Scripture Amram married his father's sister or his aunt.

*Ex 6:20 And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.*

Amram's father is Kohath. (v.58) Kohath' sister is Jocebed, and their father is Levi. (v.57, 59) To say it another way Levi's grandson married his daughter or Amram married his aunt. This sounds strange, but at this early point in human history, about the year 2,200 since creation or 1,740 B.C., or only 582 years since the Noahic flood, marriages like this could be considered normal. Cain must have married his sister. (cf. Ge.4.17) Nahor married his niece. (Ge.11.29) Abraham married his father's daughter. (Ge.20.12) Isaac married his cousin's daughter. (cf. Gen.11.26, 27; 22.23) Jacob married his cousin's (Laban's) daughters, Leah and Rachel. (cf. Ge.24.10, 29) This didn't have the stigma that it does today. The Scriptures will subsequently ban marriages like this in Leviticus chapter 18.

Levi was born to Jacob when he was around the ages of 74-78 yrs. Jacob descended into Egypt and appeared before Pharaoh at 130 yrs. of age. At this time Levi was about 52-56 yrs. of age. It is a matter of fact that Levi's sons, Gershom, Kohath (Amram's father) and Merari were born before coming down into Egypt (cf. Ge.46.11, 26), so this puts the ages of Amram and Jocebed closer together.

**and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.**

**60 And unto Aaron was born Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.**

**61 And Nadab and Abihu died, when they offered strange fire before the LORD.**

Here are a few reasons some of the names were not included here. They died leaving no children. This could be why other names in Exodus 6 are not mentioned here as well.

**62 And those that were numbered of them were twenty and three thousand, all males from a month old and upward: for they were not numbered among the children of Israel, because there was no inheritance given them among the children of Israel.**

Unlike the census taken of the Levites at the beginning of the 40-yr. sojourn, we only have total count of the entire camp of Levi as opposed to knowing what each tribe of Levi numbered. The census of the Levites only concerns them that are a month old and upward, which was 23,000.

At the beginning these were the counts:		
Gershon	7,500	
Kohath	8,600	
Merari	6,200	
Total	22,300	but counted as 22,000.
At the end of 40 years:	23,000	or <b>23,000</b>
Total difference	+700	+1,000

**63 ¶ These are they that were numbered by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who numbered the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.**

**64 But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.**

There was not soldier above the age of 60 years of age but for two, Joshua and Caleb.

**65 For the LORD had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness.**

*Nu.14.28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:*

*29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,*

30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

32 But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.

33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.

34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

***And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.***

***And there was not left a man of them,*** I do not know if this applied to the Levites. There is no telling how old the sons of Aaron are (Ithamar and Eleazar) so that we might know their age at the beginning of the sojourn of Israel, but they did live through all of it. It could be that Ithamar and Eleazar are about the same age as Caleb, son of Jephunneh. (cf. Jos.14.7, 10, called a Kenezite, which I take to mean 'son of Kenaz', cf. Nu.32.12; Jos.14.6, 14; 15.17; Jud.1.13, and his younger bro. name is Othniel.) But remember that the Levites were not counted in the census to determine them that were of age and ability for war.

***Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun*** – Caleb and Joshua were of the camps and prominent tribes of Israel situated on the east and west of the tabernacle. Caleb of the tribe of Judah and Joshua of the tribe of Ephraim.

**Caleb:**

*Nu 13:6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.*

Caleb is called a Kenezite (cf. Nu.32.12; Jos.14.6, 14), but that means he is the son of Kenaz. (cf. Jos.15.17; Jud.3.9; 1Chr.13.15)

**Joshua, or Johoshua or Oshea (also called Jesus):**

*Nu.13.8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Oshea the son of Nun.*

...

*16 These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua.*

*Ex.33.11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle. (Then, before the tabernacle of the LORD was constructed there was a place of meeting, which Moses moved outside of the camp at this time. This is that which Joshua would not leave as there was concern that the LORD would forsake the nation of Israel for erecting the golden calf. (cf. Ex.33.7, 8)*

*Ac 7:45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus (Joshua) into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David ...*

*He.4.8 For if Jesus (Joshua) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.*

These two men were the only spies of the twelve sent to spy out the promised land that returned with a good report of the things that they saw there. For this, though the nation of Israel was judged to wander in the wilderness for 40 years until all of that generation had died (this having specific reference to those numbered in the first census) except for Caleb and Joshua. These two were granted to enter into Canaanland at the end of the 40-year sojourn. However the other ten spies died of a plague from the LORD soon after they brought their evil report.

It has been proved that the LORD keeps His word. Whatever He says He does. If He pronounces evil the evil will come. If He pronounces blessing



blessing is sure. Why does He show His people these things? So that they might trust Him and be blessed.

Do we trust Him? Do we believe His word, that written record of God in this Bible? We should be willing to receive every word of God. We should believe every truth that taught in this Bible. The greatest blessings of life are for believing what He has revealed to His people in this Book. I don't understand the end of everything that is taught in this Bible. I have a lot of questions that I can't answer. But the LORD has given sufficient understanding for me to know how I should act given the things that I do know. I am *to occupy*, I am to be busy about the business of my Lord until He comes again.

*Lk.19.12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.*

*13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.*

Brethren, that commandment isn't difficult to understand.

*LK.19.15 And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.*

The Lord will judge His own by the *manner* in which they used those things that He entrusted to them. It does matter how we live. These Israelites, if they were here today would say the same. Let us yield ourselves fully to His will.