

Old Testament Introduction

The Book of Numbers

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INTRODUCTION

1) Numbers is the fourth book of Moses. According to the Hebrew custom of deriving the title of the book from the first word of the Hebrew text, the fourth book of Moses was called by the Hebrew word which meant "_____."

2) The translators of the Septuagint (*Greek translation of OT*) called the book *Arithmoi*, meaning "_____." in the Greek language. The translators of the Latin Vulgate named the book *Liber Numeri* meaning "_____." This is the title that carried over into the English translation.

3) The book received this title because of the two _____ or _____ of the Israelites. One census of the old generation is recorded in chapter one and the other census, taken of the new generation is recorded in chapter twenty-six.

4) "*Book of _____*," "*Book of _____*," and the "*_____ of a nation*" are other titles that have been suggested for the Book of Numbers.

5) In Genesis we see man _____, in Exodus we see man _____, in Leviticus we see man _____ and in Numbers we see man _____. This is the divine order; only a saved, worshipping soul is qualified for service.

6) _____ dominates the Book of Leviticus, _____ the Book of Numbers.

AUTHORSHIP

1) The Traditional view: _____ wrote the Pentateuch.

2) The Critical view: Moses did not write the Pentateuch. (*JEPD theory*)

RECIPIENTS

The recipients of the Book of Numbers are not named. Sometimes Israel is mentioned (**6:2**; **15:2**), sometimes Aaron, the High Priest, is mentioned (**8:2**).

DATE OF WRITING

Numbers covers the greater part of the _____ of Israel, approximately 38 years and 9 months. It was evidently written, or at least completed, at/near the close of this period (**1:1**; **33:38**; **36:13**; *Deut. 1:3*).

PURPOSE OF BOOK

1) To record something of the forty years of wilderness wanderings of Israel brought on by their _____. (**13:1ff** & **14:32-34**)

2) To record the census of the two _____. (**1:2, 3**; **26:2**)

THEME OF THE BOOK

In Numbers we see the people of God divinely disciplined due to disobedience, or _____. This book reveals the tragic consequences or results of unbelief

The message "_____ " is a warning to all who are redeemed.

OUTLINE

I. Leaving Sinai (**1-10**)

II. Wandering in the Desert (**11-20**)

III. Journeying to the Land (**21-36**)