

Timeline of Truth: God Commands a Census of Israel (Numbers 1)

<p>^{NKJ} Numbers 1:1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of meeting, on the first <i>day</i> of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying:</p>	<p>1. God _____ speaks to Moses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where? The Wilderness of Sinai More specifically? In the tabernacle of meeting. (cf. Ex. 27:21; Ex. 33:7-11) When? 1 year, 1 month and 20 days after leaving Egypt
<p>² "Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' houses, according to the number of names, every male individually, ³ "from twenty years old and above -- all who <i>are able to go to war</i> in Israel. You and Aaron shall number them by their armies. ⁴ "And with you there shall be a man from every tribe, each one the head of his father's house.</p>	<p>2. God Commands a _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Census – רֶשֶׁת, <i>resh</i> – lit. "_____ " – sum How the census worked -> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By their _____ By their father's _____ All males above 20 – able to go to war Armies - צְבָאוֹת, <i>tsava</i> - _____ Taken by a representative of every tribe. What was the purpose? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make _____ (Ex. 30-11-16) To _____ up the land (Num. 26:52-56) When else was the census used? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When Israel _____ (Num. 14:29) Where else is a census mentioned? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David _____ the people (2 Sam. 24)
<p>⁵ " These are the names of the men who shall stand with you: from Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur; ⁶ "from Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai; ⁷ "from Judah, Nahshon the son of Amminadab; ⁸ "from Issachar, Nethanel the son of Zuar; ⁹ "from Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon; ¹⁰ "from the sons of Joseph: from Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud; from Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur; ¹¹ "from Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni; ¹² "from Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai; ¹³ "from Asher, Pagiel the son of Ocran; ¹⁴ "from Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel; ¹⁵ "from Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan." ¹⁶ These <i>were</i> chosen from the congregation, leaders of their fathers' tribes, heads of the divisions in Israel.</p>	<p>3. Men Were Chosen to _____ with Moses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God chose one man from each tribe. The purpose of this seems to be to divide up the task so Moses did not have to do it all. (see verse 44). These people were chosen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They were part of the _____ _____ of the tribes Heads of divisions Division - אֵלֶּף - <i>eleph</i> - lit. "_____ "
<p>¹⁷ Then Moses and Aaron took these men who had been mentioned by name, ¹⁸ and they assembled all the congregation together on the first <i>day</i> of the second month; and they recited their ancestry by families, by their fathers' houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and above, each one individually. ¹⁹ As the LORD commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the Wilderness of Sinai.</p>	<p>4. Israel _____ God's Command</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The named men are _____ The named men assemble the _____ together. When? The _____ God spoke. They recited their ancestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lit. "They registered their clan." Recite comes from a word meaning to be born. (Hith.) They diligently followed the Lord's command.
<p>²⁰ Now the children of Reuben, Israel's oldest son, their genealogies by their families, by their fathers' house, according to the number of names, every male individually, from twenty years old and above, all who <i>were able to go to war</i>: ... (Numbers 1:21-43)... ⁴⁴ These are the ones who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, with the leaders of Israel, twelve</p>	<p>5. The _____ of the Census</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Again we see that responsibility was delegated to leaders of the twelve tribes. All the men above 20 years of age were 603,550. Of course there were many more people than this, including women, children and perhaps

<p>men, each one representing his father's house. ⁴⁵ So all who were numbered of the children of Israel, by their fathers' houses, from twenty years old and above, all who <i>were able to go</i> to war in Israel -- ⁴⁶ all who were numbered were six hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty.</p>	<p>older men who were not able to go to war.</p>
<p>⁴⁷ But the Levites were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe; ⁴⁸ for the LORD had spoken to Moses, saying: ⁴⁹ "Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor take a census of them among the children of Israel;</p>	<p>6. The Levites _____ a. The Levites were not included in this census. b. The LORD commanded that they would not be numbered. c. See Num. 3:15.</p>
<p>⁵⁰ "but you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony, over all its furnishings, and over all things that belong to it; they shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; they shall attend to it and camp around the tabernacle. ⁵¹ "And when the tabernacle is to go forward, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall set it up. The outsider who comes near shall be put to death.</p>	<p>7. God Gives _____ to the Levites a. The Levites were put in charge of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The _____ • The _____ of the Tabernacle • Carrying the Tabernacle and the furniture. • _____ to the Tabernacle • Set-up and tear down of the Tabernacle b. The Levites were to _____ around the Tabernacle c. It seems the Levites were to " _____ " the Tabernacle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God commands that an outsider (non-Jew?) shall not approach the Tabernacle • The Levites seemed to be the last line of security for the Tabernacle. </p>
<p>⁵² "The children of Israel shall pitch their tents, everyone by his own camp, everyone by his own standard, according to their armies;</p>	<p>8. God Instructs Israel on How to _____ a. Every tribe camps in their own area b. Every tribe camps by their standard (banner) c. Every tribe camps by their own army/host. d. See Num. 2.</p>
<p>⁵³ "but the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the children of Israel; and the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the Testimony."</p>	<p>9. God Instructs the _____ on How to Camp a. The Levites are to camp around the Tabernacle b. Why? To keep away God's wrath. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To keep the "outsider" away. • To protect the holiness of the Tabernacle. • To obey God's command. c. Why? To keep charge of the Tabernacle. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge - מִשְׁמֶרֶת - <i>mishmeret</i> - _____ or _____ </p>
<p>⁵⁴ Thus the children of Israel did; according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so they did.</p>	<p>10. Israel _____ Gods Commands a. How much? _____ b. The way this verse is written seems to be stating: "Israel did it right away and did it completely."</p>

Application:

1. Obeying when God wants us to obey and obeying completely are all part of being obedient to God. We do not get to pick and chose what we will obey in and when we will do it.
2. God will provide the resources to accomplish His will in our lives.