

## Timeline of Truth: God Commands a Census of the Levites (Numbers 3:14-51)

### Overview:

1. God commands a Census (1:1-19)
2. Results of the Census and the Levites (1:20-54)
3. The Ordering of the Camp (2:1-34)
4. Presenting the Tribe of Levi (3:1-13)
5. The Census of the Tribe of Levi (3:14-51)

<p><b>Numbers 3:14</b> Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, saying: <sup>15</sup> "Number the children of Levi by their fathers' houses, by their families; you shall number every male from a month old and above." <sup>16</sup> So Moses numbered them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded.</p>	<p><b>1. God commands a census of the Levites</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is different this time? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Just _____ tribe</li> <li>• Every _____ from a month old and above</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Moses did what God commanded.</li> </ol>
<p><sup>17</sup> These were the sons of Levi by their names: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. <sup>18</sup> And these <i>are</i> the names of the sons of Gershon by their families: Libni and Shimei. <sup>19</sup> And the sons of Kohath by their families: Amram, Izehar, Hebron, and Uzziel. <sup>20</sup> And the sons of Merari by their families: Mahli and Mushi. These <i>are</i> the families of the Levites by their fathers' houses.</p>	<p><b>2. The Levites are _____ by family</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 families, 8 sons</li> </ul>
<p><sup>21</sup> From Gershon <i>came</i> the family of the Libnites and the family of the Shimites; these <i>were</i> the families of the Gershonites. <sup>22</sup> Those who were numbered, according to the number of all the males from a month old and above -- of those who were numbered <i>there were</i> seven thousand five hundred. <sup>23</sup> The families of the Gershonites were to camp behind the tabernacle westward. <sup>24</sup> And the leader of the fathers' house of the Gershonites <i>was</i> Eliasaph the son of Lael. <sup>25</sup> The duties of the children of Gershon in the tabernacle of meeting <i>included</i> the tabernacle, the tent with its covering, the screen for the door of the tabernacle of meeting, <sup>26</sup> the screen for the door of the court, the hangings of the court which <i>are</i> around the tabernacle and the altar, and their cords, according to all the work relating to them.</p>	<p><b>3. The _____ and _____ of the Gersonites</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 families: Libnites and Shimities</li> <li>b. 7,500 in this family</li> <li>c. The place of the Gersonites: They were to camp to the west of the Tabernacle</li> <li>d. The duties of the Gersonites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tabernacle (tent)</li> <li>• The _____ of the Tabernacle</li> <li>• The _____ for the door of the Tabernacle and the court</li> <li>• The _____ of the court</li> <li>• The _____ for the hangings</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><sup>27</sup> From Kohath <i>came</i> the family of the Amramites, the family of the Izharites, the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites; these <i>were</i> the families of the Kohathites. <sup>28</sup> According to the number of all the males, from a month old and above, <i>there were</i> eight thousand six hundred keeping charge of the sanctuary. <sup>29</sup> The families of the children of Kohath were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle. <sup>30</sup> And the leader of the fathers' house of the families of the Kohathites <i>was</i> Elizaphan the son of Uzziel. <sup>31</sup> Their duty <i>included</i> the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the utensils of the sanctuary with which they ministered, the screen, and all the work relating to them. <sup>32</sup> And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest <i>was to be</i> chief over the leaders of the Levites, <i>with</i> oversight of those who kept charge of the sanctuary.</p>	<p><b>4. The _____ and _____ of the Kohathites</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4 families: Amramites, Izharites, Hebronites, Uzzielites</li> <li>b. 8,600 in this family</li> <li>c. The place of the Kohathites: They were to camp to the south of the Tabernacle</li> <li>d. The duties of the Kohathites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The _____</li> <li>• All the _____ relating to them</li> </ul> </li> <li>e. They had a priestly authority</li> </ol>
<p><sup>33</sup> From Merari <i>came</i> the family of the Mahlites and the family of the Mushites; these <i>were</i> the families of Merari. <sup>34</sup> And those who were numbered, according to the number of all the males from a month old and above, <i>were</i> six thousand two hundred. <sup>35</sup> The leader of the fathers' house of the families of Merari <i>was</i> Zuriel the</p>	<p><b>5. The _____ and _____ of the family of Merari</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 families: Mahlites, Mushites</li> <li>b. 6,200 in this family</li> <li>c. The place of the family of Merari: They were to camp to the north of the tabernacle</li> </ol>

<p>son of Abihail. These <i>were</i> to camp on the north side of the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup> And the appointed duty of the children of Merari <i>included</i> the boards of the tabernacle, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, its utensils, all the work relating to them, <sup>37</sup> and the pillars of the court all around, with their sockets, their pegs, and their cords.</p>	<p>d. The duties of the family of Merari:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The boards, bars, pillars, sockets, and utensils of the _____</li> <li>• All the _____ relating to them</li> <li>• Pillars, sockets, pegs, and cords for the court.</li> </ul>
<p><sup>38</sup> Moreover those who were to camp before the tabernacle on the east, before the tabernacle of meeting, <i>were</i> Moses, Aaron, and his sons, keeping charge of the sanctuary, to meet the needs of the children of Israel; but the outsider who came near was to be put to death.</p>	<p><b>6. The _____ and _____ of the family of Aaron</b></p> <p>a. No number is given for this group (4)</p> <p>b. The duties of Aaron’s family:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep _____ of the Sanctuary</li> <li>• Meet the _____ of the children of Israel</li> <li>• To _____ the Tabernacle from the outsider.</li> </ul> <p>c. The place of the family of Aaron: They were to camp to the east of the Tabernacle</p>
<p><sup>39</sup> All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, by their families, all the males from a month old and above, <i>were</i> twenty-two thousand.</p>	<p><b>7. The _____ of the census</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22,000 Levites</li> </ul>
<p><sup>40</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses: "Number all the firstborn males of the children of Israel from a month old and above, and take the number of their names. <sup>41</sup> "And you shall take the Levites for Me -- I <i>am</i> the LORD -- instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the livestock of the children of Israel."</p>	<p><b>8. God commands Moses to number the _____ males</b></p> <p>a. All were numbered from a month old and above</p> <p>b. This was done to compare how many Levites there were compared to the firstborn</p> <p>c. God would take the Levites instead of the firstborn and the Levites’ livestock instead of the firstborn among the livestock</p>
<p><sup>42</sup> So Moses numbered all the firstborn among the children of Israel, as the LORD commanded him. <sup>43</sup> And all the firstborn males, according to the number of names from a month old and above, of those who were numbered of them, were twenty-two thousand two hundred and seventy-three.</p>	<p><b>9. The firstborn males are _____</b></p> <p>a. They did as God commanded</p> <p>b. The total: 22,273</p>
<p><sup>44</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>45</sup> "Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of their livestock. The Levites shall be Mine: I <i>am</i> the LORD.</p>	<p><b>10. God _____ the Levites in place of the firstborn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem: 22,000 ≠ 22,273</li> </ul>
<p><sup>46</sup> "And for the redemption of the two hundred and seventy-three of the firstborn of the children of Israel, who are more than the number of the Levites, <sup>47</sup> "you shall take five shekels for each one individually; you shall take <i>them</i> in the currency of the shekel of the sanctuary, the shekel of twenty gerahs. <sup>48</sup> "And you shall give the money, with which the excess number of them is redeemed, to Aaron and his sons."</p>	<p><b>11. God gives a _____ to the problem</b></p> <p>a. God confirms the difference.</p> <p>b. The redemption price: 5 shekels.</p> <p>c. The money is paid to Aaron and his sons (Priests)</p>
<p><sup>49</sup> So Moses took the redemption money from those who were over and above those who were redeemed by the Levites. <sup>50</sup> From the firstborn of the children of Israel he took the money, one thousand three hundred and sixty-five <i>shekels</i>, according to the shekel of the sanctuary. <sup>51</sup> And Moses gave their redemption money to Aaron and his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.</p>	<p><b>12. The remaining firstborn are _____</b></p> <p>a. Moses follows God’s command</p> <p>b. Moses collected 1,365 shekels 273 x 5 = 1365</p> <p>c. Moses gave the money to the priests</p>

1 Cor. 6:9-20 – We were bought with a price and now belong to God.

# The Camp of Israel

