

Numbers

1. Titles:

- A. Numbers = numbering the people
- B. "In the Wilderness" -- Hebrew Title (1:1)
- C. The Book of Wanderings

2. Author:

Written by Moses (Refer to Genesis)

3. Date:

- A. Covers a little less than 40 years, from Mt. Sinai to Jordan.
- B. Written about 1401 B.C.

4. Key Words:

- A. Offering (s) – 278
- B. Tabernacle – 107
- C. Pitch (ed) – 49
- D. Wilderness – 45
- E. Sanctuary – 32
- F. Remove (d) – 23
- G. Depart (ed) – 27
- H. Encamp (ed) – 18

5. Key Verses: 14:28-34

6. Purpose:

- A. To give an account of the 40 years that Israel wandered in the Wilderness.
- B. To record the two numberings of the two generations at the beginning and ending of the 40 years.

7. Message:

- A. God's people are redeemed to serve.
- B. When God's people do not enter into God's promised rest it is due to unbelief and disobedience.
- C. God will always raise up a believing generation to inherit His Covenant-promises.

8. Outline:

- I. The Old Generation – Sinai to Kadesh Ch. 1-14
 The First Numbering
- II. The Wandering – In the Wilderness Ch. 15-20
 The Transition
- III. The New Generation – Kadesh to Jordan Ch. 21-36
 The Second Numbering

9. Summary:

After receiving the Law, as seen in Exodus and Leviticus, and being numbered at Mt. Sinai, the old generation came to Kadesh-Barnea, the gateway to the promised land. There they rejected through unbelief the land promised to them in the Abrahamic Covenant. Because of their sin of unbelief they were caused to wander and perish in the wilderness, thus knowing God's breach of promise. In faithfulness to His Covenant, God raised up a new believing generation and prepared them for entering into the land.

10. Christ Seen:

Christ is seen as The Tabernacle (Jn. 1:14), our Sanctuary in the Wilderness (Ezek. 11:16), The Nazarite (Heb. 7:26), the Son of Man lifted up as the Serpent of Brass (Jn. 3:14), the Smitten Rock (1 Cor. 10:4), and The "Star Out of Jacob" (Mt. 2:2).