

# LIGHT FOR LIFE

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EXPLORING GOD-BREATHED GLORY

*The*  
HOLY

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For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light do we see light.

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Psalm 36:9

**LIGHT FOR LIFE**  
EXPLORING GOD-BREATHED GLORY



# NUMBERS

Author: Moses

Date: 1445-1406 B.C.

Canon: 4<sup>th</sup> Book of Torah



## TITLE

Hebrew

במדבר

“In the Wilderness”

Greek

ΑΡΙΘΜΟΙ

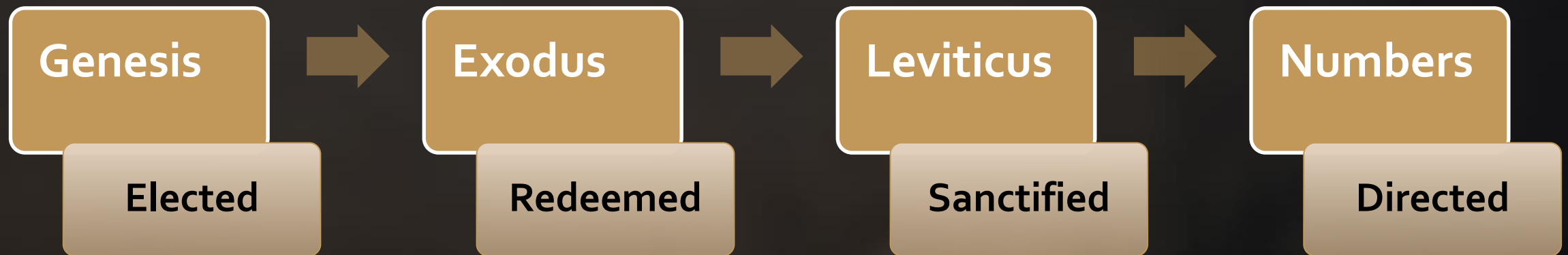
Numbers

Latin

*Numeri*

Numbers

# GRACE AND GLORY OF GOD



## Covenant Testimony

Ex 18:1	Advice from Moses' father-in-law		Nu 10:29
Ex 15:22	Three-day Journey		Nu 10:33
Ex 15:22-26	Complaint		Nu 11:1-3
Ex 16	Manna & Quail		Nu 11:4-15
Ex 18	Leaders Appointed		Nu 11:16-30
Ex 15:20-21	Miriam's Song of Praise	Miriam and Aaron Rebellion	Nu 12
Ex 17:8-16	Israel defeats Amalek	Israel defeated by Amalek	Nu 14:39-45

## Covenant Testimony

Ex 17:1-7	Water from rock	Nu 20:1-13
Ex 32:6	Idolatry	Nu 25:2
Ex 32:27	Condemnation of Idolatry	Nu 25:5
Ex 32:28-29 (33)	Priestly Intervention	Nu 25:6-13
Ex 32:35	Plague	Nu 25:9

# NUMBERS / DEUTERONOMY

## PREPARATIONS FOR THE PROMISE LAND

Description ( <i>Narrative</i> )	Prescription ( <i>Exhortative</i> )
“the plains of Moab ... Jericho” (Numbers 26:3)	“the plains of Moab ... Jericho” (Deuteronomy 34:1)
“land ... an inheritance” (Numbers 26:52)	“land ... an inheritance” (Deuteronomy 34:7)
“go up to the mountain” (Numbers 27:12)	“go up to the mountain” (Deuteronomy 34:49)



# TRAVELOGUE

Sinai (Directions)	Journey	Kadesh-Barnea (Directions)	Journey	Plains of Moab (Directions)
Exodus 19:1 – Numbers 10:10	10:11 – 12:16	13:1 – 19:22	20:1 – 22:1	22:2 – 26:13
	Wilderness			
20 days	38 years, 3 months, 10 days			5 months



# THEOLOGICAL

Sinai (Directions)	Journey	Kadesh-Barnea (Directions)	Journey	Plains of Moab (Directions)
Exodus 19:1 – Numbers 10:10	10:11 – 12:16	13:1 – 19:22	20:1 – 22:1	22:2 – 26:13
	<b>Wilderness</b>			
20 days	38 years, 3 months, 10 days			5 months
<b>Anticipation</b>	<b>Aimlessness</b>			<b>Anticipation</b>
<i>God's Direction</i>	<i>Israel's Disbelief</i>	<i>God's Discipline</i>		<i>God's Display</i>

## PURPOSE

To remind and warn that failure to trust and obey God in faith invites God's discipline but will not frustrate His ultimate purpose.

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But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD, none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it.

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Numbers 14:21–23

# MAJOR THEMES

- The Wilderness (1, 3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34)
- The Rebellion of Israel (11, 12, \*14, 15, 16, \*20, 21, \*25)
- The Wrath of God toward His Disobedient People (11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 25)
- **Grumbling** (14:2, 27, 29, 36; 16:11, 41; 17:5, 10)
- The Blessing of God through Balaam (23-24)
- The Numbers: The Glory and Grace of Yahweh (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 14, 26)
- The Old and the New: the Patience of Yahweh (1-10; 26-36)
- The Land (9:14; 10:9; 13-15; 16:14; 18:20; 20:12, 24; 26:53, 55; 32:7-9, 11; 33:50-56; 34-36)



# TYPES OF SUFFERING

- **Retributive** (Ezekiel 18:20)
  - Punitive
  - One who is stingy suffers want (Proverbs 11:24)
  - One who is idles suffers hunger (Proverbs 19:15)
  - One who keeps wrong company suffers harm (Proverbs 13:20)
- **Empathetic**
  - Does not only affect those who sin (Numbers 14:24; 32:12)
  - Relationally (Isaiah 63:9; Ruth 1:13; Romans 12:15)
- **Disciplinary**
  - Constructive and educational intended to shape character (Proverbs 3:11; Zephaniah 3:7; Hebrews 12:7)
  - Through adversity (Job 33:16; 36:15)

# TYPES OF SUFFERING

- **Testimonial**

- As an expression of genuine faith (Hebrews 11:35-37)
- In hope of future grace (Rom 8:18; 2 Corinthians 4:17)
- Often through injustice (Habakkuk 2:4; 3:18; Psalm 73)
- Sometimes by choice (Hebrews 11:25-26)
- Sometimes beyond choice (Job 1-2)
- Sometimes revelational (Hosea)
- Sometimes doxological (Genesis 45:4-5; John 9)