

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS
NUMBERS 3 – ROLE OF THE LEVITES

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we continue our study of the book of Numbers.

Numbers 3

Say – This chapter is about the role of the Levites in caring for the Tabernacle/tent which was put upon them from God. The Levites were considered assistants to the priests in the services of the Tabernacle. ⁵And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ⁶Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. ⁷And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle. ⁸And they shall keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle. ⁹And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given unto him out of the children of Israel. ¹⁰And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to (no one else except the Levites were to help) death” Numbers 3:9-10.

¹These also are the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day that the LORD spake with Moses in mount Sinai. (Haven't taken off from Mt. Sinai.)

²And these are the names of the sons of Aaron; Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

³These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the priests which were anointed, whom he consecrated to minister in the priest's office (In Exodus we are told “⁴¹And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office” Exodus 28:41.).

⁴And Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD, when they offered strange fire before the LORD, in the wilderness of Sinai, (Leviticus 10:1-2) and they had no children: and Eleazar and Ithamar ministered in the priest's office in the sight of Aaron their father (God's people haven't learned the lesson and bring in false doctrine many times; God's people must be careful to study and learn the lessons of all times. We are told by Paul“¹⁵For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel (tidings). ¹⁶Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me (Christ will not teach His people lies and deception) I Corinthians 4:15-16).

⁵And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

⁶Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. (Roughly a year since coming to Mt. Sinai.)

⁷And they (the Levites) shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation (tent of meeting), to do the service of the tabernacle (The Levites were to take care of the Temple and Israel was the Temple of God just as God's people today are the "temple of God" "Know ye not that ye are the temple of god, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you" I Corinthians 3:16.).

⁸And they shall keep all the instruments (vessels and furniture) of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.

⁹And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given (given ones from God) unto him out of the children of Israel .

¹⁰And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

¹¹And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

¹²And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn that openeth the matrix among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mine; (God is the one who appointed the Levites to help in the service of the Tabernacle/tent; they did not self - appoint.)

¹³Because all the firstborn are mine; for on the day that I smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I hallowed unto me all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast: mine shall they be: I am the LORD. (²Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine. ¹²That thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast; the males shall be the LORD's." Exodus 13:2, 12; Numbers 8:16-17)

¹⁴And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying,

¹⁵Number the children of Levi after the house of their fathers, by their families: every male from a month old and upward shalt thou number them (The remainder of the tribes was numbered from 20 yrs. old and upward which would go to war.).

¹⁶And Moses numbered them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded (⁵⁷And these are they that were numbered of the Levites after their families: of Gershon, the family of the Gershonites: of Kohath, the family of the Kohathites: of Merari, the family of the Merarites. ⁵⁸These are the families of the Levites: the family of the Libnites, the family of the Hebronites, the family of the Mahlites, the family of the Mushites, the family of the Korathites. And Kohath begat Amram. ⁵⁹And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt: and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister. ⁶⁰And unto Aaron was born Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ⁶¹And Nadab and Abihu died, when they offered strange fire before the LORD. ⁶²And those that were numbered of them were twenty and three thousand, all males

from a month old and upward: for they were not numbered among the children of Israel, because there was no inheritance given them among the children of Israel” Numbers 26:57-62).

¹⁷And these were the sons of Levi by their names; Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari (There were three major families of the Levites; Gershon, Kohath and Merari.).

¹⁸And these are the names of the sons of Gershon by their families; Libni, and Shimei.

¹⁹And the sons of Kohath by their families; Amram, and Izechar, Hebron, and Uzziel.

²⁰And the sons of Merari by their families; Mahli, and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to the house of their fathers.

²¹Of Gershon was the family of the Libnites, and the family of the Shimites: these are the families of the Gershonites.

²²Those that were numbered of them, according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, even those that were numbered of them were seven thousand and five hundred.

Say – Here is what the son of Levi, Gershon was to take care of.

²³The families of the Gershonites shall pitch behind the tabernacle westward.

²⁴And the chief of the house of the father of the Gershonites shall be Eliasaph the son of Lael.

²⁵And the charge of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation shall be the tabernacle, and the tent, the covering thereof, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

²⁶And the hangings of the court, and the curtain for the door of the court, which is by the tabernacle, and by the altar round about, and the cords of it for all the service thereof.

Say – Here is what the son of Levi, Kohath was to take care of.

²⁷And of Kohath was the family of the Amramites, and the family of the Izecharites, and the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites: these are the families of the Kohathites.

²⁸In the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, were eight thousand and six hundred, keeping the charge of the sanctuary.

²⁹The families of the sons of Kohath shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle southward.

³⁰And the chief of the house of the father of the families of the Kohathites shall be Elizaphan the son of Uzziel.

³¹And their charge shall be the ark, and the table, and the candlestick, and the altars, and the vessels of the sanctuary wherewith they minister, and the hanging, and all the service thereof.

³²And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest shall be chief over the chief of the Levites, and have the oversight of them that keep the charge of the sanctuary (Eleazar later became a high priest.).

Say – Here is what the son of Levi, Merari was to take care of.

³³Of Merari was the family of the Mahlites, and the family of the Mushites: these are the families of Merari.

³⁴And those that were numbered of them, according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward, were six thousand and two hundred.

³⁵And the chief of the house of the father of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail: these shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle northward.

³⁶And under the custody and charge of the sons of Merari shall be the boards of the tabernacle, and the bars thereof, and the pillars thereof, and the sockets thereof, and all the vessels thereof, and all that serveth thereto.

³⁷And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords.

³⁸But those that encamp before the tabernacle toward the east, even before the tabernacle of the congregation eastward, shall be Moses, and Aaron and his sons, keeping the charge of the sanctuary for the charge of the children of Israel; and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death (Moses, Aaron and his sons were to camp right next to the tent on the east side but were not to touch the tent of meeting. God does not open His Sanctuary to all people only to those He has called and God called the tribe of Levi to be in the Tabernacle/tent and the High priest in the Holy of Holies. Now there were guards all around the Tabernacle/tent just as God wanted.).

³⁹All that were numbered of the Levites, which Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, throughout their families, all the males from a month old and upward, were twenty and two thousand.

⁴⁰And the LORD (Jehovah) said unto Moses (alone), Number all the firstborn of the males of the children of Israel from a month old and upward, and take the number of their names.

⁴¹And thou shalt take the Levites for me (I am the LORD) instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel; and the cattle of the Levites instead of all the firstlings among the cattle of the children of Israel.

⁴²And Moses numbered, as the LORD commanded him, all the firstborn among the children of Israel.

⁴³And all the firstborn males by the number of names, from a month old and upward, of those that were numbered of them, were twenty and two thousand two hundred and threescore and thirteen.

⁴⁴And the LORD (Jehovah) spake unto Moses, saying,

⁴⁵Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites instead of their cattle; and the Levites shall be mine: I am the LORD.

⁴⁶And for those that are to be redeemed of the two hundred and threescore and thirteen of the firstborn of the children of Israel, which are more than the Levites;

⁴⁷Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll, after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take them: (the shekel is twenty gerahs:)

⁴⁸And thou shalt give the money, wherewith the odd number of them is to be redeemed, unto Aaron and to his sons.

⁴⁹And Moses took the redemption money of them that were over and above them that were redeemed by the Levites:

⁵⁰Of the firstborn of the children of Israel took he the money; a thousand three hundred and threescore and five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

⁵¹And Moses gave the money of them that were redeemed unto Aaron and to his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Say – Just as God’s people today are redeemed or rescued from sin and begotten as a child of God but not from the blood of bulls and goats ¹⁸Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things (by the blood of bulls and goats or), as silver and gold, from your vain conversation (futile way of life) received by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: ²⁰Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world (Christ was part of the plan of God for His people.), but was manifest in these last times for you, ²¹Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. ²²Seeing ye have purified your souls (your life from spiritual darkness from disobedience) in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned (unpretended) love of the brethren (and God’s people know how to love because of the Law of God), see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: ²³Being born again (Israel had been begotten out of Egypt through the Red Sea by baptism.), not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” I Peter 1:18-23.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: I Peter 1:19

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

REDEMPTION OF GOD - REDEMPTION MEANS "TO BE SET FREE FROM SIN OR THE SECOND DEATH" AND TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY OF GOD EPHESIANS 1:7

FORASMUCH AS YE KNOW THAT YE WERE NOT REDEEMED WITH CORRUPTIBLE THINGS (things which can be destroyed) AS SILVER AND GOLD...

BUT WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, AS A LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH AND WITHOUT SPOT: I Peter 1:18-19

(Christ gave His life for His people so we could have eternal life; Christ paid the price for our sins by shedding His blood.)

