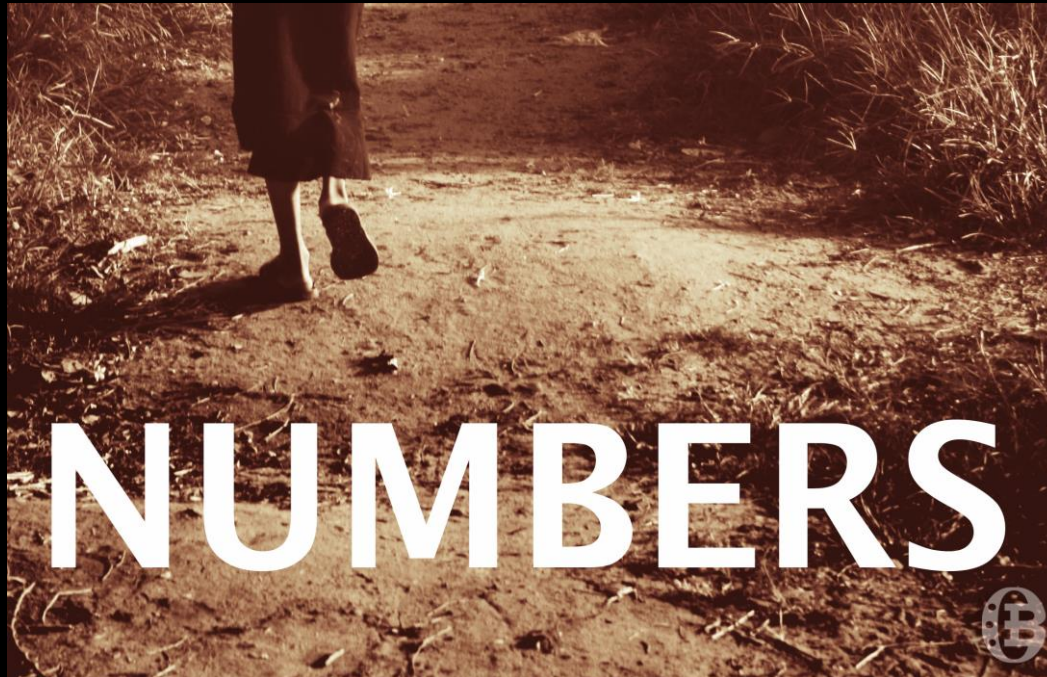


The Beauty of Numbers



Numbers 1 – 2

NUMBERS – 4TH BOOK

S I S E N E G

E X O D U S

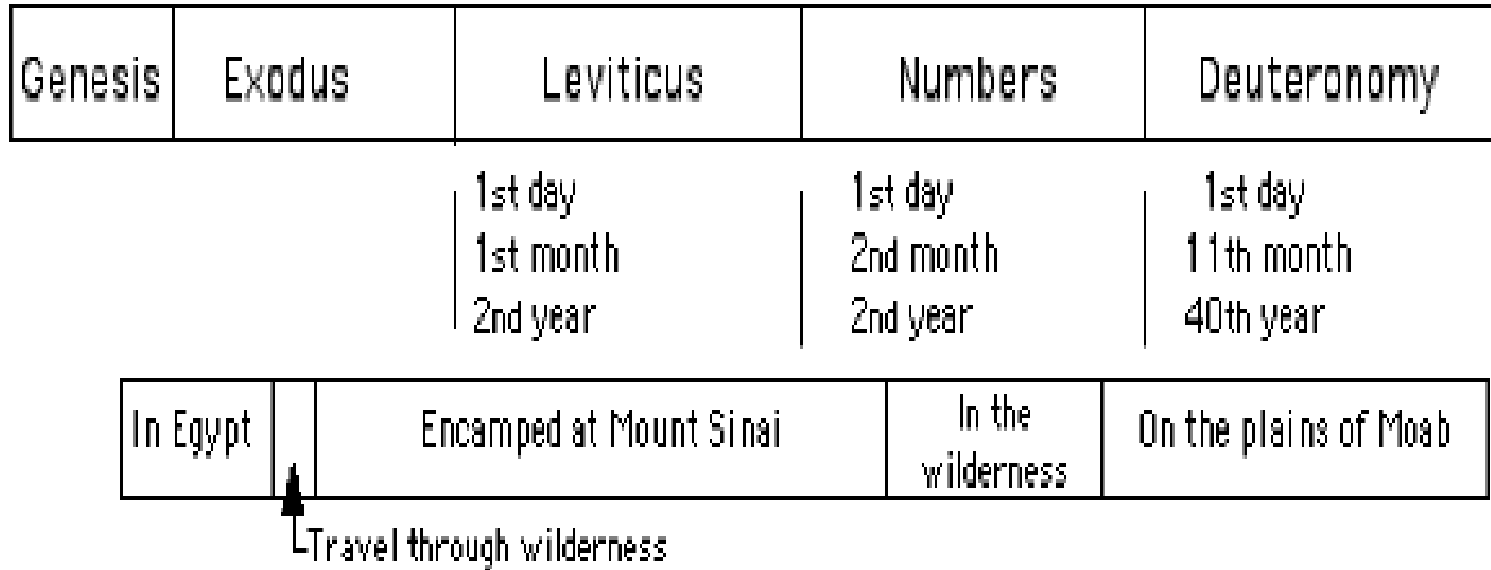
L E V I T I C U S

N U M B E R S

D E U T E R O N O M Y

THE LAW
(Torah)
(Pentateuch)

The Law legally sets up the terms on which man is to respond to the LORD.



Genesis – Beginnings

Exodus – Deliverance/Salvation/
Birth of a nation

Leviticus – Holiness

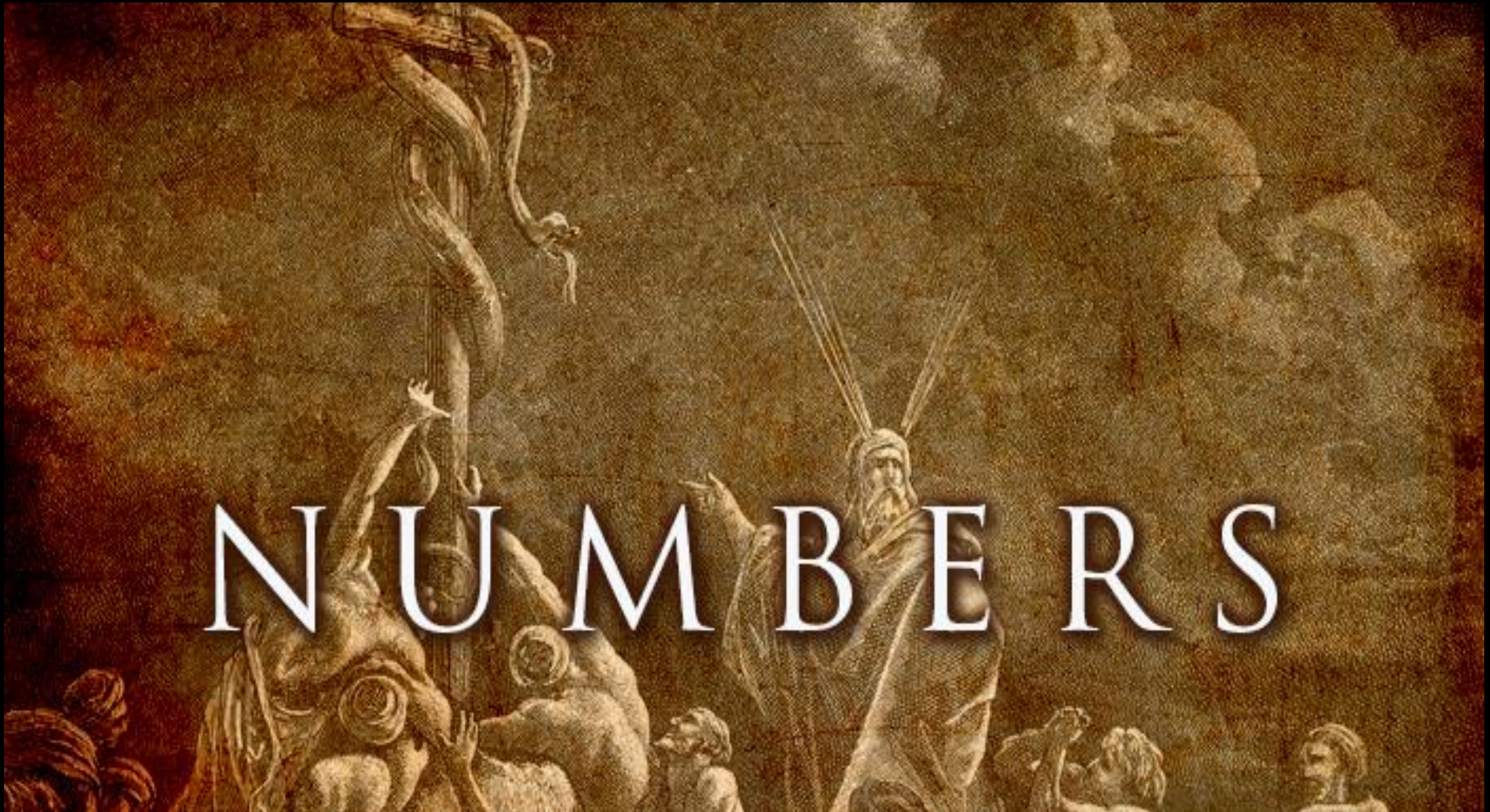
Numbers – Wanderings

Deuteronomy – 3 Sermons/Renewal



MOSSES

Greek Ἀριθμοί *Arithmoi*
“The Numbering of the People”



Hebrew

B'midbar – In the Wilderness

בְּמִדְבָּר

BAMIDBAR



NUMBERS

God Leads Us Through The Wilderness

Chronicle of 38 years of successes
and failures

1 Corinthians 10:11

Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

1 Corinthians 10:11

Now all these things happened to them as **examples**, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Τύπος – typos An example, a pattern, a prototype

Hebrew vs Greek Model of Prophecy

Numbers 1

1 Now the Lord spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of meeting, on the first *day* of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying:

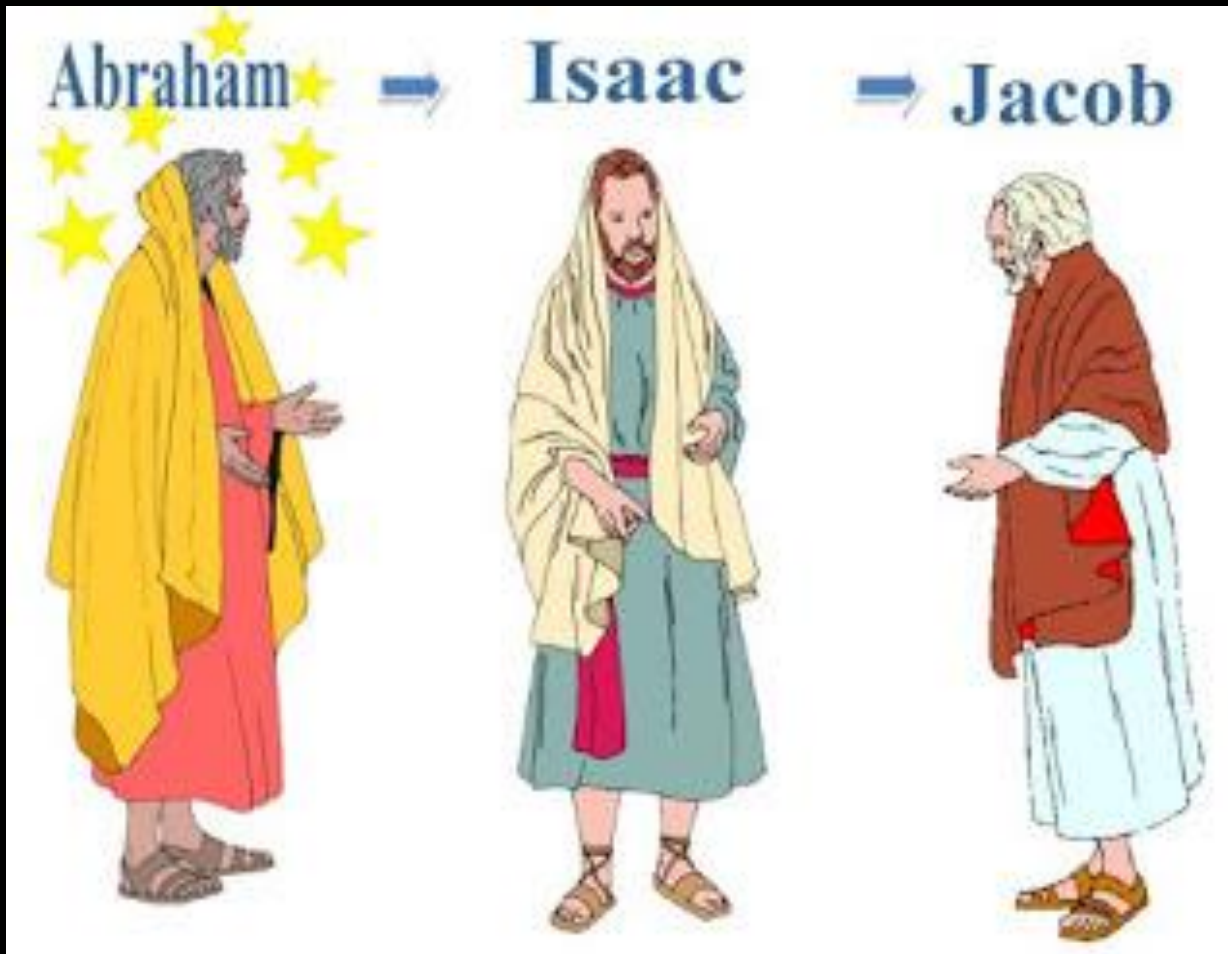
2 “Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers’ houses, according to the number of names, every male individually,

3 from twenty years old and above—all who *are able to* go to war in Israel. You and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

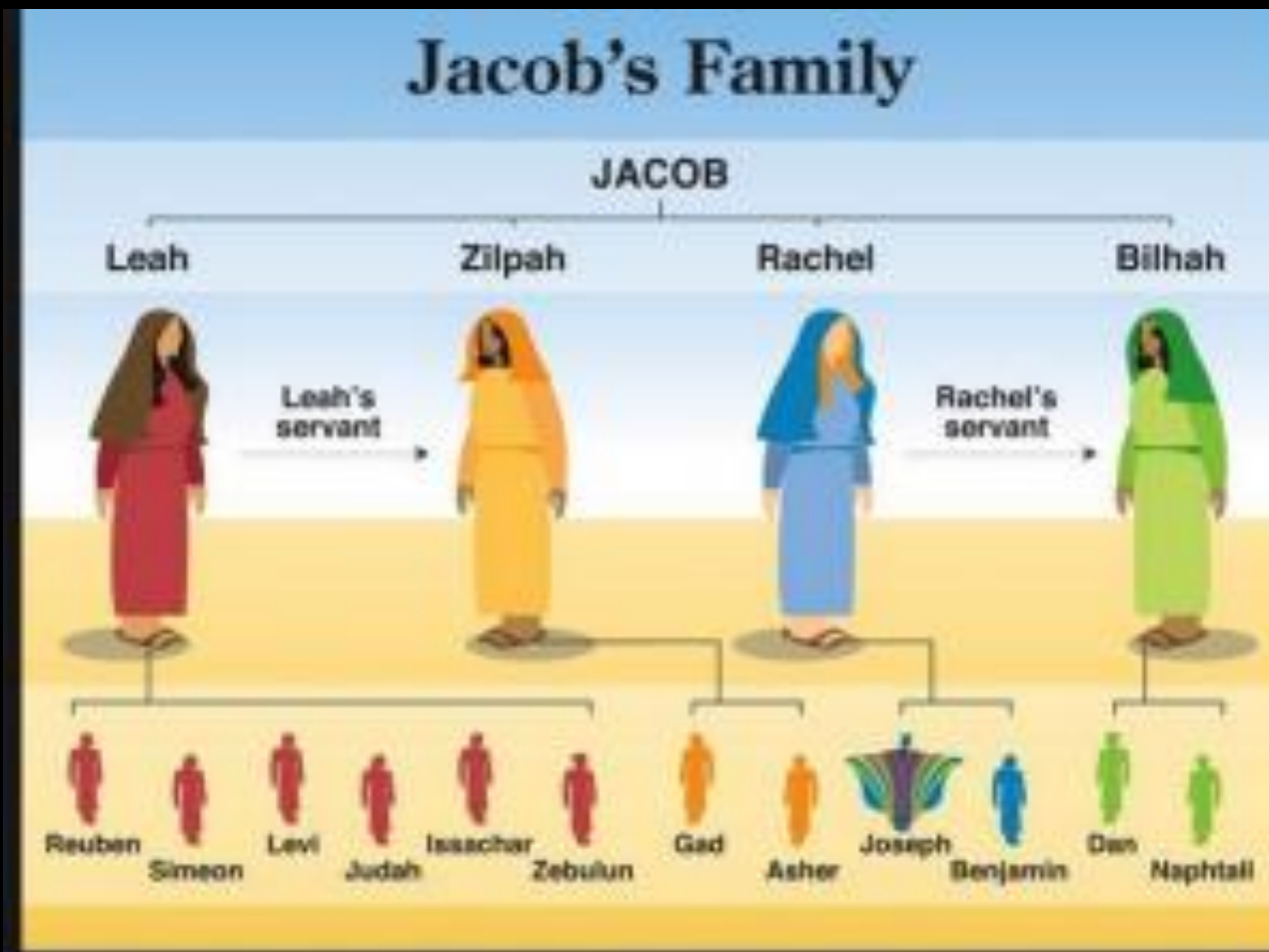
...

... **19** As the Lord commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the Wilderness of Sinai.

The Beginnings of the 12 Tribes



12 Tribes



Sons of Jacob / Tribes of Israel

JACOB

(ca. 1700 BC)

Leah

(elder sister)

Zilpah

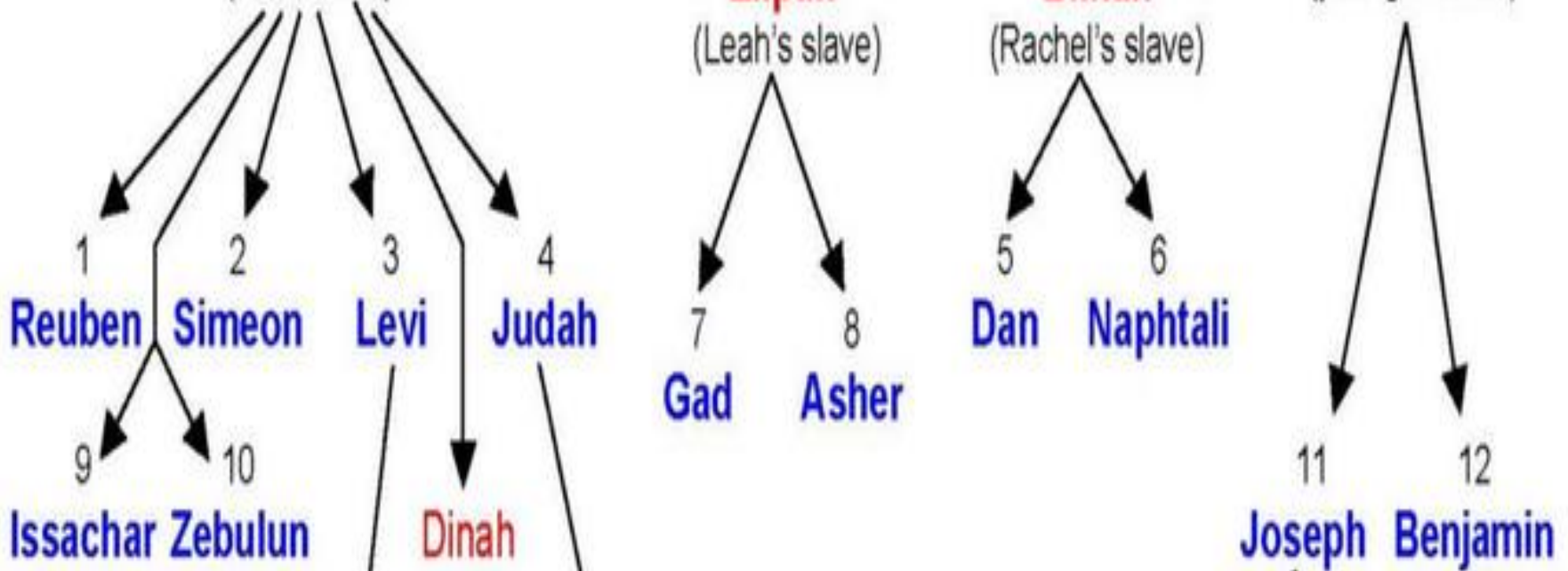
(Leah's slave)

Bilhah

(Rachel's slave)

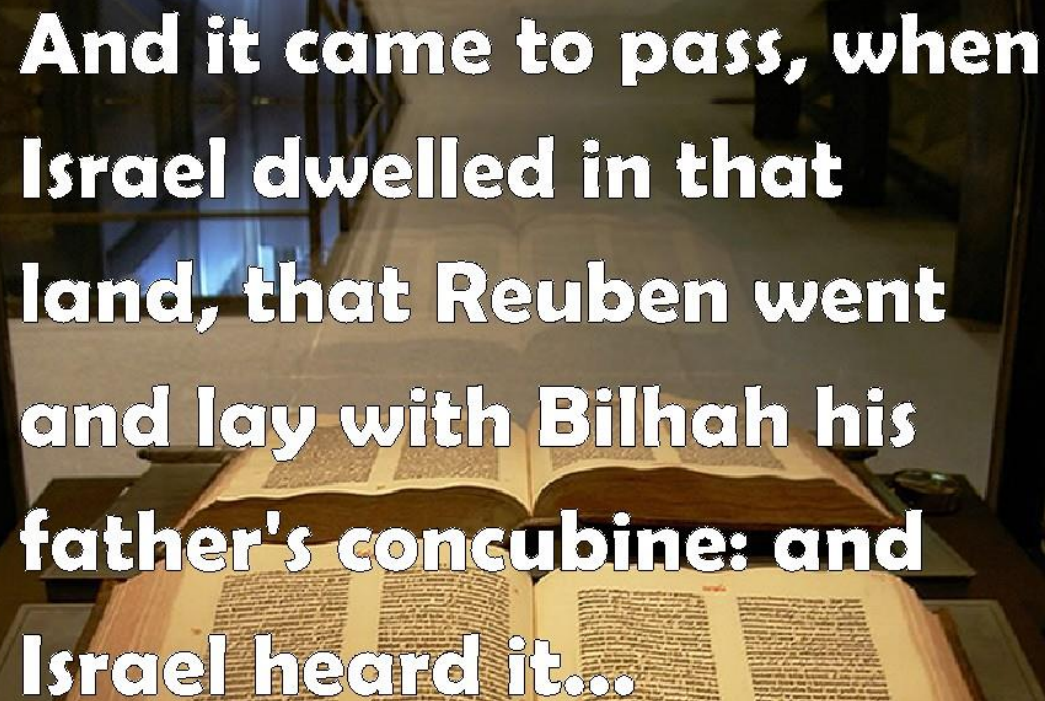
Rachel

(younger sister)



Right of the First born :
Double Portion



An open Bible is shown from a top-down perspective, resting on a dark wooden stand. The pages are yellowed with age and contain dense, small text. The Bible is open to two pages, with the gutter visible in the center. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting with a window or light source in the distance.

**And it came to pass, when
Israel dwelled in that
land, that Reuben went
and lay with Bilhah his
father's concubine: and
Israel heard it...**

—Genesis 35:22

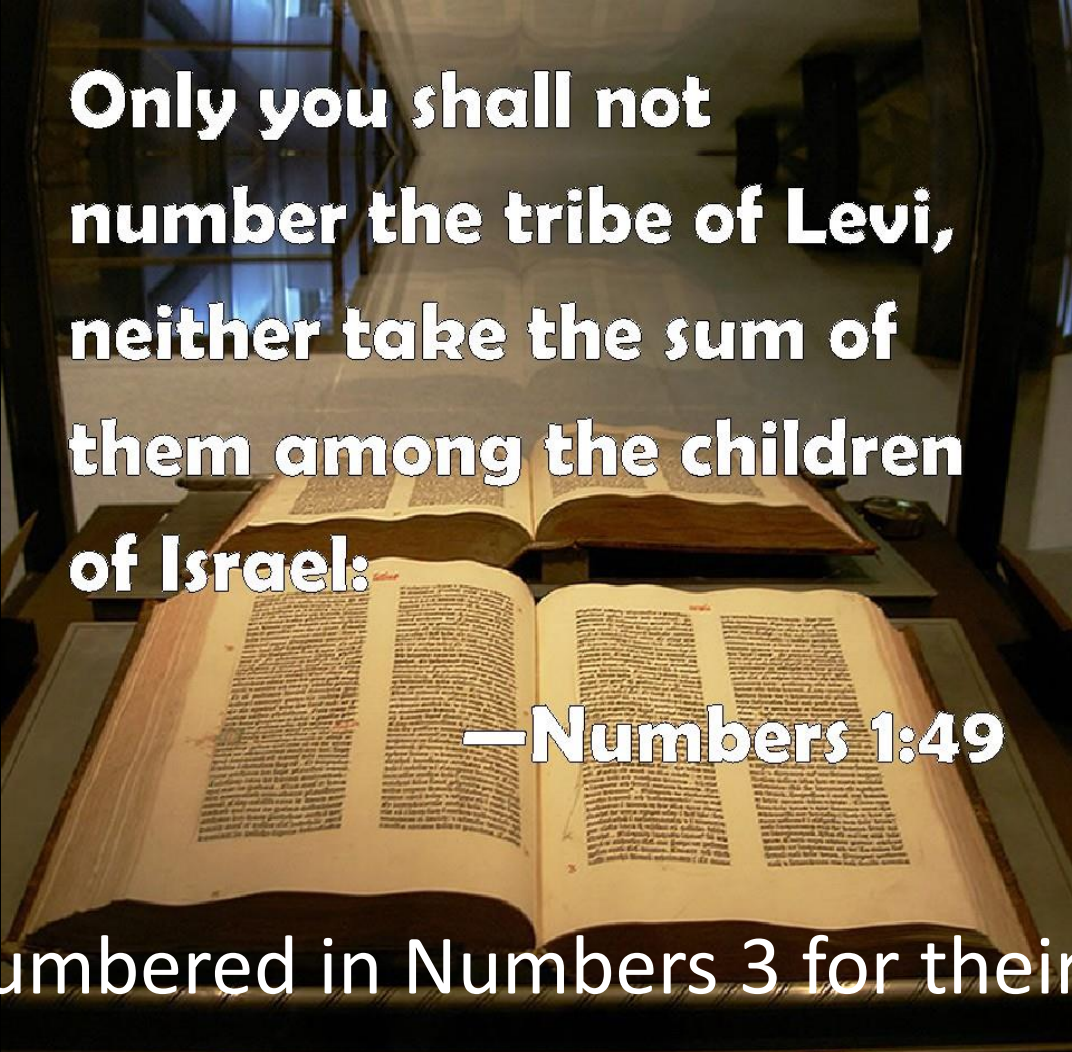
But Reuben forfeited the right. Joseph, the first born from Rachel got the double portion. Jacob adopted both his sons – Ephraim & Manasseh (Gen 48). They become named as tribes instead of Joseph.

Note: Order of tribes differs in different passages. In Rev 7 – the Tribe of Dan was left out.

Order According to Revelation 7

JUDAH	Praise the LORD	Gen 29:35
REUBEN	The Lord sees my affliction and has given me a son	Gen 29:32*
GAD	Granted a troop/Blessings	Gen 30:11*
ASHER	Happy	Gen 30:13
NAPTHALI	Wrestling	Gen 30:8
MANASSEH	Forget my sorrow	Gen 41:51
SIMEON	God hears	Gen 29:33
LEVI	Join	Gen 29:34
ISSACHAR	Purchased	Gen 30:18
ZEBULUN	Dwell with me	Gen 30:20
JOSEPH	Adding to me	Gen 30:24
BENJAMIN	Son of his right hand	Gen 35:18

For war – Levites are not to be numbered among fighting men.

An open Bible is shown on a wooden table, with its pages filled with text. The Bible is the central focus of the image, and the text is overlaid on it. The background is dark, making the Bible stand out.

**Only you shall not
number the tribe of Levi,
neither take the sum of
them among the children
of Israel:**

—Numbers 1:49

Levites numbered in Numbers 3 for their duties.

Numbers 1 & 2

The total number of fighting men in the tribes is more than 600,000.

With the priests & Levites and families members, total population would be more than 2 million.

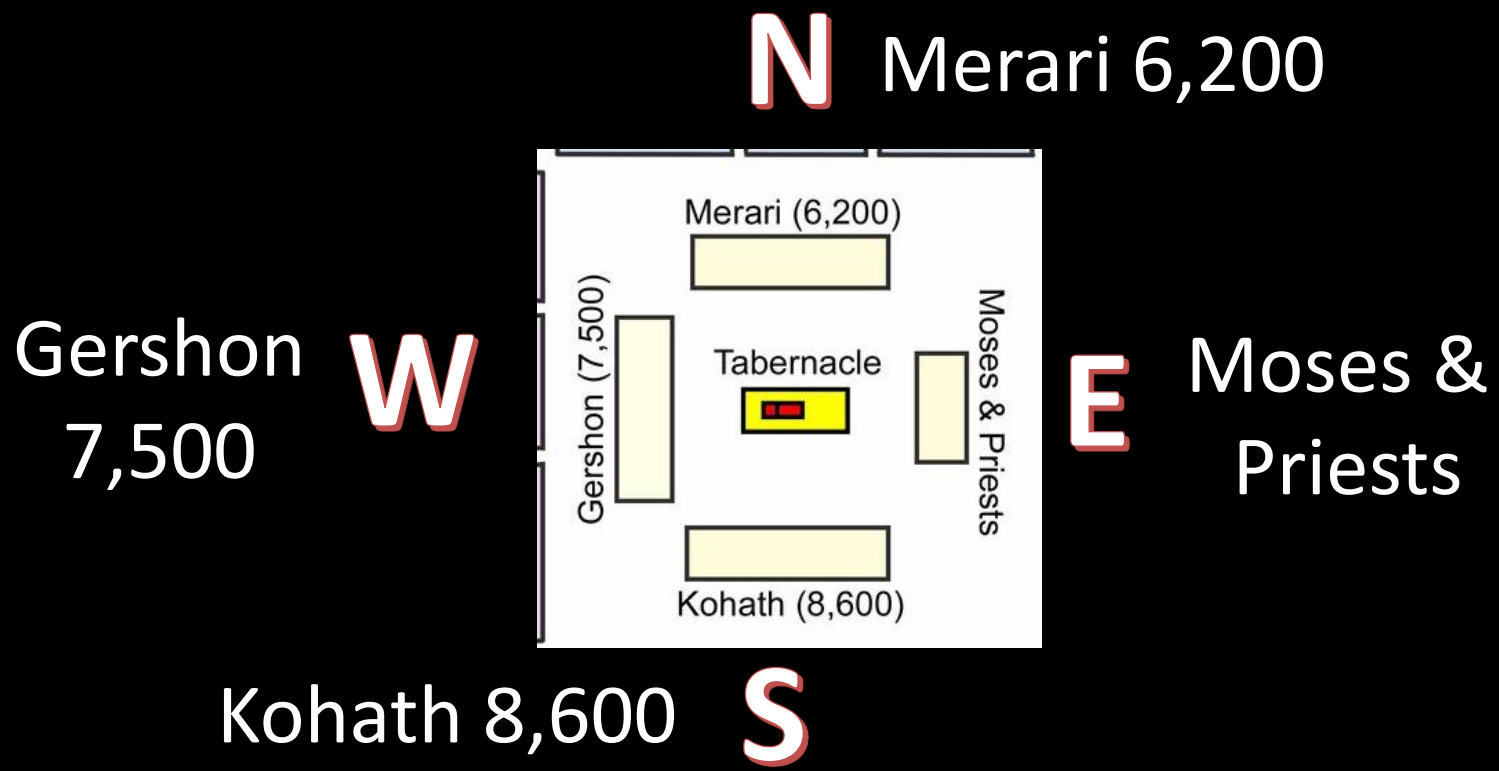
THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE CAMP



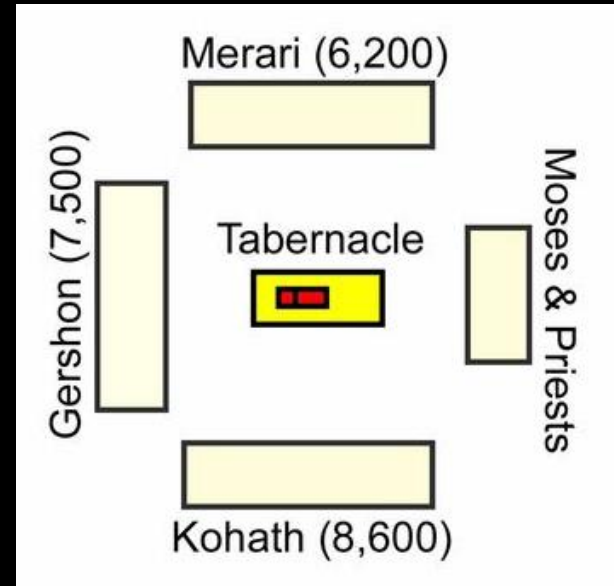
... but the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony...

Num 1:53

Arrangement & numbers – Numbers 3



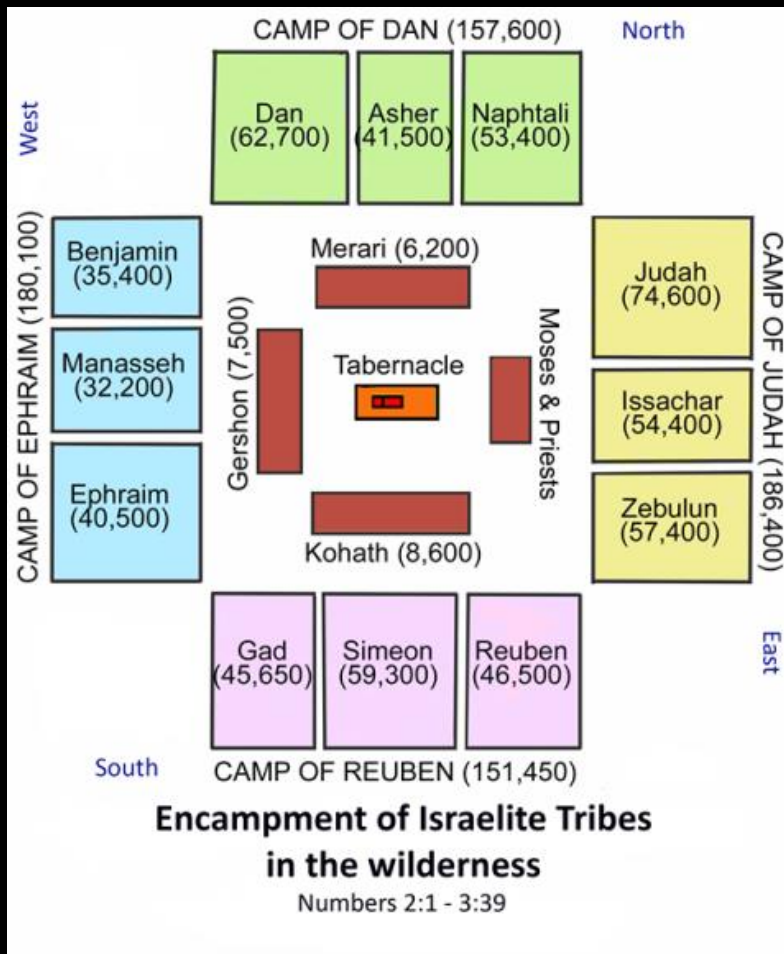
Camping is to be only on the cardinal points – no SE, SW, NE nor NW



Note: There is a difference between
The Camp of Judah & The Tribe of Judah

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement

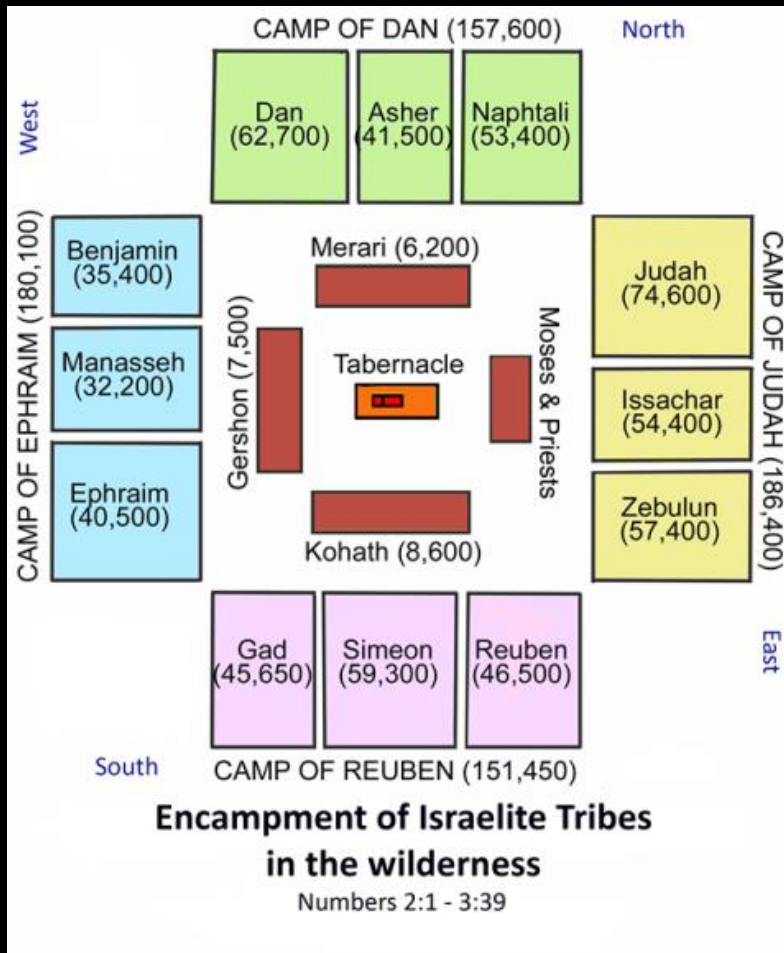


CAMP OF JUDAH (v2 - 9)

Judah – 74,600
 Issachar – 54,400
 Zebulun – 57,400

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement

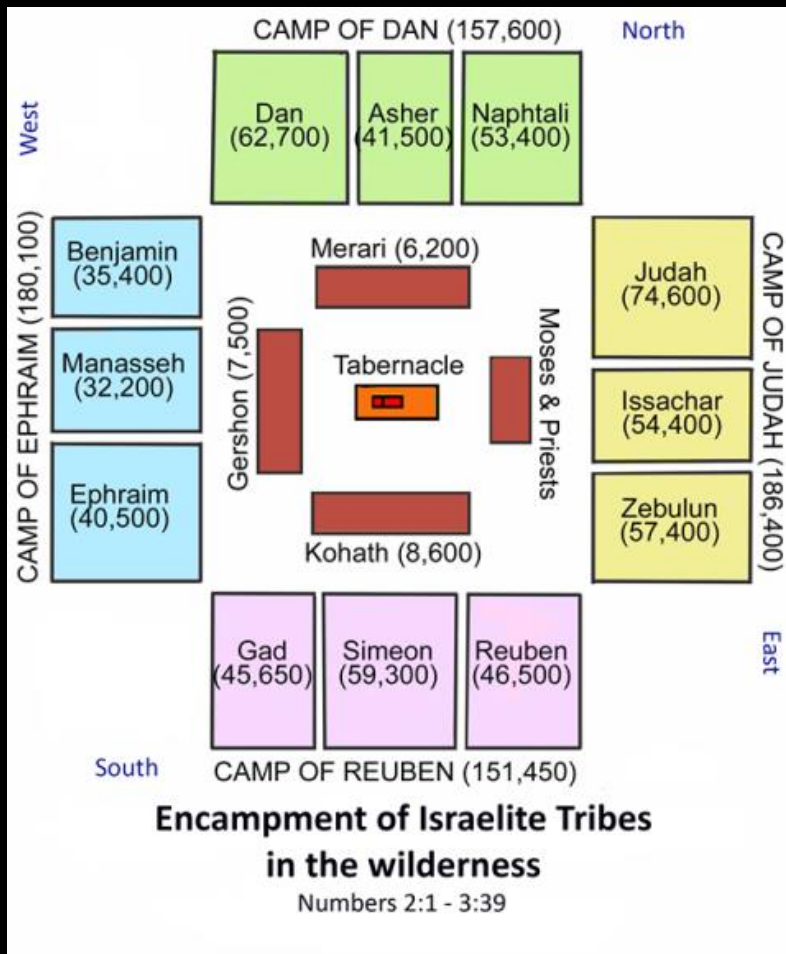


CAMP OF JUDAH (v2 - 9)

Judah – 74,600
 Issachar – 54,400
 Zebulun – 57,400
 186,400

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement



**CAMP OF REUBEN
(v10 – 16)**

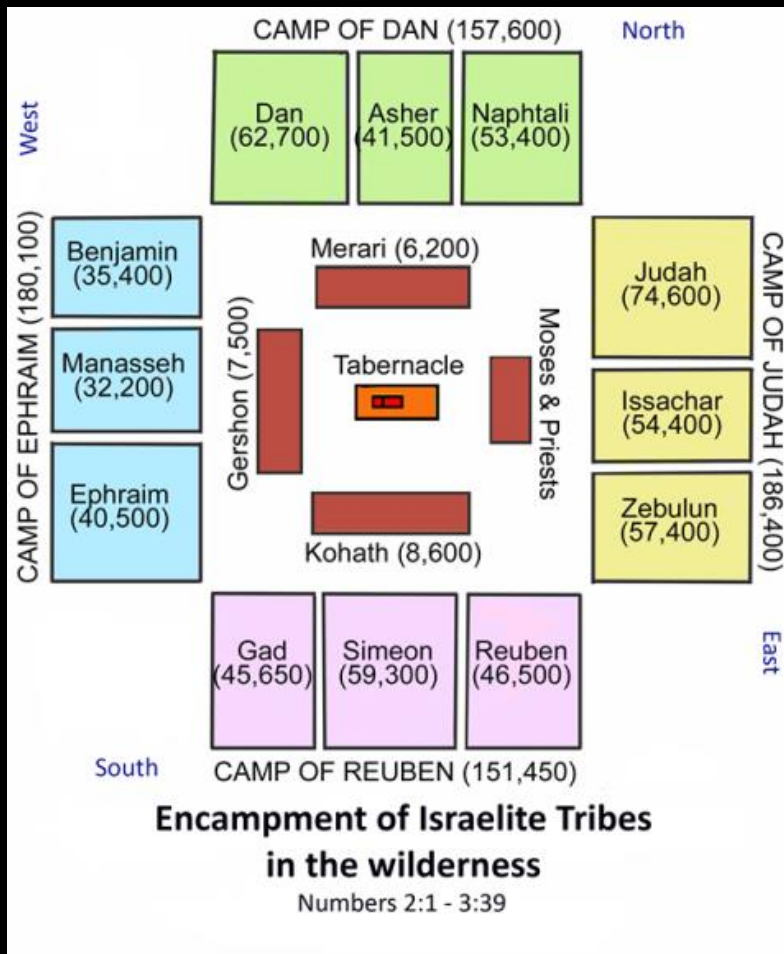
Reuben – 46,500

Simeon – 59,300

Gad – 45,650

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement



**CAMP OF REUBEN
(v10 – 16)**

Reuben – 46,500

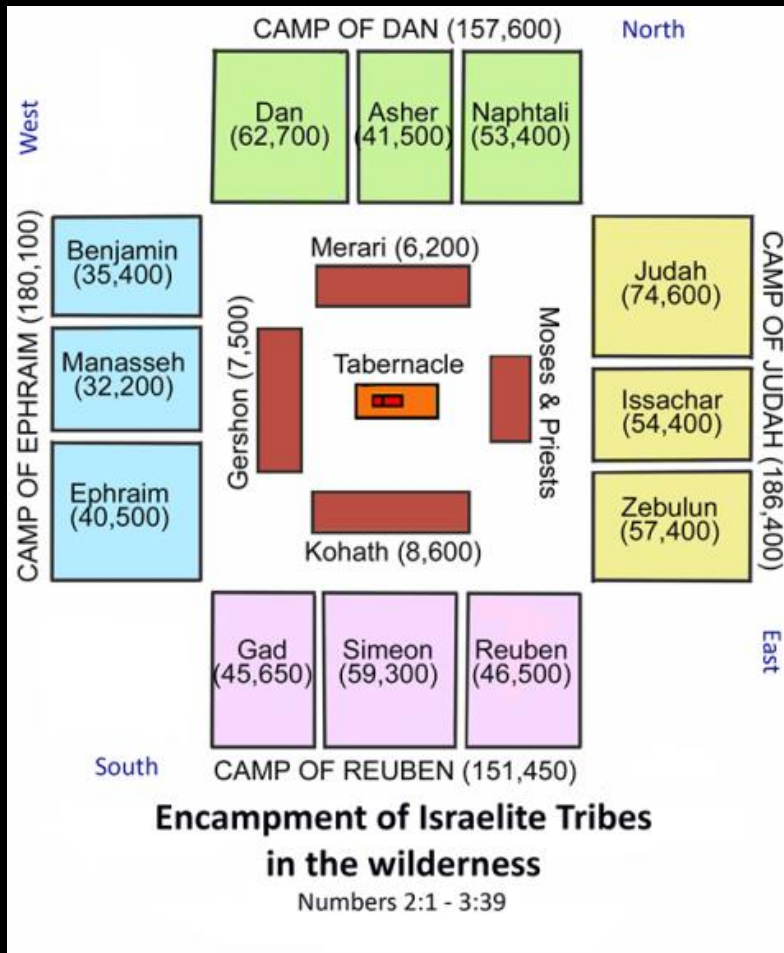
Simeon – 59,300

Gad – 45,650

151,450

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement

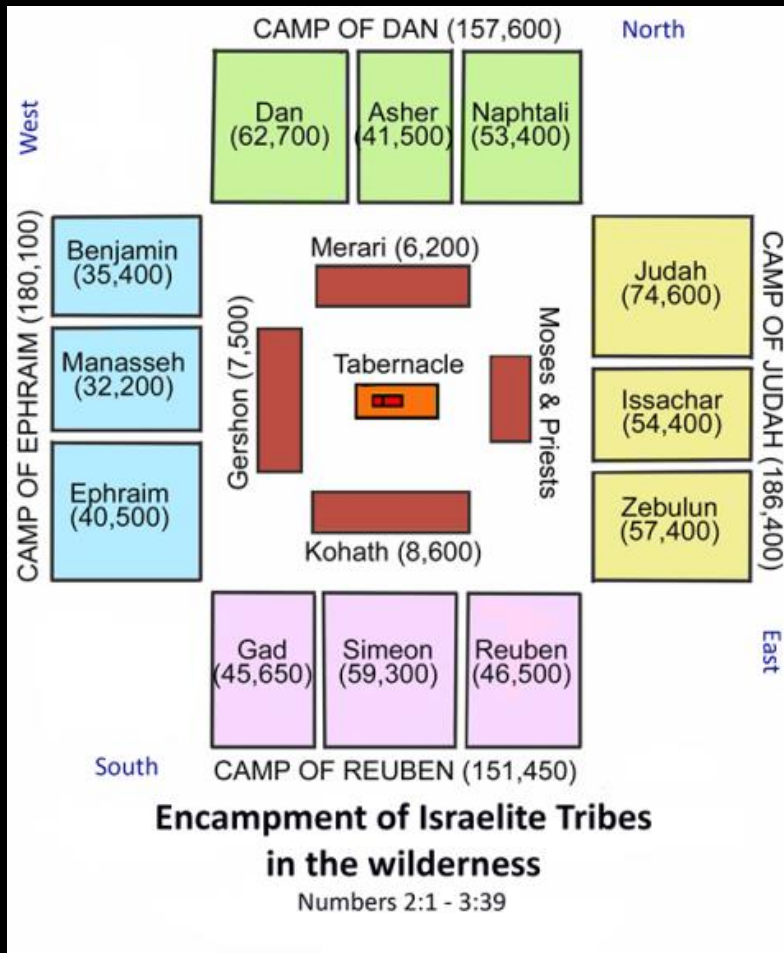


**CAMP OF EPHRAIM
(V18 – 24)**

Ephraim – 40,500
Manasseh – 32,200
Benjamin – 35,400

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement



**CAMP OF EPHRAIM
(V18 – 24)**

Ephraim – 40,500

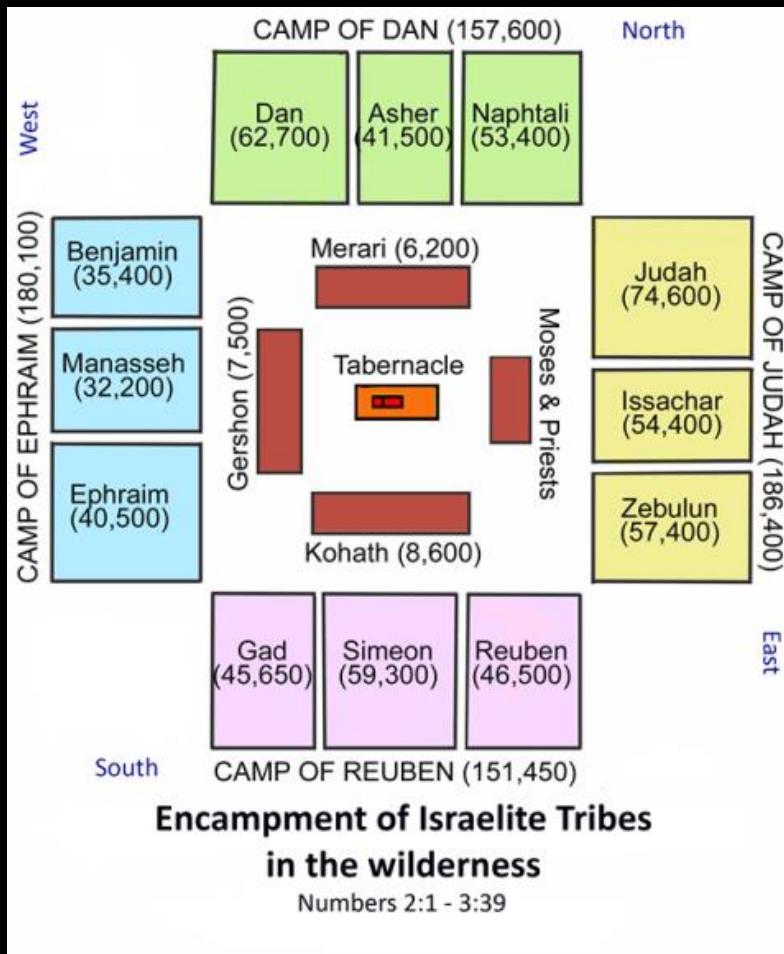
Manasseh – 32,200

Benjamin – 35,400

108,100

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

The Tribes & their Arrangement

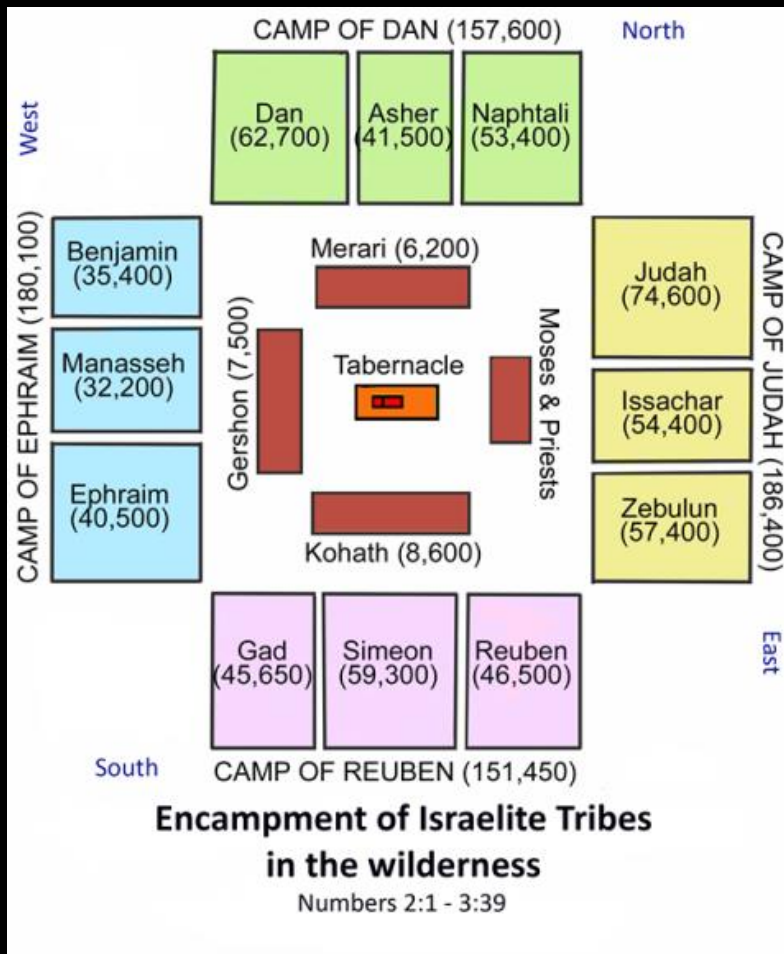


CAMP OF DAN (V25 – 31)

Dan – 62,700
 Asher – 41,500
 Naphtali – 53,400

Numbers chapter 1 & 2

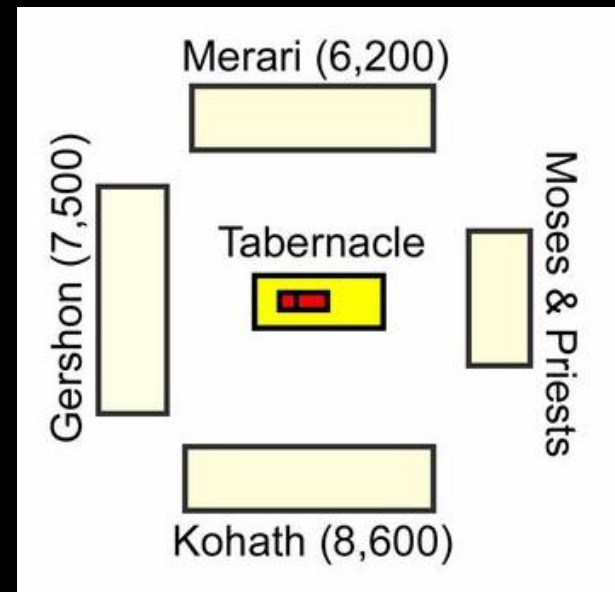
The Tribes & their Arrangement



CAMP OF DAN (V25 – 31)

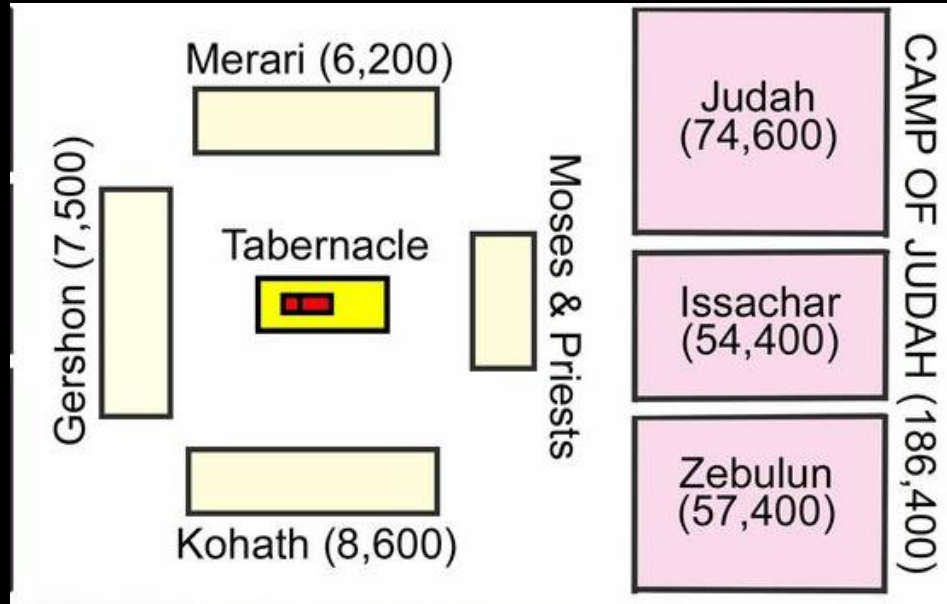
Dan – 62,700
 Asher – 41,500
 Naphtali – 53,400
 157,600

Camping only on the cardinal points – no SE, SW, NE nor NW



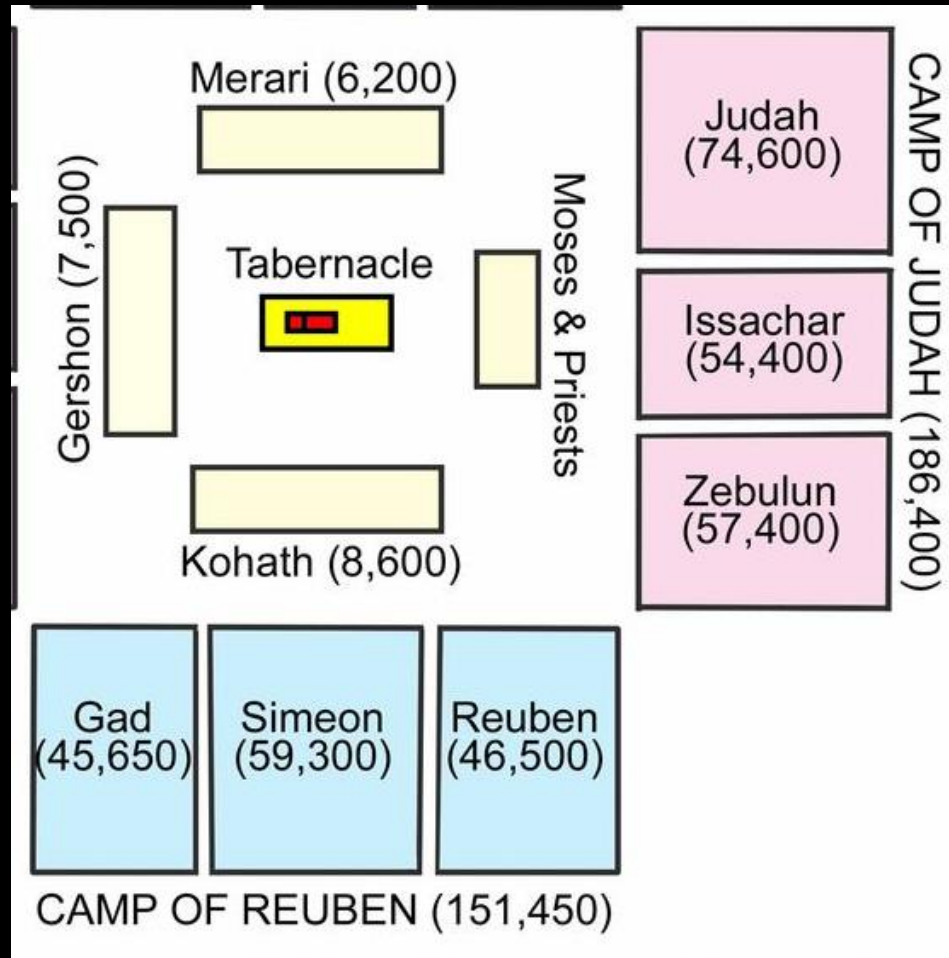
EAST (2:3)

Camp of Judah – 186,400



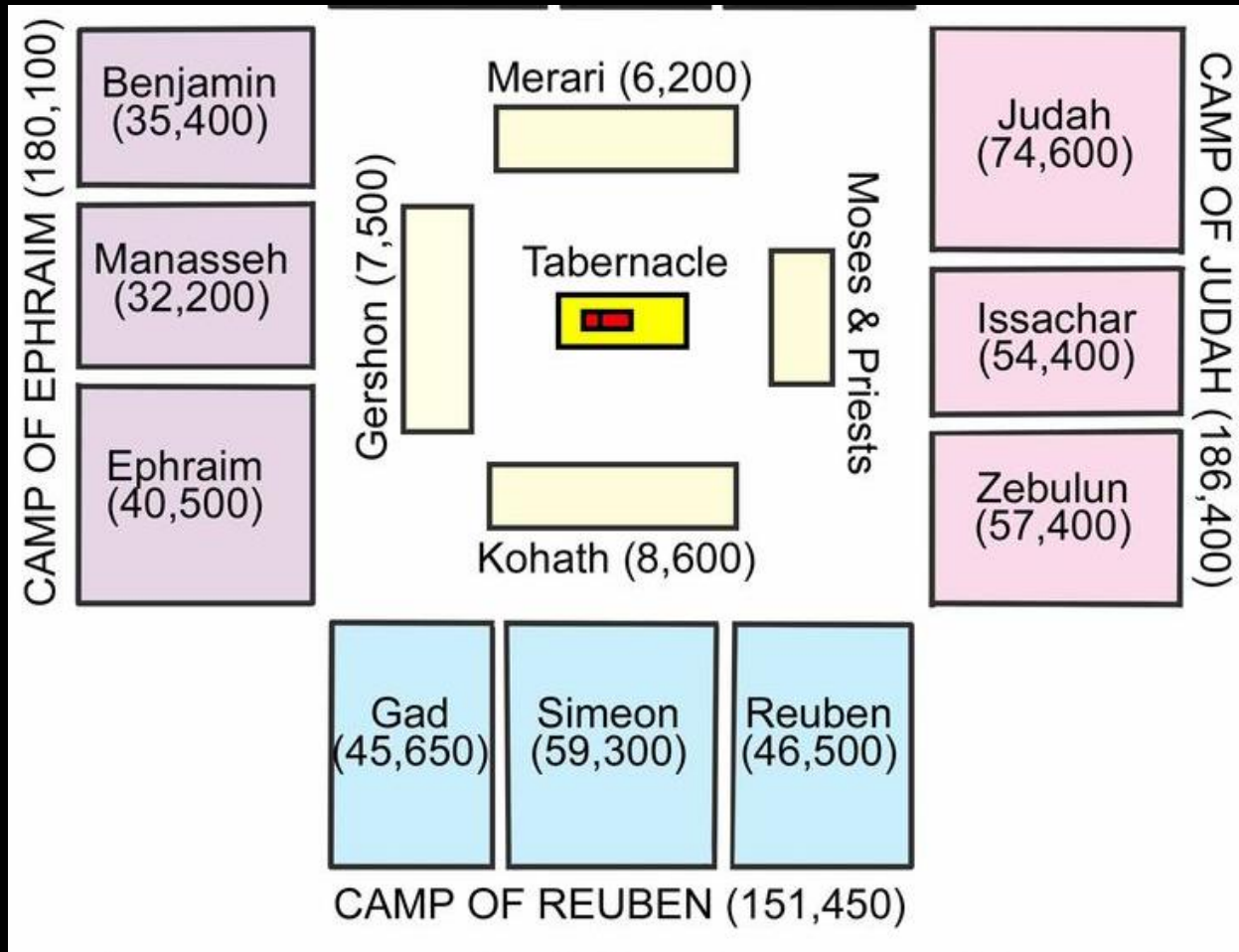
SOUTH (2:10)

Camp of Reuben 151,450



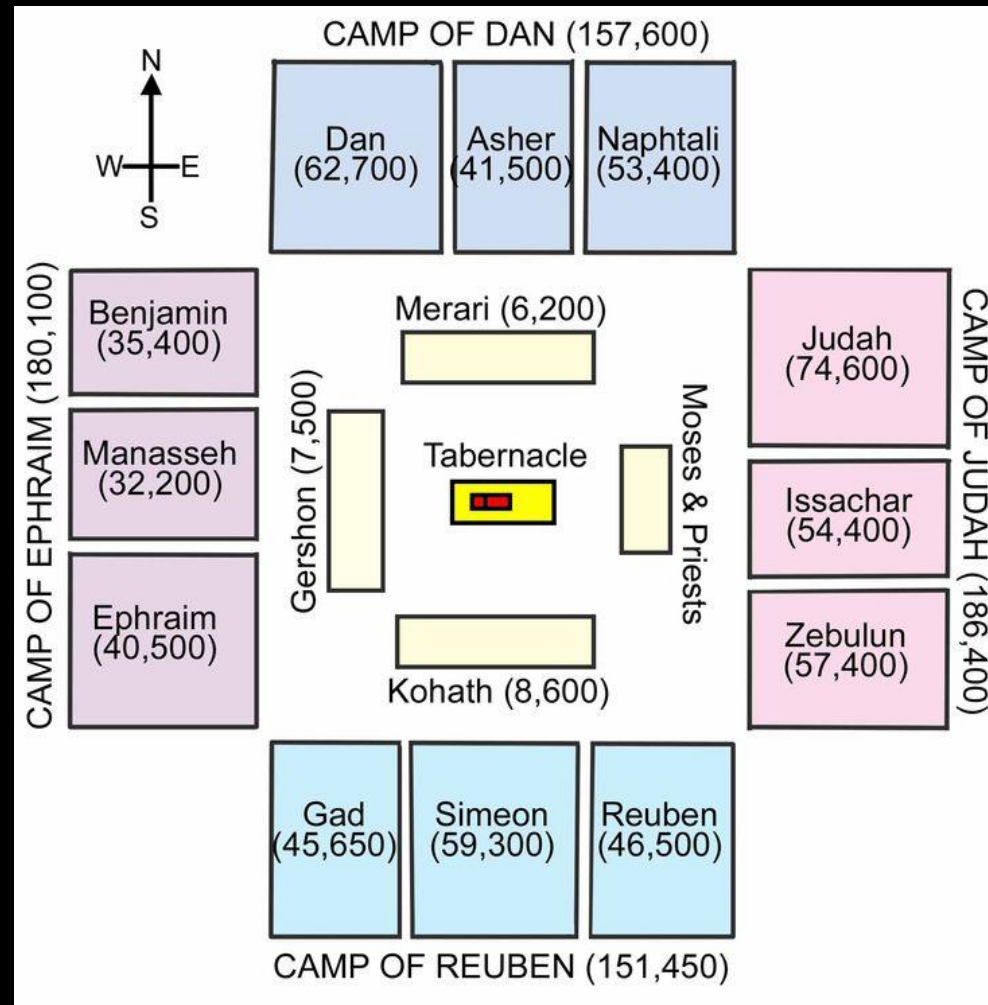
WEST (2:18)

Camp of Ephraim 108,100



NORTH (2:25)

Camp of Dan 157,600



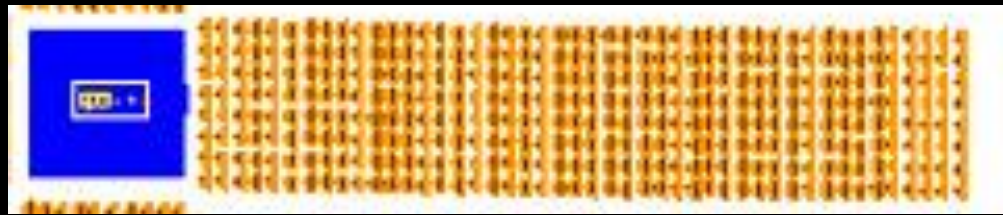
Drawing in proportion

Tabernacle and Levites in the middle



Camp of Judah

186,400



**Camp of Judah
186,400**



**Camp of
Reuben
151,400**

Camp of Judah 186,400



Camp of
Ephraim
108,100

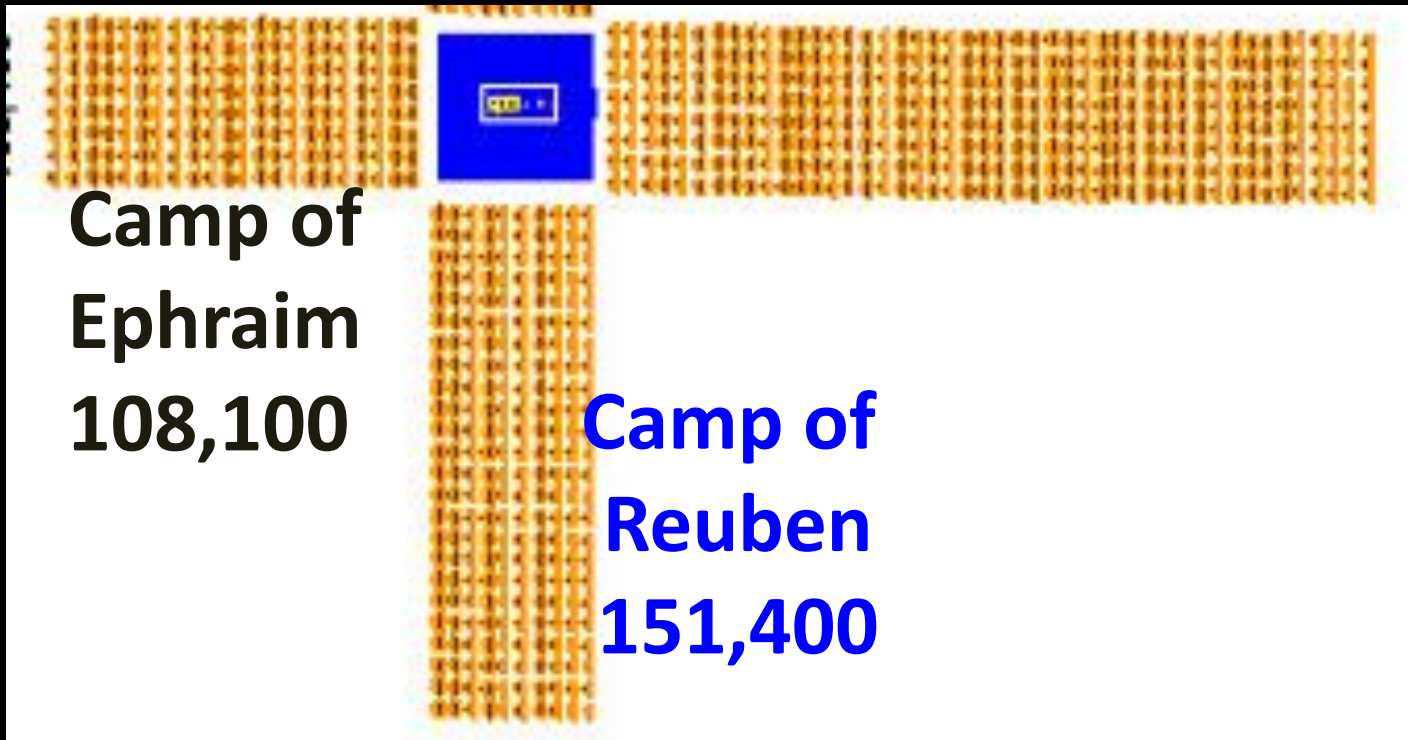
Camp of
Reuben
151,400

**Camp of
Dan
157,600**

**Camp of Judah
186,400**

**Camp of
Ephraim
108,100**

**Camp of
Reuben
151,400**



**Camp of
Dan
157,600**

**Camp of Judah
186,400**

**Camp of
Ephraim
108,100**

**Camp of
Reuben
151,400**



**Camp of
Ephraim
108,100**

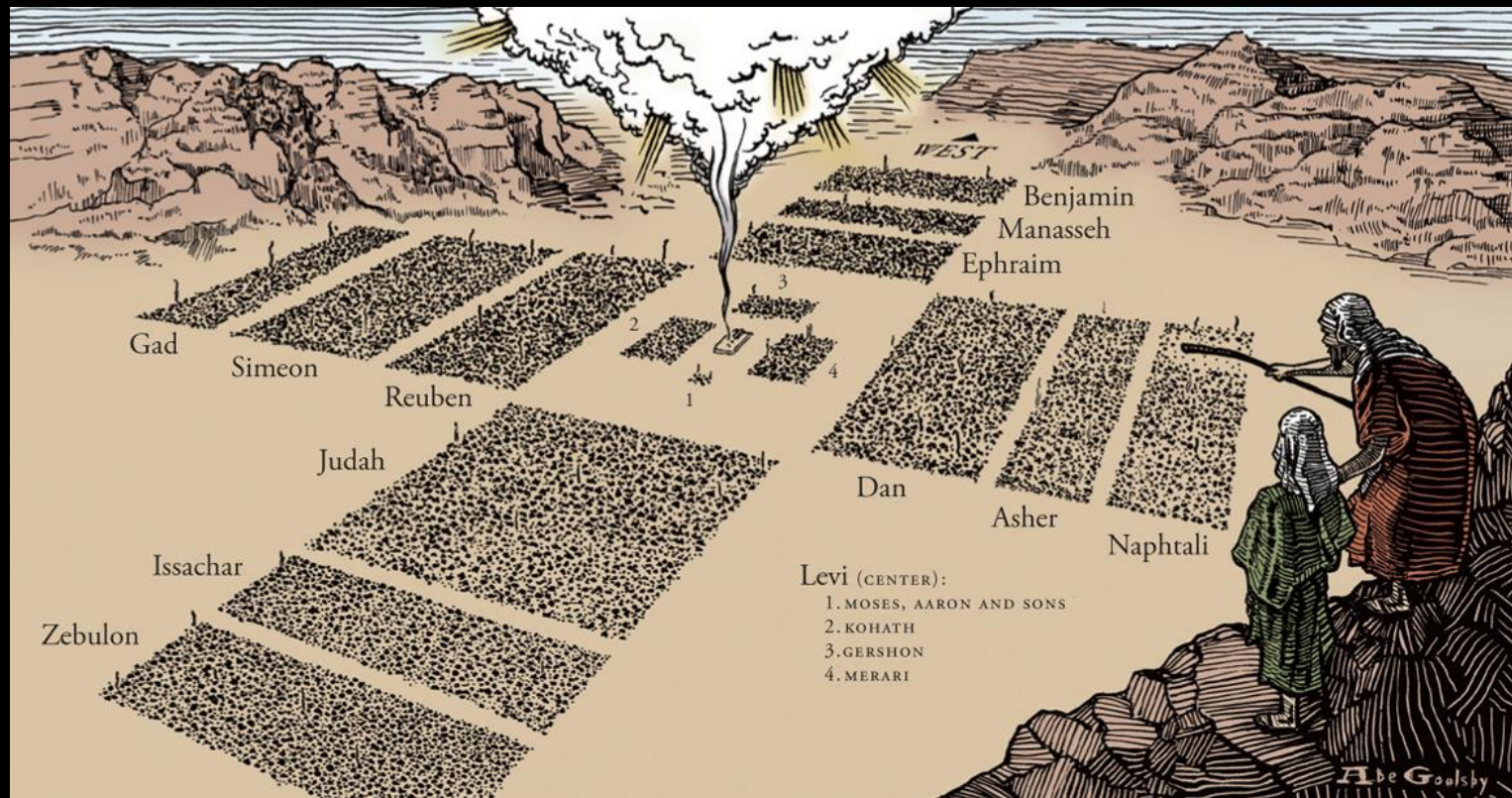
**Camp of
Reuben
151,400**

**Camp of
Dan
157,600**

**Camp of Judah
186,400**

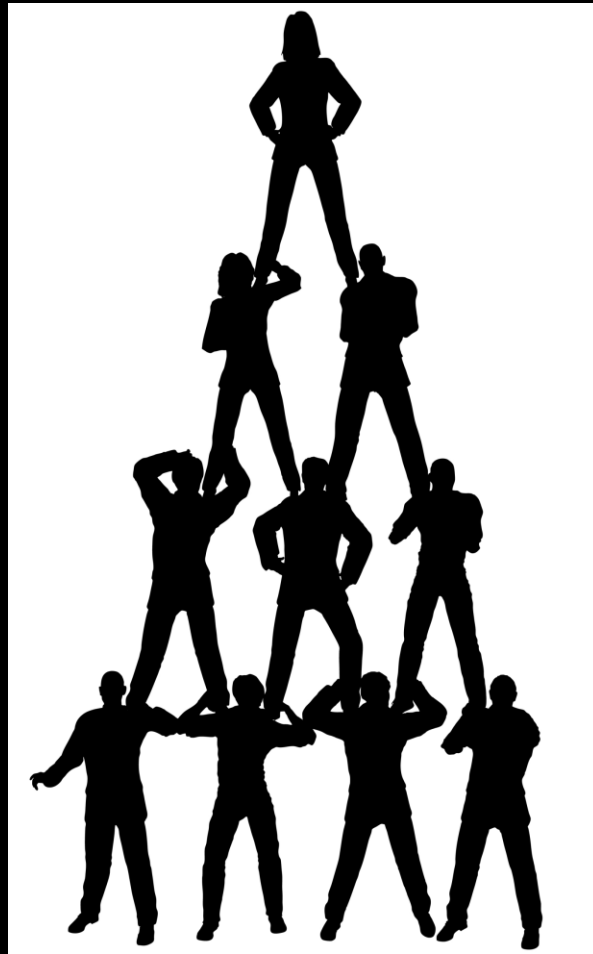


The beauty of looking from the NT.
The NT is in the OT concealed,
The OT is in the NT revealed.



That's why the Lord will not let Balaam curse Israel.

Everyone has a part!



Moses never knew what the Cross is.
He was just obedient in arranging the
camp according to God's
requirements!
God caused it to be beautiful looking
back in the future.

We will never fully understand His ways. Sometimes the mundane and boring things, sometimes the trials will be made to become beautiful in His time. We need to learn to trust the One who holds the future, the One who has an overview of eternity even when we don't understand.



PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1812

Grocery shopping



My Prof: Dr Milan Opocensky
Secretary General, World Alliance of
Reformed Churches



With Prof & wife (Dr Jana)





San Francisco
Theological Seminary

Berkeley Presbyterian Missions Home



God orders our steps even when we don't understand the situation. Just dare to follow Him every step of the way. He makes mundane things (like grocery shopping) and trials into beautiful things.

Psalm 37:23-24— "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord and He delights in his way. Though he stumbles he will not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholds him with His hand."

END