

Bible Snapshots



Numbers – Preparation for Possession

Author – Moses, Ca. 1451 B.C.

Connection with Numbers

- The name means “second law.” It does not contain new laws, but rehashes the law for a new generation after the previous one perished for unbelief. It picks up the story where Numbers leaves off.

Facts

- 34 chapters, 958 verses
- Historical book / book of law covers about 40 years of Israel’s history

Themes

- Moses is going to be leaving and his final book is designed to impress upon them the need to focus on, desire and obey the laws of God. It is instruction for a new generation preparing to enter the Promised Land.

Key chapters/verse

- Chapter 29 – the Palestinian covenant / 6:5 “Love the Lord thy God with all thine heart.”

Key phrase / word / thought

- Obedience 10:12, 13
- Remember (4:9, 10; 4:23; 5:15; 15:15; 7:18; 8:2-6; 9:7; 16:3; 24:9; 25:17; 32:7)
- Observe and do (12:1; 29:29)

Christ In numbers

- The prophet (18:15-19 with Acts 3:22, 23; 7:37)

Types of Christ

- Israel to serve other gods (28:36; 31:20) see the fulfillment in Judges 3:5-7; 1 Kings 11:1-8
- Israel’s name to become a byword (28:37) See the fulfillment in 1 Samuel 10:17-18 and John 1:11. Of course this is still the case today.
- Israel’s captivity (28:47-52) See the fulfillment II Kings 17:6-28 and II Kings 25:21
- Selection of a king (17:14-20) Not a direct prophecy, but shows God’s foreknowledge.

Proving Deuteronomy

Solomon’s copper mines – God told Moses that Canaan was a land out of whose hills Israel could get copper or brass (8:7-9). First Kings 7:45, 46 mentions copper vessels made for Solomon’s temple. These mines seemed lost to man until about 1944 when an archeologist named Nelson Glueck found a site known to the locals as the “copper ruin.” Excavating he found large furnaces and great amount of copper slag, indicating a once vibrant copper smelting operation. Nearby they discovered the remains of a copper mine.

Rosetta Stone – This stone is about 2.5 feet wide and about 4 feet high. It was discovered in 1799 by one of Napoleon’s soldiers in northern Egypt. Containing three languages, the bottom lines were in Greek, the middle lines in Egyptian and the top lines in hieroglyphics. This allowed the breaking of the hieroglyphic code and opens up doors to understanding these ancient times. The **Behistun Rock**, in ancient Persia, details the exploits of Darius and was written in three different languages, giving similar results in languages studies as the Rosetta stone. It too opened up these ancient languages and revealed an overwhelming confirmation of biblical events, places, and times.

Divided stars (4:19) – science confirms that each nation sees its own portion of the stars. For instance, the Southern Cross is never seen in the North. The Egyptians understood this and built the great pyramids to orient perfectly with their sky. **Photosynthesis** (33:13, 14) – a fact discovered only by man in the 1800s, the Bible spoke long before about the energy plants gain from the sun (Ps. 104:14)