

Numbers

Preparation To Inherit The Promised Land



The plains of Jericho

“The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’” (Numbers 14:7-8)

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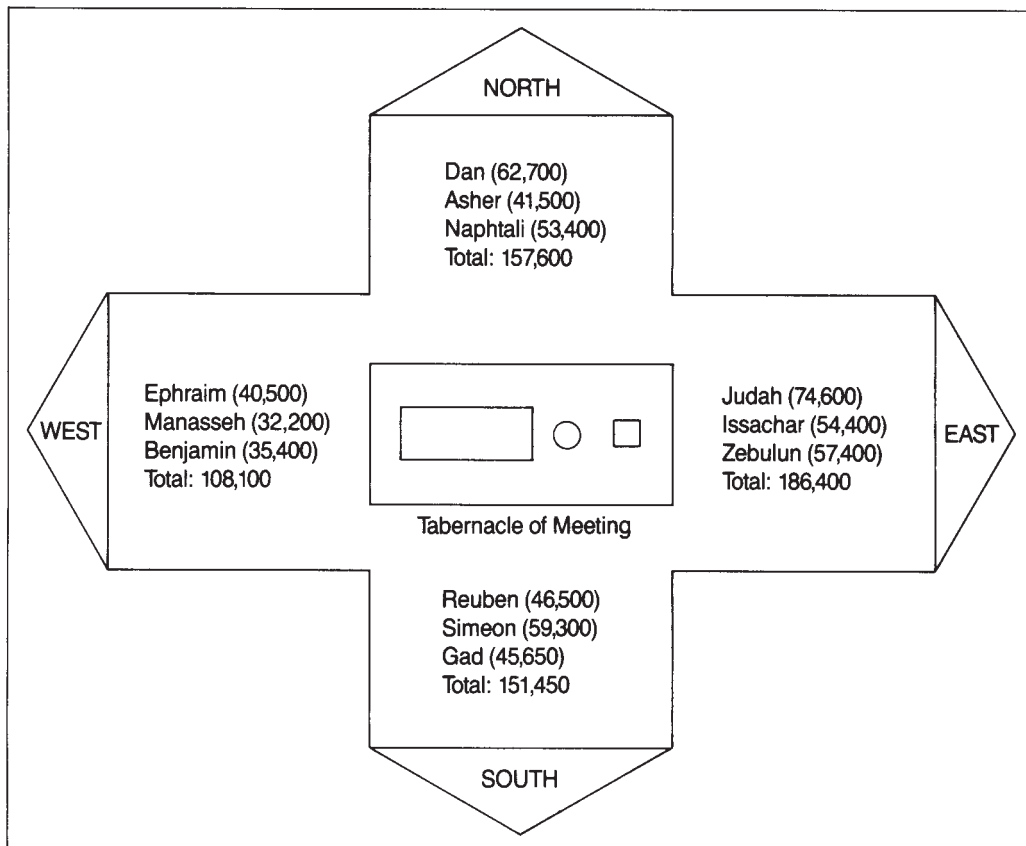
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(The above outline is from *Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts*, pp. 51–53)



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Part One: The Preparation of the Old Generation to Inherit the Promised Land (1:1–10:10)

I. The Organization of Israel (1:1–4:49)

A. Organization of the People (1:1–2:34)

1. What was the purpose of the census (1:1–5)?

2. List how many men were counted from the following tribes (1:5–46):

Reuben _____ Simeon _____ Gad _____

Judah _____ Issachar _____ Zebulum _____

Ephraim _____ Manasseh _____ Benjamin _____

Dan _____ Asher _____ Naphtali _____

3. Why wasn't the tribe of Levi counted (1:47–54)?

4. Name the leader of the following tribes (2:1–34):

Reuben _____ Simeon _____ Gad _____

Judah _____ Issachar _____ Zebulum _____

Ephraim _____ Manasseh _____ Benjamin _____

Dan _____ Asher _____ Naphtali _____

B. Organization of the Priests (3:1–4:49)

1. List the names the sons are Aaron (3:1–4).
2. What was the work of the Levites (3:5–39)?
3. Why did God “take the Levites” instead of “all the firstborn among the children of Israel” (3:40–51)?
4. What was the duty of the sons of Kohath (4:1–20)?
5. What was the duty of the sons of Gershon (4:21–28)?
6. What was the duty of the sons of Merari (4:29–33)?
7. Give the results of the census of the Levites (4:34–49).

II. Sanctification of Israel (5:1–10:10)

A. Sanctification Through Separation (5:1–31)

1. What were the Israelites to do with “unclean” individuals (5:1–4)?

2. What was the law concerning confession and restitution (5:5–10)?

3. What did the law say concerning unfaithful wives (5:11–31)?

B. Sanctification Through the Nazirite Vow (6:1–27)

1. What was the “vow of a Nazirite” (6:1–21)?

2. How were Aaron and his sons to bless the children of Israel (6:22–27)?

C. Sanctification Through Worship (7:1–9:14)

1. Over a period of twelve days numerous offerings were made. Who were these offerings made to and why (7:1–89)?

2. What instructions were given concerning the lampstand (8:1–4)?

3. How were the Levites to be cleansed and dedicated (8:5–26)?

4. What new law was given concerning the Passover (9:1–14)?

D. Sanctification Through Divine Guidance (9:15–10:10)

1. How did God lead the people in the wilderness (9:15–23)?
2. What was the purpose of the two silver trumpets (10:1–10)?

Part Two: The Failure of the Old Generation to Inherit the Promised Land (10:11–25:18)

I. The Failure of Israel En Route to Kadesh (10:11–12:16)

A. Israel Departs Mount Sinai (10:11–36)

1. As the children of Israel started their journey, what tribe was in the front (10:11–28)?
2. Who was Reuel the Midianite and what did Moses request of him (10:29–32)?

B. Failure of the People (11:1–9)

1. Why did God send fire down from heaven (11:1–3)?
2. When the people grumbled, what did they say about Egypt (11:4–9)?

C. Failure of Moses (11:10–15)

1. What did Moses request of God (11:10–15)?
2. How did Moses describe his relationship to the people (11:10–15)?

D. God Provides for Moses (11:16–30)

1. What did God give to Moses to help him (11:16–25)?
2. What did Eldad and Medad do (11:26–30)?

E. God Provides for the People (11:31–35)

1. How did God provide for the people (11:31–32)?
2. Why was the anger of the Lord kindled again (11:33–35)?

F. Failure of Miriam and Aaron (12:1–16)

1. Why did Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses (12:1–2)?
2. How did Moses react to their charges (12:3)?

3. How did God react to the situation (12:4–16)?

II. The Climactic Failure of Israel at Kadesh (13:1–14:45)

A. Investigation of the Promised Land (13:1–33)

1. What was the purpose of sending spies into the land of Canaan (13:1–20)?

2. How long were the spies in the land? Where did they visit (13:21–25)?

3. What did the spies say about the land of Canaan (13:26–33)?

B. Israel Rebels Against God (14:1–10)

1. How did the people react to the report of the spies (14:1–5)?

2. What did Joshua and Caleb say about the promised land (14:6–10)?

C. Moses Intercedes (14:11–19)

1. What did God suggest that He might do to the people (14:11–12)?

2. What did Moses suggest to the Lord (14:13–19)?

D. God Judges Israel (14:20–38)

1. How did God punish the people for their unbelief (14:20–35)?
2. How did God punish the ten evil spies (14:36–38)?

E. Israel Rebels Against the Judgment of God (14:39–45)

1. How did the people react to God's punishment (14:39–44)?
2. What did the Amalekites and the Canaanites do to the people (14:45)?

III. The Failure of Israel in the Wilderness (15:1–19:22)

A. Review of the Offerings (15:1–41)

1. What was the law concerning grain and drink offerings (15:1–21)?
2. What was the law concerning unintentional sins (15:22–31)?
3. What was the penalty for violating the Sabbath (15:32–36)?
4. Why were the Israelites to wear tassels on their garments (15:37–41)?

B. Rebellion of Korah (16:1–40)

1. What sin did Korah, Dathan, Abiram and On commit (16:1–3)?
2. How did God take care of the rebellion of these evil men (16:4–40)?

C. Rebellion of Israel Against Moses and Aaron (16:41–50)

1. What new complaint did the people have against Moses (16:41)?
2. How many people perished in God's righteous retribution (16:41–50)?

D. Role of the Priesthood (17:1–19:22)

1. What was the significance of the budding of Aaron's rod (17:1–13)?
2. What was the duty of the priests and Levites (18:1–7)?
3. How were the priests and Levites to be supported (18:8–32)?
4. What were the laws concerning purification (19:1–22)?

IV. The Failure of Israel En Route to Moab (20:1–25:18)

A. Miriam Dies (20:1)

B. Moses and Aaron Fail (20:2–13)

1. How did God want Moses to provide water for the people (20:2–8)?
2. What sin did Moses commit? What was his punishment (20:9–13)?

C. Edom Refuses Passage (20:14–21)

1. What did the messengers of Moses request from the king of the Edomites (20:14–21)?
2. When and how did God punish the Edomites?

D. Aaron Dies (20:22–29)

1. How was Aaron “gathered to his people” (20:22–29)?
2. What was done with Aaron’s garments (20:22–29)?

E. Israel’s Victory over the Canaanites (21:1–3)

F. The Failure of Israel (21:4–9)

1. Why did God punish the people of Israel (21:4–9)?
2. How could the people of Israel be saved (21:4–9)?

G. Journey to Moab (21:10–20)

H. Israel's Victory over Ammon (21:21–32)

1. What did Israel request of King Sihon (21:21–22)?
2. What did Israel do in response to King Sihon's aggression (21:23–32)?

I. Israel's Victory over Bashan (21:33–35)

J. Failure with the Moabites (22:1–25:18)

1. What did Balak request of Balaam (22:1–6)?
2. What did Balaam tell the messengers from Balak (22:7–14)?
3. What did God tell Balaam to do (22:15–21)?

4. Describe the event that occurred with Balaam and the Angel of God (22:22–35).

5. What was Balaam's first prophecy (22:36–23:11)?

6. What was Balaam's second prophecy (23:12–26)?

7. What was Balaam's third prophecy (23:27–24:14)?

8. What was Balaam's fourth prophecy (24:15–25)?

9. What sin did the Israelites commit with the Moabites (25:1–18)?

Part Three: The Preparation of the New Generation to Inherit the Promised Land (26:1–36:13)

I. The Reorganization of Israel (26:1–27:23)

A. The Second Census (26:1–51)

1. Who was to be included in this second census (26:1–2)?

2. List how many men were counted from the following tribes (1:5–46):

Reuben _____ Simeon _____ Gad _____

Judah _____ Issachar _____ Zebulum _____

Ephraim _____ Manasseh _____ Benjamin _____

Dan _____ Asher _____ Naphtali _____

B. Method for Dividing the Land (26:52–56)

C. Expectations for Dividing the Land (26:57–27:11)

1. How many of the adults who left Egypt were still alive at this time (26:57–65)?

2. What were the laws regarding the inheritance of the land (27:1–11)?

D. Appointment of Israel's New Leader (27:12–23)

1. Why did God choose Joshua to lead the people (27:12–21)?

2. How was Joshua set apart for this work (27:21–23)?

II. The Regulations of Offerings and Vows (28:1–30:16)

A. The Regulations of Sacrifices (28:1–29:40)

1. What offerings were to be made daily (28:1–8)?

2. What offering was to be made on the Sabbath (28:9–10)?

3. What offering was to be made on a monthly basis (28:11–15)?

4. What offering was to be made at the Passover (28:16–25)?

5. What offering was to be made at the Feast of Weeks (28:26–31)?

6. What offering was to be made at the Feast of Trumpets (29:1–6)?

7. What offering was to be made on the Day of Atonement (29:7–11)?

8. What offering was to be made at the Feast of Tabernacles (29:12–40)?

B. The Regulations of Vows (30:1–16)

1. How binding were the vows a man might make (30:1–2)?

2. How and why could a woman's vow be overruled (30:3–16)?

III. The Conquest and Division of Israel (31:1–36:13)

A. Victory over Midian (31:1–54)

1. Why did the Israelites fight against the Midianites (31:1–11)?
2. What were they to do with the plunder of the land (31:12–24)?
3. How was the plunder divided (31:25–54)?

B. Division of the Land East of Jordan (32:1–42)

1. What request did the children of Gad and Reuben make (32:1–8)?
2. What agreement was made with these people (32:9–42)?

C. The Summary of Israel's Journeys (33:1–49)

D. Division of the Land West of Jordan (33:50–34:29)

1. What were the instructions for the conquest of Canaan (33:50–56)?
2. What were the boundaries of the promised land (34:1–29)?

E. Special Cities in Canaan (35:1–34)

1. Where were the Levites to live in the promised land (35:1–8)?
2. What was the purpose of the cities of refuge (35:9–34)?

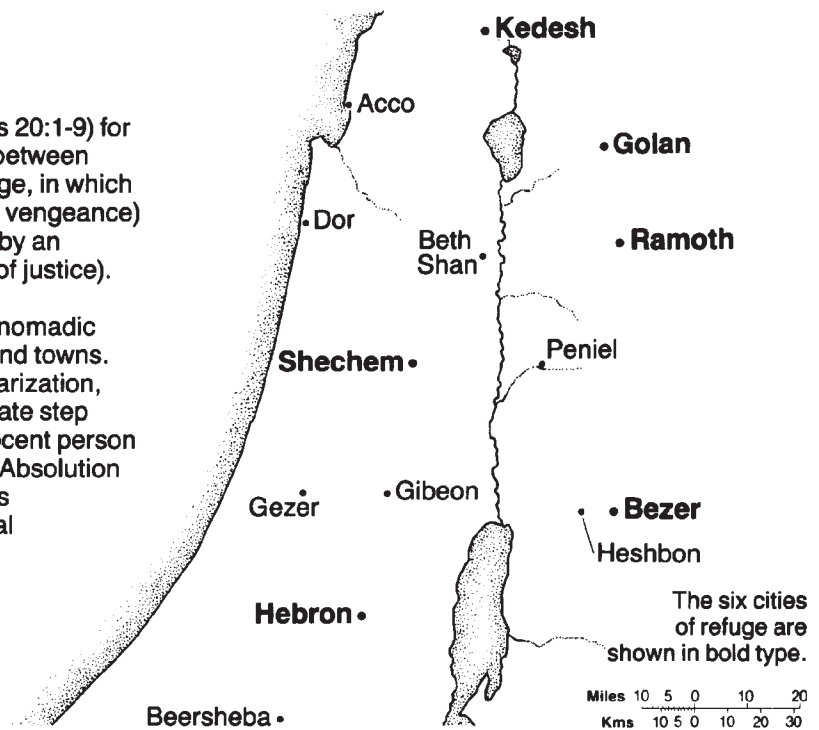
F. Special Problems of Inheritance in Canaan (36:1–13)

Cities of Refuge

Numbers 35:6-34; Joshua 20:1-9

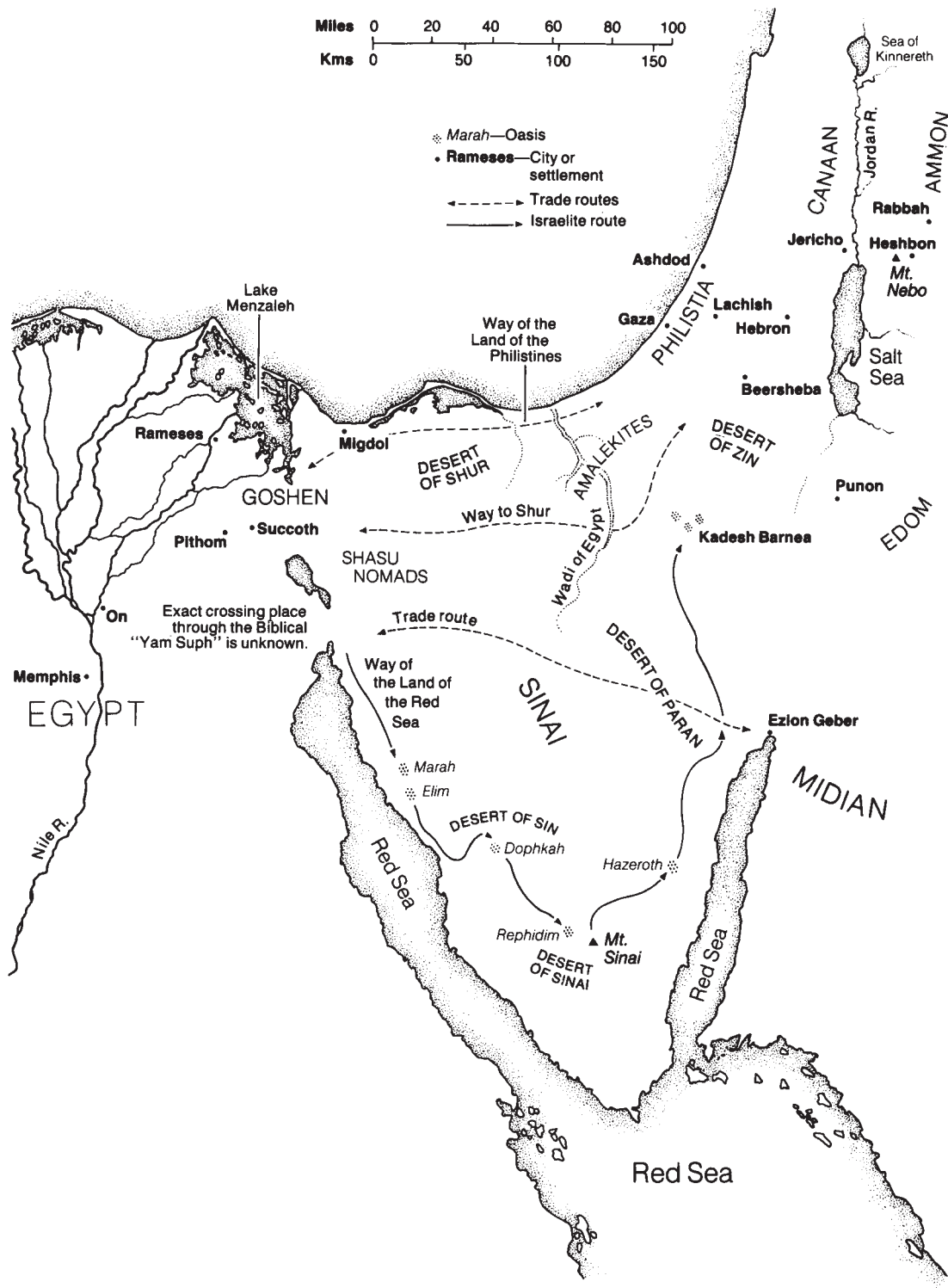
The idea of providing cities of refuge (Jos 20:1-9) for capital offenses is rooted in the tension between customary tribal law (retaliation or revenge, in which the blood relative is obligated to execute vengeance) and civil law (carried out less personally by an assembly according to a standard code of justice).

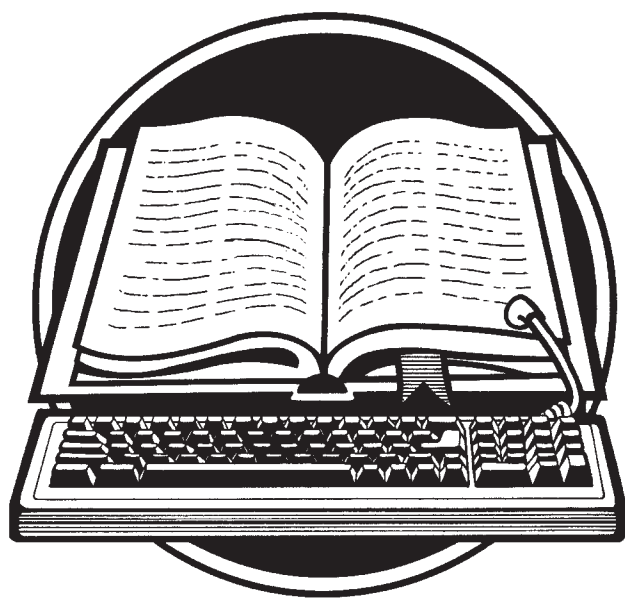
Blood feuds are usually associated with nomadic groups; legal procedures, with villages and towns. Israel, a society in the process of sedentarization, found it necessary to adopt an intermediate step regulating manslaughter, so that an innocent person would not be killed before standing trial. Absolution was possible only by being cleared by his hometown assembly, and by the eventual death of the high priest, which freed the offender from ritual pollution.



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Map of the Exodus





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