Numbers

1 On the first day of the second month of the
second year after the Israelites had come out of
the land of Egypt, the LORD spoke to Moses in
the Tent of Meeting in the Wilderness of Sinai.
He said:
2 “Take a census of the whole congregation of
Israel by their clans and families, listing every
man by name, one by one.
3 You and Aaron are to number those who are
twenty years of age or older by their
divisions—everyone who can serve in Israel’s
army.
4 And one man from each tribe, the head of
each family, must be there with you.
5 These are the names of the men who are to
assist you:

From the tribe of Reuben, Elizur son of
Shedeur;
6 from Simeon, Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai;
7 from Judah, Nahshon son of Amminadab;
8 from Issachar, Nethanel son of Zuar;
9 from Zebulun, Eliab son of Helon;
10 from the sons of Joseph:
from Ephraim, Elishama son of Ammihud,
and from Manasseh, Gamaliel son of
Pedahzur;
11 from Benjamin, Abidan son of Gideoni;
12 from Dan, Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai;
13 from Asher, Pagiel son of Ocran;

14 from Gad, Eliasaph son of Deuel;
15 and from Naphtali, Ahira son of Enan."

16 These men were appointed from the congregation; they were the leaders of the tribes of their fathers, the heads of the clans of Israel.

17 So Moses and Aaron took these men who had been designated by name,
18 and on the first day of the second month they assembled the whole congregation and recorded their ancestry by clans and families, counting one by one the names of those twenty years of age or older,
19 just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

So Moses numbered them in the Wilderness of Sinai:

20 From the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel, according to the records of their clans and families, counting one by one the names of every male twenty years of age or older who could serve in the army,
21 those registered to the tribe of Reuben numbered 46,500.
22 From the sons of Simeon, according to the records of their clans and families, counting one by one the names of every male twenty years of age or older who could serve in the army,
23 those registered to the tribe of Simeon numbered 59,300.
24 From the sons of Gad, according to the records of their clans and families, counting

the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
25 those registered to the tribe of Gad
numbered 45,650.
26 From the sons of Judah, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
27 those registered to the tribe of Judah
numbered 74,600.
28 From the sons of Issachar, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
29 those registered to the tribe of Issachar
numbered 54,400.
30 From the sons of Zebulun, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
31 those registered to the tribe of Zebulun
numbered 57,400.
32 From the sons of Joseph:
From the sons of Ephraim, according to the
records of their clans and families,
counting the names of all those twenty
years of age or older who could serve in
the army,
33 those registered to the tribe of Ephraim
numbered 40,500.
34 And from the sons of Manasseh,
according to the records of their clans and
families, counting the names of all those

twenty years of age or older who could
serve in the army,
35 those registered to the tribe of Manasseh
numbered 32,200.
36 From the sons of Benjamin, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
37 those registered to the tribe of Benjamin
numbered 35,400.
38 From the sons of Dan, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
39 those registered to the tribe of Dan
numbered 62,700.
40 From the sons of Asher, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
41 those registered to the tribe of Asher
numbered 41,500.
42 From the sons of Naphtali, according to the
records of their clans and families, counting
the names of all those twenty years of age or
older who could serve in the army,
43 those registered to the tribe of Naphtali
numbered 53,400.

44 These were the men numbered by Moses
and Aaron, with the assistance of the twelve
leaders of Israel, each one representing his
family.

45 So all the Israelites twenty years of age or
older who could serve in Israel's army were
counted according to their families.
46 And all those counted totaled 603,550.
47 The Levites, however, were not numbered
along with them by the tribe of their fathers.
48 For the LORD had said to Moses:
49 "Do not number the tribe of Levi in the
census with the other Israelites.
50 Instead, you are to appoint the Levites over
the tabernacle of the Testimony, all its
furnishings, and everything in it. They shall
carry the tabernacle and all its articles, care for
it, and camp around it.
51 Whenever the tabernacle is to move, the
Levites are to take it down, and whenever it is to
be pitched, the Levites are to set it up. Any
outsider who goes near it must be put to death.
52 The Israelites are to camp by their divisions,
each man in his own camp and under his own
standard.
53 But the Levites are to camp around the
tabernacle of the Testimony and watch over it,
so that no wrath will fall on the congregation of
Israel. So the Levites are responsible for the
tabernacle of the Testimony."
54 Thus the Israelites did everything just as the
LORD had commanded Moses.

2

1 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron:
2 "The Israelites are to camp around the Tent
of Meeting at a distance from it, each man under
his standard, with the banners of his family.

3 On the east side, toward the sunrise, the
divisions of Judah are to camp under their
standard:
The leader of the Judahites is Nahshon son of
Amminadab,
4 and his division numbers 74,600.
5 The tribe of Issachar will camp next to it.
The leader of the Issacharites is Nethanel
son of Zuar,
6 and his division numbers 54,400.
7 Next will be the tribe of Zebulun. The leader
of the Zebulunites is Eliab son of Helon,
8 and his division numbers 57,400.

9 The total number of men in the divisions of
the camp of Judah is 186,400; they shall set out
first.

10 On the south side, the divisions of Reuben
are to camp under their standard:
The leader of the Reubenites is Elizur son of
Shedeur,
11 and his division numbers 46,500.
12 The tribe of Simeon will camp next to it.
The leader of the Simeonites is Shelumiel
son of Zurishaddai,
13 and his division numbers 59,300.
14 Next will be the tribe of Gad. The leader of
the Gadites is Eliasaph son of Reuel,*
15 and his division numbers 45,650.

16 The total number of men in the divisions of
the camp of Reuben is 151,450; they shall set out
second.

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* **2:14 2:14** Leningrad Codex and most MT manuscripts; many MT manuscripts, SP, and Vulgate (see also Numbers 1:14) *Deuel*

17 In the middle of the camps, the Tent of
Meeting is to travel with the camp of the Levites.
They are to set out in the order they encamped,
each in his own place under his standard.

18 On the west side, the divisions of Ephraim
are to camp under their standard:
The leader of the Ephraimites is Elishama son
of Ammihud,
19 and his division numbers 40,500.
20 The tribe of Manasseh will be next to it. The
leader of the Manassites is Gamaliel son of
Pedahzur,
21 and his division numbers 32,200.
22 Next will be the tribe of Benjamin. The
leader of the Benjamites is Abidan son of
Gideoni,
23 and his division numbers 35,400.

24 The total number of men in the divisions of
the camp of Ephraim is 108,100; they shall set
out third.

25 On the north side, the divisions of Dan are
to camp under their standard:
The leader of the Danites is Ahiezer son of
Ammishaddai,
26 and his division numbers 62,700.
27 The tribe of Asher will camp next to it. The
leader of the Asherites is Pagiel son of
Ocran,
28 and his division numbers 41,500.
29 Next will be the tribe of Naphtali. The leader
of the Naphtalites is Ahira son of Enan,
30 and his division numbers 53,400.

31 The total number of men in the camp of Dan
is 157,600; they shall set out last, under their
standards."
32 These are the Israelites, numbered
according to their families. The total of those
counted in the camps, by their divisions, was
603,550.
33 But the Levites were not counted among the
other Israelites, as the LORD had commanded
Moses.
34 So the Israelites did everything the LORD
commanded Moses; they camped under their
standards in this way and set out in the same
way, each man with his clan and his family.

3

1 This is the account of Aaron and Moses at the
time the LORD spoke with Moses on Mount
Sinai.
2 These are the names of the sons of Aaron:
Nadab the firstborn, then Abihu, Eleazar, and
Ithamar.
3 These were Aaron's sons, the anointed
priests, who were ordained to serve as priests.
4 Nadab and Abihu, however, died in the
presence of the LORD when they offered
strange* fire before the LORD in the Wilderness
of Sinai. And since they had no sons, only
Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests during
the lifetime of their father Aaron.
5 Then the LORD said to Moses,
6 "Bring the tribe of Levi and present them to
Aaron the priest to assist him.

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* **3:4 3:4** Or *unauthorized*

7 They are to perform duties for him and for
the whole congregation before the Tent of
Meeting, attending to the service of the
tabernacle.
8 They shall take care of all the furnishings of
the Tent of Meeting and fulfill obligations for the
Israelites by attending to the service of the
tabernacle.
9 Assign the Levites to Aaron and his sons;
they have been given exclusively to him† from
among the Israelites.
10 So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons to
carry out the duties of the priesthood; but any
outsider who approaches the tabernacle must
be put to death."

11 Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 "Behold, I have taken the Levites from
among the children of Israel in place of every
firstborn Israelite from the womb. The Levites
belong to me,
13 for all the firstborn are mine. On the day I
struck down every firstborn in the land of Egypt,
I consecrated to myself all the firstborn in Israel,
both man and beast. They are mine; I am the
LORD."

14 Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the
Wilderness of Sinai, saying,
15 "Number the Levites by their families and
clans. You are to count every male a month old
or more."

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† **3:9 3:9** Most MT manuscripts; some MT manuscripts, SP, and LXX (see also Numbers 8:16) *to me*

16 So Moses numbered them according to the
word of the LORD, as he had been commanded.
17 These were the sons of Levi by name:
Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.
18 These were the names of the sons of
Gershon by their clans: Libni and Shimei.
19 The sons of Kohath by their clans were
Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.
20 And the sons of Merari by their clans were
Mahli and Mushi. These were the clans of the
Levites, according to their families.
21 From Gershon came the Libnite clan and the
Shimeite clan; these were the Gershonite clans.
22 The number of all the males a month old or
more was 7,500.
23 The Gershonite clans were to camp on the
west, behind the tabernacle,
24 and the leader of the families of the
Gershonites was Eliasaph son of Lael.
25 The duties of the Gershonites at the Tent of
Meeting were the tabernacle and tent, its
covering, the curtain for the entrance to the Tent
of Meeting,
26 the curtains of the courtyard, the curtain for
the entrance to the courtyard that surrounds the
tabernacle and altar, and the cords—all the
service for these items.
27 From Kohath came the clans of the
Amramites, the Izharites, the Hebronites, and
the Uzzielites; these were the clans of the
Kohathites.
28 The number of all the males a month old or
more was 8,600.‡ They were responsible for the

‡ **3:28 3:28** Some LXX manuscripts *8,300*; see the total in verse 39.

duties of the sanctuary.
29 The clans of the Kohathites were to camp on
the south side of the tabernacle,
30 and the leader of the families of the
Kohathites was Elizaphan§ son of Uzziel.
31 Their duties were the ark, the table, the
lampstand, the altars, the articles of the
sanctuary used with them, and the curtain—all
the service for these items.
32 The chief of the leaders of the Levites was
Eleazar son of Aaron the priest; he oversaw
those responsible for the duties of the sanctuary.
33 From Merari came the clans of the Mahlites
and Mushites; these were the Merarite clans.
34 The number of all the males a month old or
more was 6,200.
35 The leader of the families of the Merarites
was Zuriel son of Abihail; they were to camp on
the north side of the tabernacle.
36 The duties assigned to the sons of Merari
were the tabernacle's frames, crossbars, posts,
bases, and all its equipment—all the service for
these items,
37 as well as the posts of the surrounding
courtyard with their bases, tent pegs, and ropes.
38 Moses, Aaron, and Aaron's sons were to
camp to the east of the tabernacle, toward the
sunrise, before the Tent of Meeting. They were
to perform the duties of the sanctuary as a
service on behalf of the Israelites; but any
outsider who approached the sanctuary was to
be put to death.

§ **3:30 3:30** *Elizaphan* is a variant of *Elzaphan*; see Exodus 6:22 and Leviticus 10:4.

39 The total number of Levites that Moses and
Aaron counted by their clans at the LORD's
command, including all the males a month old
or more, was 22,000.
40 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Number
every firstborn male of the Israelites a month
old or more, and list their names.
41 You are to take the Levites for me—I am the
LORD—in place of all the firstborn of Israel, and
the livestock of the Levites in place of all the
firstborn of the livestock of the Israelites."
42 So Moses numbered all the firstborn of the
Israelites, as the LORD had commanded him.
43 The total number of the firstborn males a
month old or more, listed by name, was 22,273.
44 Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
45 "Take the Levites in place of all the firstborn
of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites in place
of their livestock. The Levites belong to me; I am
the LORD.
46 To redeem the 273 firstborn Israelites who
outnumber the Levites,
47 you are to collect five shekels* for each one,
according to the sanctuary shekel of twenty
gerahs.†
48 Give the money to Aaron and his sons as the
redemption price for the excess among the
Israelites."
49 So Moses collected the redemption money
from those in excess of the number redeemed
by the Levites.

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* **3:47 3:47** *5 shekels* is approximately 2 ounces or 57 grams.
† **3:47 3:47** *20 gerahs* is equivalent to one shekel (approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams).

50 He collected the money from the firstborn
of the Israelites: 1,365 shekels,‡ according to the
sanctuary shekel.
51 And Moses gave the redemption money to
Aaron and his sons in obedience to the word of
the LORD, just as the LORD had commanded
him.

4

1 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
2 "Take a census of the Kohathites among the
Levites by their clans and families,
3 men from thirty to fifty years old—everyone
who is qualified to serve in the work at the Tent
of Meeting.
4 This service of the Kohathites at the Tent of
Meeting regards the most holy things.
5 Whenever the camp sets out, Aaron and his
sons are to go in, take down the veil of the
curtain, and cover the ark of the Testimony*
with it.
6 They are to place over this a covering of fine
leather,† spread a solid blue cloth over it, and
insert its poles.
7 Over the table of the Presence they are to
spread a blue cloth and place the plates and
cups on it, along with the bowls and pitchers for
the drink offering. The regular bread offering is
to remain on it.

‡ **3:50 3:50** *1,365 shekels* is approximately 34.3 pounds or 15.6 kilograms. * **4:5 4:5** That is, *the ark of the covenant* † **4:6 4:6** Possibly the hides of large aquatic mammals; also in verses 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 25; see Exodus 25:5.

8 And they shall spread a scarlet cloth over
them, cover them with fine leather, and insert
the poles.
9 They are to take a blue cloth and cover the
lampstand used for light, together with its
lamps, wick trimmers, and trays, as well as the
jars of oil with which to supply it.
10 Then they shall wrap it and all its utensils
inside a covering of fine leather and put it on
the carrying frame.
11 Over the gold altar they are to spread a blue
cloth, cover it with fine leather, and insert the
poles.
12 They are to take all the utensils for serving
in the sanctuary, place them in a blue cloth,
cover them with fine leather, and put them on
the carrying frame.
13 Then they shall remove the ashes from the
bronze altar, spread a purple cloth over it,
14 and place on it all the vessels used to serve
there: the firepans, meat forks, shovels, and
sprinkling bowls—all the equipment of the altar.
They are to spread over it a covering of fine
leather and insert the poles.
15 When Aaron and his sons have finished
covering the holy objects and all their
equipment, as soon as the camp is ready to
move, the Kohathites shall come and do the
carrying. But they must not touch the holy
objects, or they will die. These are the
transportation duties of the Kohathites
regarding the Tent of Meeting.

16 Eleazar son of Aaron the priest shall
oversee the oil for the light, the fragrant incense,
the daily grain offering, and the anointing oil.
He has oversight of the entire tabernacle and
everything in it, including the holy objects and
their utensils."
17 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
18 "Do not allow the Kohathite tribal clans to
be cut off from among the Levites.
19 In order that they may live and not die when
they come near the most holy things, do this for
them: Aaron and his sons are to go in and assign
each man his task and what he is to carry.
20 But the Kohathites are not to go in and look
at the holy objects, even for a moment, or they
will die."
21 And the LORD said to Moses,
22 "Take a census of the Gershonites as well, by
their families and clans,
23 from thirty to fifty years old, counting
everyone who comes to serve in the work at the
Tent of Meeting.
24 This is the service of the Gershonite clans
regarding work and transport:
25 They are to carry the curtains of the
tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting with the
covering of fine leather over it, the curtains for
the entrance to the Tent of Meeting,
26 the curtains of the courtyard, and the
curtains for the entrance at the gate of the
courtyard that surrounds the tabernacle and
altar, along with their ropes and all the
equipment for their service. The Gershonites

will do all that needs to be done with these
items.
27 All the service of the Gershonites—all their
transport duties and other work—is to be done
at the direction of Aaron and his sons; you are to
assign to them all that they are responsible to
carry.
28 This is the service of the Gershonite clans at
the Tent of Meeting, and their duties shall be
under the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the
priest.
29 As for the sons of Merari, you are to number
them by their clans and families,
30 from thirty to fifty years old, counting
everyone who comes to serve in the work of the
Tent of Meeting.
31 This is the duty for all their service at the
Tent of Meeting: to carry the frames of the
tabernacle with its crossbars, posts, and bases,
32 and the posts of the surrounding courtyard
with their bases, tent pegs, and ropes, including
all their equipment and everything related to
their use. You shall assign by name the items
that they are responsible to carry.
33 This is the service of the Merarite clans
according to all their work at the Tent of
Meeting, under the direction of Ithamar son of
Aaron the priest."
34 So Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of the
congregation numbered the Kohathites by their
clans and families,
35 everyone from thirty to fifty years old who
came to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting.

36 And those numbered by their clans totaled
2,750.
37 These were counted from the Kohathite
clans, everyone who could serve at the Tent of
Meeting. Moses and Aaron numbered them
according to the command of the LORD through
Moses.
38 Then the Gershonites were numbered by
their clans and families,
39 everyone from thirty to fifty years old who
came to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting.
40 And those numbered by their clans and
families totaled 2,630.
41 These were counted from the Gershonite
clans who served at the Tent of Meeting, whom
Moses and Aaron counted at the LORD's
command.
42 And the Merarites were numbered by their
clans and families,
43 everyone from thirty to fifty years old who
came to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting.
44 The men registered by their clans
numbered 3,200.
45 These were counted from the Merarite
clans, whom Moses and Aaron numbered at the
LORD's command through Moses.
46 So Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of Israel
numbered by their clans and families all the
Levites
47 from thirty to fifty years old who came to do
the work of serving and carrying the Tent of
Meeting.
48 And the number of men was 8,580.

49 At the LORD's command through Moses
they were numbered, and each one was
assigned his work and burden, as the LORD had
commanded Moses.

5

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Command the Israelites to send away from
the camp anyone with a skin disease,* anyone
who has a bodily discharge, and anyone who is
defiled by a dead body.
3 You must send away male and female alike;
send them outside the camp so they will not
defile their camp, where I dwell among them."
4 So the Israelites did this, sending such people
outside the camp. They did just as the LORD had
instructed Moses.
5 And the LORD said to Moses,
6 "Tell the Israelites that when a man or
woman acts unfaithfully against the LORD by
committing any sin against another, that person
is guilty
7 and must confess the sin he has committed.
He must make full restitution, add a fifth to its
value, and give all this to the one he has
wronged.
8 But if the man has no relative to whom
restitution can be made for the wrong, the
restitution belongs to the LORD and must be
given to the priest along with the ram of

* **5:2 5:2** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy*, were used for various skin diseases; see Leviticus 13.

atonement, by which the atonement is made for
him.
9 Every sacred contribution the Israelites
bring to the priest shall belong to him.
10 Each man's sacred gifts are his own, but
whatever he gives to the priest will belong to the
priest."
11 Then the LORD said to Moses,
12 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them that if
any man's wife goes astray and is unfaithful to
him
13 by sleeping with another man, and it is
concealed from her husband and her impurity is
undetected (since there is no witness against her
and she was not caught in the act),
14 and if a feeling of jealousy comes over her
husband and he suspects his wife who has
defiled herself—or if a feeling of jealousy comes
over him and he suspects her even though she
has not defiled herself—
15 then he is to bring his wife to the priest.
He must also bring for her an offering of a
tenth of an ephah of barley flour.† He is not to
pour oil over it or put frankincense on it,
because it is a grain offering for jealousy, an
offering of memorial as a reminder of iniquity.
16 The priest is to bring the wife forward and
have her stand before the LORD.
17 Then he is to take some holy water in a clay
jar and put some of the dust from the tabernacle
floor into the water.

† **5:15 5:15** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 3.5 pounds or 1.6 kilograms of barley flour).

18 After the priest has the woman stand before
the LORD, he is to let down her hair and place in
her hands the grain offering of memorial, which
is the grain offering for jealousy. The priest is to
hold the bitter water that brings a curse.
19 And he is to put the woman under oath and
say to her, 'If no other man has slept with you
and you have not gone astray and become
defiled while under your husband's authority,
may you be immune to this bitter water that
brings a curse.
20 But if you have gone astray while under
your husband's authority and have defiled
yourself and lain carnally with a man other
than your husband'—
21 and the priest shall have the woman swear
under the oath of the curse—'then may the
LORD make you an attested curse among your
people by making your thigh shrivel and your
belly swell.
22 May this water that brings a curse enter
your stomach and cause your belly to swell and
your thigh to shrivel.'

Then the woman is to say, 'Amen, Amen.'

23 And the priest shall write these curses on a
scroll and wash them off into the bitter water.
24 He is to have the woman drink the bitter
water that brings a curse, and it will enter her
and may cause her bitter suffering.
25 The priest shall take from her hand the
grain offering for jealousy, wave it before the
LORD, and bring it to the altar.

26 Then the priest is to take a handful of the
grain offering as a memorial portion and burn it
on the altar; after that he is to have the woman
drink the water.
27 When he has made her drink the water, if
she has defiled herself and been unfaithful to
her husband, then the water that brings a curse
will enter her and cause bitter suffering; her
belly will swell, her thigh will shrivel, and she
will become accursed among her people.
28 But if the woman has not defiled herself and
is clean, she will be unaffected and able to
conceive children.
29 This is the law of jealousy when a wife goes
astray and defiles herself while under her
husband's authority,
30 or when a feeling of jealousy comes over a
husband and he suspects his wife. He is to have
the woman stand before the LORD, and the
priest is to apply to her this entire law.
31 The husband will be free from guilt, but the
woman shall bear her iniquity."

6

1 And the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them that if a
man or woman makes a special vow, the vow of
a Nazirite,* to separate himself to the LORD,
3 he is to abstain from wine and strong drink.
He must not drink vinegar made from wine or
strong drink, and he must not drink any grape
juice or eat fresh grapes or raisins.

* **6:2 6:2** *Nazirite* means *one separated* or *one consecrated.*

4 All the days of his separation, he is not to eat
anything that comes from the grapevine, not
even the seeds or skins.
5 For the entire period of his vow of
separation, no razor shall touch his head. He
must be holy until the time of his separation to
the LORD is complete; he must let the hair of his
head grow long.
6 Throughout the days of his separation to the
LORD, he must not go near a dead body.
7 Even if his father or mother or brother or
sister should die, he is not to defile himself,
because the symbol of consecration to his God is
upon his head.
8 Throughout the time of his separation, he is
holy to the LORD.
9 If someone suddenly dies in his presence and
defiles his consecrated head of hair, he must
shave his head on the day of his cleansing—the
seventh day.
10 On the eighth day he must bring two
turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest at
the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
11 And the priest is to offer one as a
purification offering† and the other as a burnt
offering to make atonement for him, because he
has sinned by being in the presence of the dead
body. On that day he must consecrate his head
again.
12 He must rededicate his time of separation to
the LORD and bring a year-old male lamb as a

† **6:11 6:11** Or *sin offering*; here and throughout Numbers

guilt offering. But the preceding days shall not be counted, because his separation was defiled.

13 Now this is the law of the Nazirite when his time of separation is complete: He must be brought to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting,

14 and he is to present an offering to the LORD of an unblemished year-old male lamb as a burnt offering, an unblemished year-old female lamb as a purification offering, and an unblemished ram as a peace offering—

15 together with their grain offerings and drink offerings—and a basket of unleavened cakes made from fine flour mixed with oil and unleavened wafers coated with oil.

16 The priest is to present all these before the LORD and make the purification offering and the burnt offering.

17 He shall also offer the ram as a peace offering to the LORD, along with the basket of unleavened bread. And the priest is to offer the accompanying grain offering and drink offering.

18 Then at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, the Nazirite is to shave his consecrated head, take the hair, and put it on the fire under the peace offering.

19 And the priest is to take the boiled shoulder from the ram, one unleavened cake from the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and put them into the hands of the Nazirite who has just shaved the hair of his consecration.

20 The priest shall then wave them as a wave offering before the LORD. This is a holy portion for the priest, in addition to the breast of the

wave offering and the thigh that was presented.
After that, the Nazirite may drink wine.
21 This is the law of the Nazirite who vows his
offering to the LORD for his separation, in
addition to whatever else he can afford; he must
fulfill whatever vow he makes, according to the
law of his separation."
22 Then the LORD said to Moses,
23 "Tell Aaron and his sons: This is how you
are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

24 'May the LORD bless you
and keep you;
25 may the LORD cause his face to shine upon
you
and be gracious to you;
26 may the LORD lift up his countenance toward
you
and give you peace.'
27 So they shall put my name on the Israelites,
and I will bless them."

7

1 On the day Moses finished setting up the
tabernacle, he anointed and consecrated it and
all its furnishings, along with the altar and all its
utensils.
2 And the leaders of Israel, the heads of their
families, presented an offering. These men were
the tribal leaders who had supervised the
registration.
3 They brought as their offering before the
LORD six covered carts and twelve oxen—an ox
from each leader and a cart from every two

leaders—and presented them before the
tabernacle.
4 And the LORD said to Moses,
5 “Accept these gifts from them, that they may
be used in the work of the Tent of Meeting. And
give them to the Levites, to each man according
to his service.”
6 So Moses took the carts and oxen and gave
them to the Levites.
7 He gave the Gershonites two carts and four
oxen, as their service required,
8 and he gave the Merarites four carts and
eight oxen, as their service required, all under
the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest.
9 But he did not give any to the Kohathites,
since they were to carry on their shoulders the
holy objects for which they were responsible.
10 When the altar was anointed, the leaders
approached with their offerings for its
dedication and presented them before the altar.
11 And the LORD said to Moses, “Each day one
leader is to present his offering for the
dedication of the altar.”
12 On the first day Nahshon son of
Amminadab from the tribe of Judah drew near
with his offering.
13 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels,* and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels,† both according

* **7:13** **7:13** *130 shekels* is approximately 3.3 pounds or 1.48 kilograms; here and throughout this chapter. † **7:13** **7:13** *70 shekels* is approximately 1.76 pounds or 797.8 grams; here and throughout this chapter.

to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
14 one gold dish weighing ten shekels,‡ filled
with incense;
15 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
16 one male goat for a purification offering;
17 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Nahshon son of
Amminadab.
18 On the second day Nethanel son of Zuar, the
leader of Issachar, drew near.
19 The offering he presented was one silver
platter weighing a hundred and thirty shekels,
and one silver bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary shekel and filled
with fine flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering;
20 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
21 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
22 one male goat for a purification offering;
23 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Nethanel son of Zuar.
24 On the third day Eliab son of Helon, the
leader of the Zebulunites, drew near.
25 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver

‡ **7:14 7:14** *10 shekels* is approximately 4 ounces or 114 grams; here and throughout this chapter.

bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
26 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
27 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
28 one male goat for a purification offering;
29 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Eliab son of Helon.

30 On the fourth day Elizur son of Shedeur, the
leader of the Reubenites, drew near.
31 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
32 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
33 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
34 one male goat for a purification offering;
35 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Elizur son of Shedeur.

36 On the fifth day Shelumiel son of
Zurishaddai, the leader of the Simeonites, drew
near.
37 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according

to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
38 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
39 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
40 one male goat for a purification offering;
41 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Shelumiel son of
Zurishaddai.

42 On the sixth day Eliasaph son of Deuel, the
leader of the Gadites, drew near.
43 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
44 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
45 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
46 one male goat for a purification offering;
47 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Eliasaph son of Deuel.

48 On the seventh day Elishama son of
Ammihud, the leader of the Ephraimites, drew
near.
49 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according

to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
50 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
51 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
52 one male goat for a purification offering;
53 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Elishama son of
Ammihud.

54 On the eighth day Gamaliel son of Pedahzur,
the leader of the Manassites, drew near.
55 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
56 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
57 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
58 one male goat for a purification offering;
59 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Gamaliel son of
Pedahzur.

60 On the ninth day Abidan son of Gideoni, the
leader of the Benjamites, drew near.
61 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according

to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
62 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
63 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
64 one male goat for a purification offering;
65 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Abidan son of Gideoni.

66 On the tenth day Ahiezer son of
Ammishaddai, the leader of the Danites, drew
near.
67 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
68 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
69 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
70 one male goat for a purification offering;
71 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Ahiezer son of
Ammishaddai.

72 On the eleventh day Pagiel son of Ocran, the
leader of the Asherites, drew near.
73 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according

to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
74 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
75 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
76 one male goat for a purification offering;
77 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Pagiel son of Ocran.

78 On the twelfth day Ahira son of Enan, the
leader of the Naphtalites, drew near.
79 His offering was one silver platter weighing
a hundred and thirty shekels, and one silver
bowl weighing seventy shekels, both according
to the sanctuary shekel and filled with fine flour
mixed with oil for a grain offering;
80 one gold dish weighing ten shekels, filled
with incense;
81 one young bull, one ram, and one male
lamb a year old for a burnt offering;
82 one male goat for a purification offering;
83 and a peace offering of two oxen, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Ahira son of Enan.

84 So these were the offerings from the leaders
of Israel for the dedication of the altar when it
was anointed: twelve silver platters, twelve
silver bowls, and twelve gold dishes.

85 Each silver platter weighed a hundred and
thirty shekels, and each silver bowl seventy
shekels. The total weight of the silver articles

was two thousand four hundred shekels,§
according to the sanctuary shekel.
86 The twelve gold dishes filled with incense
weighed ten shekels each, according to the
sanctuary shekel. The total weight of the gold
dishes was a hundred and twenty shekels.*
87 All the livestock for the burnt offering
totaled twelve bulls, twelve rams, and twelve
male lambs a year old—together with their
grain offerings—and twelve male goats for the
purification offering.
88 All the livestock sacrificed for the peace
offering totaled twenty-four bulls, sixty rams,
sixty male goats, and sixty male lambs a year
old. This was the dedication offering for the
altar after it was anointed.
89 When Moses entered the Tent of Meeting to
speak with the LORD, he heard the voice
speaking to him from between the two
cherubim above the cover† on the ark of the
Testimony.‡ Thus the LORD spoke to him.

8

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to Aaron and tell him: 'When you set
up the seven lamps, they are to light the area in
front of the lampstand.' "

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§ **7:85 7:85** *2,400 shekels* is approximately 60.3 pounds or 27.4 kilograms. * **7:86 7:86** *120 shekels* is approximately 3 pounds or 1.4 kilograms. † **7:89 7:89** Or *atonement cover* or *mercy seat*; Hebrew *kapporet* ‡ **7:89 7:89** That is, *the ark of the covenant*

3 And Aaron did so; he set up the lamps facing
toward the front of the lampstand, just as the
LORD had commanded Moses.
4 This is how the lampstand was constructed:
it was made of hammered gold from its base to
its blossoms, fashioned according to the pattern
the LORD had shown Moses.
5 Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
6 "Take the Levites from among the Israelites
and make them ceremonially clean.
7 This is what you must do to cleanse them:
Sprinkle them with the water of purification.
Have them shave their whole bodies and wash
their clothes, and so purify themselves.
8 Then have them take a young bull with its
grain offering of fine flour mixed with oil, and
you are to take a second young bull for a
purification offering.
9 Bring the Levites before the Tent of Meeting
and assemble the whole congregation of Israel.
10 You are to present the Levites before the
LORD and have the Israelites lay their hands
upon them.
11 Aaron is to present the Levites before the
LORD as a wave offering from the sons of Israel,
so that they may perform the service of the
LORD.
12 And the Levites are to lay their hands on the
heads of the bulls, and offer to the LORD one as
a purification offering and the other as a burnt
offering, to make atonement for the Levites.
13 You are to have the Levites stand before
Aaron and his sons and then present them

before the LORD as a wave offering.
14 In this way you shall separate the Levites
from the rest of the Israelites, and the Levites
will belong to me.
15 After you have cleansed them and
presented them as a wave offering, they may
come to serve at the Tent of Meeting.

16 For the Levites have been wholly given to
me from among the sons of Israel. I have taken
them for myself in place of all who come first
from the womb, the firstborn of all the sons of
Israel.
17 For every firstborn male in Israel is mine,
both man and beast. I set them apart for myself
on the day I struck down all the firstborn in the
land of Egypt.
18 But I have taken the Levites in place of all
the firstborn among the sons of Israel.
19 And I have given the Levites as a gift to
Aaron and his sons from among the Israelites, to
perform the service for the Israelites at the Tent
of Meeting and to make atonement on their
behalf, so that no plague will come against the
Israelites when they approach the sanctuary."

20 So Moses, Aaron, and the whole
congregation of Israel did with the Levites
everything that the LORD had commanded
Moses they should do.
21 The Levites purified themselves and washed
their clothes, and Aaron presented them as a
wave offering before the LORD. Aaron also
made atonement for them to cleanse them.

22 After that, the Levites came to perform their
service at the Tent of Meeting in the presence of
Aaron and his sons. Thus they did with the
Levites just as the LORD had commanded Moses.
23 And the LORD said to Moses,
24 "This applies to the Levites: Men twenty-five
years of age or older shall enter to perform the
service in the work at the Tent of Meeting.
25 But at the age of fifty, they must retire from
performing the work and no longer serve.
26 After that, they may assist their brothers in
fulfilling their duties at the Tent of Meeting, but
they themselves are not to do the work. This is
how you are to assign responsibilities to the
Levites."

9

1 In the first month of the second year after
Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, the
LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai:
2 "The Israelites are to observe the Passover at
its appointed time.
3 You are to observe it at the appointed time,
at twilight on the fourteenth* day of this month,
in accordance with its statutes and ordinances."
4 So Moses told the Israelites to observe the
Passover,
5 and they did so in the Wilderness of Sinai, at
twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month.
The Israelites did everything just as the LORD
had commanded Moses.

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* **9:3 9:3** Hebrew *between the two evenings of the fourteenth*; also in verses 5 and 11

6 But there were some men who were unclean
due to a dead body, so they could not observe
the Passover on that day. And they came before
Moses and Aaron that same day
7 and said to Moses, “We are unclean because
of a dead body, but why should we be excluded
from presenting the LORD’s offering with the
other Israelites at the appointed time?”
8 “Wait here until I find out what the LORD
commands concerning you,” Moses replied.
9 Then the LORD said to Moses,
10 “Tell the Israelites: ‘When any one of you or
your descendants is unclean because of a dead
body, or is away on a journey, he may still
observe the Passover to the LORD.
11 Such people are to observe it at twilight on
the fourteenth day of the second month. They
are to eat the lamb, together with unleavened
bread and bitter herbs;
12 they may not leave any of it until morning
or break any of its bones. They must observe the
Passover according to all its statutes.
13 But if a man who is ceremonially clean and
is not on a journey still fails to observe the
Passover, he must be cut off from his people,
because he did not present the LORD’s offering
at its appointed time. That man will bear the
consequences of his sin.
14 If a foreigner dwelling among you wants to
observe the Passover to the LORD, he is to do so
according to the Passover statute and its
ordinances. You are to apply the same statute to
both the foreigner and the native of the land.’ ”

15 On the day that the tabernacle, the Tent of
the Testimony, was set up, the cloud covered it
and appeared like fire above the tabernacle
from evening until morning.
16 It remained that way continually; the cloud
would cover the tabernacle,† and at night it
would appear like fire.
17 Whenever the cloud was lifted from above
the Tent, the Israelites would set out, and
wherever the cloud settled, there the Israelites
would camp.
18 At the LORD's command the Israelites set
out, and at the LORD's command they camped.
As long as the cloud remained over the
tabernacle, they remained encamped.
19 Even when the cloud lingered over the
tabernacle for many days, the Israelites kept the
LORD's charge and did not set out.
20 Sometimes the cloud remained over the
tabernacle for only a few days, and they would
camp at the LORD's command and set out at the
LORD's command.
21 Sometimes the cloud remained only from
evening until morning, and when it lifted in the
morning, they would set out. Whether it was by
day or by night, when the cloud was taken up,
they would set out.
22 Whether the cloud lingered for two days, a
month, or longer, the Israelites camped and did
not set out as long as the cloud remained over
the tabernacle; but when it was lifted, they
would set out.

† **9:16 9:16** LXX, Syriac, and Vulgate add *by day*

23 They camped at the LORD's command, and
they set out at the LORD's command; they
carried out the LORD's charge according to his
command through Moses.

10

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Make two trumpets of hammered silver to
be used for calling the congregation and for
having the camps set out.
3 When both are sounded, the whole
congregation is to assemble before you at the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
4 But if only one is sounded, then the leaders,
the heads of the clans of Israel, are to gather
before you.
5 When you sound short blasts, the camps that
lie on the east side are to set out.
6 When you sound the short blasts a second
time, the camps that lie on the south side are to
set out. The blasts are to signal them to set out.
7 To convene the assembly, you are to sound
long blasts, not short ones.
8 The sons of Aaron, the priests, are to sound
the trumpets. This shall be a permanent statute
for you and the generations to come.
9 When you enter into battle in your land
against an adversary who attacks you, sound
short blasts on the trumpets, and you will be
remembered before the LORD your God and
saved from your enemies.
10 And on your joyous occasions, your
appointed feasts, and the beginning of each

month, you are to blow the trumpets over your
burnt offerings and peace offerings to serve as a
reminder for you before your God. I am the
LORD your God."

11 On the twentieth day of the second month of
the second year, the cloud was lifted from above
the tabernacle of the Testimony,
12 and the Israelites set out from the
Wilderness of Sinai, traveling from place to
place until the cloud settled in the Wilderness of
Paran.
13 They set out this first time according to the
LORD's command through Moses.

14 First, the divisions of the camp of Judah set
out under their standard, with Nahshon son of
Amminadab in command.
15 Nethanel son of Zuar was over the division
of the tribe of Issachar,
16 and Eliab son of Helon was over the
division of the tribe of Zebulun.
17 Then the tabernacle was taken down, and
the Gershonites and the Merarites set out,
transporting it.

18 Then the divisions of the camp of Reuben
set out under their standard, with Elizur son of
Shedeur in command.
19 Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai was over the
division of the tribe of Simeon,
20 and Eliasaph son of Deuel was over the
division of the tribe of Gad.
21 Then the Kohathites set out, transporting
the holy objects; the tabernacle was to be set up
before their arrival.

22 Next, the divisions of the camp of Ephraim
set out under their standard, with Elishama son
of Ammihud in command.
23 Gamaliel son of Pedahzur was over the
division of the tribe of Manasseh,
24 and Abidan son of Gideoni was over the
division of the tribe of Benjamin.
25 Finally, the divisions of the camp of Dan set
out under their standard, serving as the rear
guard for all units, with Ahiezer son of
Ammishaddai in command.
26 Pagiel son of Ocran was over the division of
the tribe of Asher,
27 and Ahira son of Enan was over the division
of the tribe of Naphtali.
28 This was the order of march for the Israelite
divisions as they set out.
29 Then Moses said to Hobab, the son of Moses'
father-in-law Reuel* the Midianite, "We are
setting out for the place of which the LORD said:
'I will give it to you.' Come with us, and we will
treat you well, for the LORD has promised good
things to Israel."
30 "I will not go," Hobab replied. "Instead, I am
going back to my own land and my own people."
31 "Please do not leave us," Moses said, "since
you know where we should camp in the
wilderness, and you can serve as our eyes.
32 If you come with us, we will share with you
whatever good things the LORD gives us."
33 So they set out on a three-day journey from
the mountain of the LORD, with the ark of the

* **10:29 10:29** *Reuel* was also called *Jethro*; see Exodus 3:1.

covenant of the LORD traveling ahead of them
for those three days to seek a resting place for
them.
34 And the cloud of the LORD was over them
by day when they set out from the camp.
35 Whenever the ark set out, Moses would say,

"Rise up, O LORD!
May your enemies be scattered;
may those who hate you flee before you."
36 And when it came to rest, he would say:

"Return, O LORD,
to the countless thousands of Israel."

11

1 Soon the people began to complain about
their hardship in the hearing of the LORD, and
when he heard them, his anger was kindled, and
fire from the LORD blazed among them and
consumed the outskirts of the camp.
2 And the people cried out to Moses, and he
prayed to the LORD, and the fire died down.
3 So that place was called Taberah,* because
the fire of the LORD had burned among them.
4 Meanwhile, the rabble among them had a
strong craving for other food, and again the
Israelites wept and said, "Who will feed us meat?
5 We remember the fish we ate freely in Egypt,
along with the cucumbers, melons, leeks,
onions, and garlic.

* **11:3 11:3** *Taberah* means *burning*.

6 But now our appetite is gone; there is
nothing to see but this manna!”
7 Now the manna resembled coriander seed,
and its appearance was like that of gum resin.
8 The people walked around and gathered it,
ground it on a handmill or crushed it in a
mortar, then boiled it in a cooking pot or shaped
it into cakes. It tasted like pastry baked with fine
oil.
9 When the dew fell on the camp at night, the
manna would fall with it.
10 Then Moses heard the people of family after
family weeping at the entrances to their tents,
and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly,
and Moses was also displeased.
11 So Moses asked the LORD, “Why have you
brought this trouble on your servant? Why have
I not found favor in your sight, that you have
laid upon me the burden of all these people?
12 Did I conceive all these people? Did I give
them birth, so that you should tell me, ‘Carry
them in your bosom, as a nurse carries an
infant,’ to the land that you swore to give their
fathers?
13 Where can I get meat for all these people?
For they keep crying out to me, ‘Give us meat to
eat!’
14 I cannot carry all these people by myself; it
is too burdensome for me.
15 If this is how you are going to treat me,
please kill me right now—if I have found favor
in your eyes—and let me not see my own
wretchedness.”

16 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Bring me
seventy of the elders of Israel known to you as
leaders and officers of the people. Bring them to
the Tent of Meeting and have them stand there
with you.
17 And I will come down and speak with you
there, and I will take some of the spirit that is on
you and put that spirit on them. They will help
you bear the burden of the people, so that you
do not have to bear it by yourself.
18 And say to the people: Consecrate
yourselves for tomorrow, and you will eat meat,
because you have cried out in the hearing of the
LORD, saying: ‘Who will feed us meat? For we
were better off in Egypt!’ Therefore the LORD
will give you meat, and you will eat.
19 You will eat it not for one or two days, nor
for five or ten or twenty days,
20 but for a whole month—until it comes out of
your nostrils and makes you nauseous—because
you have rejected the LORD, who is among you,
and have cried out before him, saying, ‘Why did
we ever leave Egypt?’ ”
21 But Moses replied, “Here I am among
600,000 men on foot, yet you say, ‘I will give
them meat, and they will eat for a month.’
22 If all our flocks and herds were slaughtered
for them, would they have enough? Or if all the
fish in the sea were caught for them, would they
have enough?”
23 The LORD answered Moses, “Is the LORD’s
arm too short? Now you will see whether or not
my word will come to pass.”

24 So Moses went out and relayed to the people
the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy
of the elders of the people and had them stand
around the tent.
25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and
spoke to him, and he took some of the spirit that
was on Moses and placed that spirit on the
seventy elders. As the spirit rested on them, they
prophesied—but they never did so again.
26 Two men, however, had remained in the
camp—one named Eldad and the other
Medad—and the spirit rested on them. They
were among those listed, but they had not gone
out to the tent, and they prophesied in the camp.
27 A young man ran and reported to Moses,
"Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."
28 Joshua son of Nun, the attendant to Moses
since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord,
stop them!"
29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous on my
account? I wish that all the LORD's people were
prophets and that the LORD would place his
spirit on them!"
30 Then Moses returned to the camp, along
with the elders of Israel.
31 Now a wind sent by the LORD came up,
drove in quail from the sea, and brought them
near the camp, up to two cubits deep,† for a day's
journey in every direction around the camp.
32 All that day and night, and all the next day,
the people stayed up gathering the quail. No one

† **11:31 11:31** Or *about two cubits above the surface of the ground*; that is, approximately 3 feet or 91.4 centimeters

gathered less than ten homers,‡ and they spread
them out all around the camp.
33 But while the meat was still between their
teeth, before it was chewed, the anger of the
LORD burned against the people, and the LORD
struck them with a very severe plague.
34 So they called that place
Kibroth-hattaavah,§ because there they buried
the people who had craved other food.
35 From Kibroth-hattaavah the people moved
on to Hazeroth, where they remained for some
time.

12

1 Then Miriam and Aaron criticized Moses
because of the Cushite woman he had married,
for he had taken a Cushite wife.
2 “Does the LORD speak only through Moses?”
they said. “Does he not also speak through us?”
And the LORD heard this.
3 Now Moses was a very humble man, more so
than any man on the face of the earth.
4 And suddenly the LORD said to Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam, “You three, come out to the
Tent of Meeting.” So the three went out,
5 and the LORD came down in a pillar of
cloud, stood at the entrance to the Tent, and
summoned Aaron and Miriam. When both of
them had stepped forward,
6 he said, “Hear now my words:

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‡ **11:32 11:32** *10 homers* is approximately 62.4 bushels or 2,200 liters. § **11:34 11:34** *Kibroth-hattaavah* means *graves of craving.*

If there is a prophet among you,
I, the LORD, will reveal myself to him in a vision;
I will speak to him in a dream.
7 But this is not so with my servant Moses;
he is faithful in all my house.
8 I speak with him face to face,
clearly and not in riddles;
he sees the form of the LORD.
Why then were you unafraid to speak against my servant Moses?"
9 So the anger of the LORD burned against them, and he departed.
10 As the cloud lifted from above the Tent, suddenly Miriam became leprous,* white as snow. Aaron turned toward her, saw that she was leprous,
11 and said to Moses, "My lord, please do not hold against us this sin we have so foolishly committed.
12 Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb."
13 So Moses cried out to the LORD, "O God, please heal her!"
14 But the LORD answered Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Let her be confined outside the camp for seven days; after that she may be brought back in."

* **12:10 12:10** The Hebrew word traditionally translated as *leprous* was used for various skin diseases; see Leviticus 13.

15 So Miriam was confined outside the camp
for seven days, and the people did not move on
until she was brought in again.
16 After that, the people set out from Hazeroth
and camped in the Wilderness of Paran.

13

1 And the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Send out for yourself men to spy out the
land of Canaan, which I am giving to the
Israelites. From each of their fathers' tribes send
one man who is a leader among them."
3 So at the command* of the LORD, Moses sent
them out from the Wilderness of Paran. All the
men were leaders of the Israelites,
4 and these were their names:

From the tribe of Reuben, Shammua son of
Zaccur;
5 from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat son of
Hori;
6 from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of
Jephunneh;
7 from the tribe of Issachar, Igal son of Joseph;
8 from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of
Nun;
9 from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti son of
Raphu;
10 from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel son of
Sodi;
11 from the tribe of Manasseh (a tribe of
Joseph), Gaddi son of Susi;

* **13:3 13:3** Literally *according to the mouth*

12 from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel son of
Gemalli;
13 from the tribe of Asher, Sethur son of
Michael;
14 from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi son of
Vophsi;
15 and from the tribe of Gad, Geuel son of
Machi.
16 These were the names of the men Moses
sent to spy out the land; and Moses gave to
Hoshea son of Nun the name Joshua.
17 When Moses sent them to spy out the land
of Canaan, he told them, “Go up through the
Negev and into the hill country.
18 See what the land is like and whether its
people are strong or weak, few or many.
19 Is the land where they live good or bad? Are
the cities where they dwell open camps or
fortifications?
20 Is the soil fertile or unproductive? Are there
trees in it or not? Be courageous and bring back
some of the fruit of the land.” (It was the season
for the first ripe grapes.)
21 So they went up and spied out the land from
the Wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, toward
Lebo-hamath.
22 They went up through the Negev and came
to Hebron, where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai,
the descendants of Anak, dwelled. It had been
built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.
23 When they came to the Valley of Eshcol,†
they cut down a branch with a single cluster of

† **13:23 13:23** *Eshcol* means *cluster*; also in verse 24.

grapes, which they carried on a pole between
two men. They also took some pomegranates
and figs.
24 Because of the cluster of grapes the
Israelites cut there, that place was called the
Valley of Eshcol.
25 After forty days the men returned from
spying out the land,
26 and they went back to Moses, Aaron, and
the whole congregation of Israel in the
Wilderness of Paran at Kadesh. They brought
back a report for the whole congregation and
showed them the fruit of the land.
27 And they gave this account to Moses: “We
went into the land to which you sent us, and
indeed, it is flowing with milk and honey. Here
is some of its fruit!
28 Nevertheless, the people living in the land
are strong, and the cities are large and fortified.
We even saw the descendants of Anak there.
29 The Amalekites live in the land of the
Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live
in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by
the sea and along the Jordan.”
30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses
and said, “We must go up and take possession of
the land, for we can certainly conquer it!”
31 But the men who had gone up with him
replied, “We cannot go up against the people, for
they are stronger than we are!”
32 So they gave the Israelites a bad report
about the land that they had spied out: “The

land we explored devours its inhabitants, and all the people we saw there are great in stature.
33 We even saw the Nephilim there—the descendants of Anak that come from the Nephilim! We seemed like grasshoppers in our own sight, and we must have seemed the same to them!"

14

1 Then the whole congregation lifted up their voices and cried out, and that night the people wept.
2 All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this wilderness!
3 Why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and children will become plunder. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?"
4 So they said to one another, "Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt."
5 Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown before the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel.
6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes
7 and said to the whole congregation of Israel, "The land we passed through and explored is an exceedingly good land.
8 If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and he will give it to us.

9 Only do not rebel against the LORD, and do
not be afraid of the people of the land, for they
will be like bread for us. Their protection has
been removed, and the LORD is with us. Do not
be afraid of them!"
10 But the whole congregation threatened to
stone Joshua and Caleb.
Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the
Israelites at the Tent of Meeting.
11 And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will
this people treat me with contempt? How long
will they refuse to believe in me, despite all the
signs I have performed among them?
12 I will strike them with a plague and destroy
them—and I will make you into a nation greater
and mightier than they are."
13 But Moses said to the LORD, "The Egyptians
will hear of it, for by your strength you brought
this people from among them.
14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this
land. They have already heard that you, O
LORD, are in the midst of this people, that you, O
LORD, have been seen face to face, that your
cloud stands over them, and that you go before
them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of
fire by night.
15 If you kill this people as one man, the
nations who have heard of your fame will say,
16 'Because the LORD was unable to bring this
people into the land he swore to give them, he
has slaughtered them in the wilderness.'
17 So now I pray, may the power of my Lord be
magnified, just as you have declared:

18 ‘The LORD is slow to anger and abounding
in loving devotion,* forgiving iniquity and
transgression. Yet he will by no means leave the
guilty unpunished; he will visit the iniquity of
the fathers upon their children to the third and
fourth generation.’

19 Pardon, I pray, the iniquity of this people, in
keeping with the greatness of your loving
devotion, just as you have forgiven them ever
since they left Egypt.”

20 “I have pardoned them as you requested,”
the LORD replied.
21 “Yet as surely as I live and as surely as the
whole earth is filled with the glory of the LORD,
22 not one of the men who have seen my glory
and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the
wilderness—yet have tested me and disobeyed
me these ten times—
23 not one will ever see the land that I swore to
give their fathers. None of those who have
treated me with contempt will see it.

24 But because my servant Caleb has a
different spirit and has followed me
wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he
has entered, and his descendants will inherit it.

25 Now since the Amalekites and Canaanites
are living in the valleys, turn back tomorrow

* **14:18 14:18** Forms of the Hebrew *chesed* are translated here and in most cases throughout the Scriptures as *loving devotion*; the range of meaning includes *love*, *goodness*, *kindness*, *faithfulness*, and *mercy*, as well as *loyalty to a covenant*.

and head for the wilderness along the route to
the Sea of Reeds.†”
26 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
27 “How long will this wicked congregation
grumble against me? I have heard the
complaints that the Israelites are making against
me.
28 So tell them: As surely as I live, declares the
LORD, I will do to you exactly as I heard you say.
29 Your bodies will fall in this wilderness—all
who were numbered in the census, everyone
twenty years of age or older—because you have
grumbled against me.
30 Surely none of you will enter the land in
which I swore to settle you, except Caleb son of
Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.
31 But I will bring your children, whom you
said would become plunder, into the land you
have rejected—and they will enjoy it.
32 As for you, however, your bodies will fall in
this wilderness.
33 Your children will be shepherds in the
wilderness for forty years, and they will suffer
for your unfaithfulness until the last of your
bodies lies in the wilderness.
34 In keeping with the forty days you spied out
the land, you shall bear your guilt forty years—a
year for each day—and you will experience my
alienation.
35 I, the LORD, have spoken, and I will surely
do these things to this entire wicked
congregation, which has conspired against me.

† **14:25 14:25** Or *the Red Sea*

They will meet their end in the wilderness, and
there they will die."
36 So the men Moses had sent to spy out the
land, who had returned and made the whole
congregation grumble against him by bringing
out a bad report about the land—
37 those men who had brought out the bad
report about the land—were struck down by a
plague before the LORD.
38 Of those men who had gone to spy out the
land, only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of
Jephunneh remained alive.
39 And when Moses relayed these words to all
the Israelites, the people mourned bitterly.
40 Early the next morning they got up and
went up toward the ridge of the hill country.
"We have indeed sinned," they said, "but we will
go to the place the LORD has promised."
41 But Moses said, "Why are you transgressing
the commandment of the LORD? This will not
succeed!
42 Do not go up, lest you be struck down by
your enemies, because the LORD is not among
you.
43 For there the Amalekites and Canaanites
will face you, and you will fall by the sword.
Because you have turned away from the LORD,
he will not be with you."
44 But they dared to go up to the ridge of the
hill country, though neither Moses nor the ark of
the covenant of the LORD moved from the camp.
45 Then the Amalekites and Canaanites who
lived in that part of the hill country came down,

attacked them, and routed them all the way to Hormah.

15

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 “Speak to the Israelites and tell them: After you enter the land that I am giving you as a home
3 and you present a food offering to the LORD from the herd or flock to produce a pleasing aroma to the LORD—either a burnt offering or a sacrifice, for a special vow or freewill offering or appointed feast—
4 then the one presenting his offering to the LORD shall also present a grain offering of a tenth of an ephah of fine flour* mixed with a quarter hin of olive oil.†
5 With the burnt offering or sacrifice of each lamb, you are to prepare a quarter hin of wine as a drink offering.
6 With a ram you are to prepare a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah‡ of fine flour mixed with a third of a hin of olive oil,§
7 and a third of a hin of wine as a drink offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

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* **15:4 15:4** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour).
† **15:4 15:4** Or *a quarter hin of oil*; that is, approximately 0.97 quarts or 0.92 liters; similarly in verse 5
‡ **15:6 15:6** *Two-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 4 dry quarts or 4.4 liters (probably about 5.1 pounds or 2.3 kilograms of flour).
§ **15:6 15:6** Or *a third of a hin of oil*; that is, approximately 1.3 quarts or 1.2 liters; similarly in verse 7

8 When you prepare a young bull as a burnt
offering or sacrifice to fulfill a vow or as a peace
offering to the LORD,
9 present with the bull a grain offering of
three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour* mixed
with half a hin of olive oil.†
10 Also present half a hin of wine as a drink
offering. It is a food offering, a pleasing aroma
to the LORD.
11 This is to be done for each bull, ram, lamb,
or goat.
12 This is how you must prepare each one, no
matter how many.
13 Everyone who is native-born shall prepare
these things in this way when he presents a food
offering as a pleasing aroma to the LORD.
14 And for the generations to come, if a
foreigner residing with you or someone else
among you wants to prepare a food offering as a
pleasing aroma to the LORD, he is to do exactly
as you do.
15 The assembly is to have the same statute
both for you and for the foreign resident; it is a
permanent statute for the generations to come.
You and the foreigner shall be the same before
the LORD.
16 The same law and the same ordinance will
apply both to you and to the foreigner residing
with you."

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* **15:9 15:9** *Three-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 6 dry quarts or 6.6 liters (probably about 7.6 pounds or 3.5 kilograms of flour).
† **15:9 15:9** Or *half a hin of oil*; that is, approximately 1.9 quarts or 1.8 liters; similarly in verse 10

17 Then the LORD said to Moses,
18 “Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When
you enter the land to which I am bringing you
19 and you eat the food of the land, you shall
lift up an offering to the LORD.
20 From the first of your dough, you are to lift
up a cake as a contribution; offer it just like an
offering from the threshing floor.
21 Throughout your generations, you are to
give the LORD an offering from the first of your
dough.
22 Now if you stray unintentionally and do not
obey all these commandments that the LORD
has spoken to Moses—
23 all that the LORD has commanded you
through Moses from the day the LORD gave
them and continuing through the generations to
come—
24 and if it was done unintentionally without
the knowledge of the congregation, then the
whole congregation is to prepare one young bull
as a burnt offering, a pleasing aroma to the
LORD, with its grain offering and drink offering
according to the regulation, and one male goat
as a purification offering.
25 The priest is to make atonement for the
whole congregation of Israel, so that they may
be forgiven; for the sin was unintentional and
they have brought to the LORD a food offering
and a purification offering, presented before the
LORD for their unintentional sin.
26 Then the whole congregation of Israel and
the foreigners residing among them will be

forgiven, since it happened to all the people unintentionally.
27 Also, if one person sins unintentionally, he is to present a year-old female goat as a purification offering.
28 And the priest shall make atonement before the LORD on behalf of the person who erred by sinning unintentionally; and when atonement has been made for him, he will be forgiven.
29 You shall have the same law for the one who acts in error, whether he is a native-born Israelite or a foreigner residing among you.
30 But the person who sins defiantly, whether a native or foreigner, blasphemes the LORD. That person shall be cut off from among his people.
31 He shall certainly be cut off, because he has despised the word of the LORD and broken his commandment; his guilt remains on him."
32 While the Israelites were in the wilderness, a man was found gathering wood on the Sabbath day.
33 Those who found the man gathering wood brought him to Moses, Aaron, and the whole congregation,
34 and because it had not been declared what should be done to him, they placed him in custody.
35 And the LORD said to Moses, "The man must surely be put to death. The whole congregation is to stone him outside the camp."
36 So the whole congregation took the man outside the camp and stoned him to death, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

37 And the LORD said to Moses,
38 “Speak to the Israelites and tell them that throughout the generations to come they are to make for themselves tassels for the corners of their garments, with a blue cord on each tassel.
39 These will serve as tassels for you to look at, so that you may remember all the commandments of the LORD, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by following your own heart and your own eyes.
40 Then you will remember and obey all my commandments, and you will be holy to your God.
41 I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God. I am the LORD your God.”

16

1 Now Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath son of Levi, along with some Reubenites—Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—conducted
2 a rebellion against Moses, along with 250 men of Israel renowned as leaders of the congregation and representatives in the assembly.
3 They came together against Moses and Aaron and told them, “You have taken too much upon yourselves!* For everyone in the entire congregation is holy, and the LORD is in their

* **16:3 16:3** Figuratively *you have gone too far* or *you have appropriated too much authority to yourselves*; similarly in verse 7

midst. Why then do you exalt yourselves above
the assembly of the LORD?"

4 When Moses heard this, he fell facedown.
5 Then he said to Korah and all his followers,
"Tomorrow morning the LORD will reveal who
belongs to him† and who is holy, and he will
bring that person near to himself. The one he
chooses he will bring near to himself.
6 You, Korah, and all your followers are to do
as follows: Take censers,
7 and tomorrow you are to place fire and
incense in them in the presence of the LORD.
Then the man the LORD chooses will be the one
who is holy. It is you sons of Levi who have
taken too much upon yourselves!"

8 Moses also said to Korah, "Now listen, you
sons of Levi!
9 Is it not enough for you that the God of Israel
has separated you from the congregation of
Israel and brought you near to himself to
perform the work at the LORD's tabernacle, and
to stand before the congregation to minister to
them?
10 He has brought you near, you and all your
fellow Levites, but you are seeking the
priesthood as well.
11 Therefore, it is you and all your followers
who have conspired against the LORD! As for
Aaron, who is he that you should grumble
against him?"

† **16:5 16:5** LXX *God has visited and knows those who are his*

12 Then Moses summoned Dathan and Abiram,
the sons of Eliab, but they said, “We will not
come!
13 Is it not enough that you have brought us up
out of a land flowing with milk and honey to kill
us in the wilderness? Must you also appoint
yourself as ruler over us?
14 Moreover, you have not brought us into a
land flowing with milk and honey or given us an
inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you
gouge out the eyes of these men? No, we will not
come!”
15 Then Moses became very angry and said to
the LORD, “Do not regard their offering. I have
not taken one donkey from them or mistreated a
single one of them.”
16 And Moses said to Korah, “You and all your
followers are to appear before the LORD
tomorrow—you and they and Aaron.
17 Each man is to take his censer, place incense
in it, and present it before the LORD—250
censers. You and Aaron are to present your
censers as well.”
18 So each man took his censer, put fire and
incense in it, and stood with Moses and Aaron at
the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
19 When Korah had gathered his whole
assembly against them at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting, the glory of the LORD appeared
to the whole congregation.
20 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
21 “Separate yourselves from this congregation
so that I may consume them in an instant.”

22 But Moses and Aaron fell facedown and
said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh,
when one man sins, will you be angry with the
whole congregation?”

23 Then the LORD said to Moses,
24 “Tell the congregation to move away from
the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.”

25 So Moses got up and went to Dathan and
Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.
26 And he warned the congregation, “Move
away now from the tents of these wicked men.
Do not touch anything that belongs to them, or
you will be swept away because of all their sins.”

27 So they moved away from the dwellings of
Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. Meanwhile, Dathan
and Abiram had come out and stood at the
entrances to their tents with their wives and
children and infants.

28 Then Moses said, “This is how you will know
that the LORD has sent me to do all these things,
for it was not my own doing:
29 If these men die a natural death, or if they
suffer the fate of all men, then the LORD has not
sent me.
30 But if the LORD brings about something
unprecedented, and the earth opens its mouth
and swallows them and all that belongs to them
so that they go down alive into Sheol, then you
will know that these men have treated the LORD
with contempt.”

31 As soon as Moses had finished saying all
this, the ground beneath them split open,

32 and the earth opened its mouth and
swallowed them and their households—all
Korah's men and all their possessions.
33 They went down alive into Sheol with all
they owned. The earth closed over them, and
they vanished from the assembly.
34 At their cries, all the people of Israel who
were around them fled, saying, "The earth may
swallow us too!"
35 And fire came forth from the LORD and
consumed the 250 men who were offering the
incense.

17

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Tell Eleazar son of Aaron the priest to
remove the censers from the flames and to
scatter the coals far away, because the censers
are holy.
3 As for the censers of those who sinned at the
cost of their own lives, hammer them into sheets
to overlay the altar, for these were presented
before the LORD, and so have become holy.
They will serve as a sign to the Israelites."
4 So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers
brought by those who had been burned up, and
he had them hammered out to overlay the altar,
5 just as the LORD commanded him through
Moses. This was to be a reminder to the
Israelites that no outsider who is not a
descendant of Aaron should approach to offer
incense before the LORD, lest he become like
Korah and his followers.

6 The next day the whole congregation of
Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron,
saying, “You have killed the LORD’s people!”
7 But when the congregation gathered against
them, Moses and Aaron turned toward the Tent
of Meeting, and suddenly the cloud covered it
and the glory of the LORD appeared.

8 Then Moses and Aaron went to the front of
the Tent of Meeting,
9 and the LORD said to Moses,
10 “Get away from this congregation so that I
may consume them in an instant.” And Moses
and Aaron fell facedown.

11 Moses said to Aaron, “Take your censer,
place fire from the altar in it, and add incense.
Go quickly to the congregation and make
atonement for them, because wrath has come
out from the LORD; the plague has begun.”

12 So Aaron took the censer as Moses had
ordered and ran into the midst of the assembly.
And seeing that the plague had begun among
the people, he offered the incense and made
atonement for the people.
13 He stood between the living and the dead,
and the plague was halted.
14 But those who died from the plague
numbered 14,700, in addition to those who had
died on account of Korah.

15 Then Aaron returned to Moses at the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting, since the plague
had been halted.

16 And the LORD said to Moses,

17 “Speak to the Israelites and take from them
twelve staffs, one from the leader of each tribe.
Write each man’s name on his staff,
18 and write Aaron’s name on the staff of Levi,
because there must be one staff for the head of
each tribe.
19 Place the staffs in the Tent of Meeting in
front of the Testimony,* where I meet with you.
20 The staff belonging to the man I choose will
sprout, and I will rid myself of the constant
grumbling of the Israelites against you.”
21 So Moses spoke to the Israelites, and each of
their leaders gave him a staff—one for each of
the leaders of their tribes, twelve staffs in all.
And Aaron’s staff was among them.
22 Then Moses placed the staffs before the
LORD in the Tent of the Testimony.
23 The next day Moses entered the Tent of the
Testimony and saw that Aaron’s staff,
representing the house of Levi, had sprouted,
put forth buds, blossomed, and produced
almonds.
24 Then Moses brought out all the staffs from
the LORD’s presence to all the Israelites. They
saw them, and each man took his own staff.
25 The LORD said to Moses, “Put Aaron’s staff
back in front of the Testimony, to be kept as a
sign for the rebellious, so that you may put an
end to their grumbling against me, lest they die.”
26 So Moses did as the LORD had commanded
him.

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* **17:19 17:19** *The Testimony* refers to the stone tablets in the ark of the covenant inscribed with the Ten Commandments; also in verse 25.

27 Then the Israelites declared to Moses, “Look,
we are perishing! We are lost; we are all lost!
28 Anyone who comes near the tabernacle of
the LORD will die. Are we all going to perish?”

18

1 So the LORD said to Aaron, “You and your
sons and your father’s house must bear the
iniquity involving the sanctuary. And you and
your sons alone must bear the iniquity involving
your priesthood.
2 But bring with you also your brothers from
the tribe of Levi, the tribe of your father, that
they may join you and assist you and your sons
before the Tent of the Testimony.
3 And they shall attend to your duties and to
all the duties of the Tent; but they must not
come near to the furnishings of the sanctuary or
the altar, or both they and you will die.
4 They are to join you and attend to the duties
of the Tent of Meeting, doing all the work at the
Tent; but no outsider may come near you.
5 And you shall attend to the duties of the
sanctuary and of the altar, so that wrath may not
fall on the Israelites again.
6 Behold, I myself have selected your fellow
Levites from the Israelites as a gift to you,
dedicated to the LORD to perform the service for
the Tent of Meeting.
7 But only you and your sons shall attend to
your priesthood for everything concerning the
altar and what is inside the veil, and you are to
perform that service. I am giving you the work

of the priesthood as a gift, but any outsider who comes near the sanctuary must be put to death."

8 Then the LORD said to Aaron, "Behold, I have put you in charge of my offerings. As for all the sacred offerings of the Israelites, I have given them to you and your sons as a portion and a permanent statute.

9 A portion of the most holy offerings reserved from the fire will be yours. From all the offerings they render to me as most holy offerings, whether grain offerings or purification offerings or guilt offerings, that part belongs to you and your sons.

10 You are to eat it as a most holy offering,* and every male may eat it. You shall regard it as holy.

11 And this is yours as well: the offering of their gifts, along with all the wave offerings of the Israelites. I have given this to you and your sons and daughters as a permanent statute. Every ceremonially clean person in your household may eat it.

12 I give you all the freshest olive oil and all the finest new wine and grain that the Israelites give to the LORD as their firstfruits.

13 The firstfruits of everything in their land that they bring to the LORD will belong to you. Every ceremonially clean person in your household may eat them.

14 Every devoted thing in Israel belongs to you.

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* **18:10 18:10** Or *you are to eat it in a most holy place*

15 The firstborn of every womb, whether man
or beast, that is offered to the LORD belongs to
you. But you must surely redeem every
firstborn son and every firstborn male of
unclean animals.
16 You are to pay the redemption price for a
month-old male according to your valuation:
five shekels of silver,† according to the sanctuary
shekel, which is twenty gerahs.‡
17 But you must not redeem the firstborn of an
ox, a sheep, or a goat; they are holy. You are to
splatter their blood on the altar and burn their
fat as a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the
LORD.
18 And their meat belongs to you, just as the
breast and right thigh of the wave offering
belong to you.
19 All the holy offerings that the Israelites
present to the LORD I give to you and to your
sons and daughters as a permanent statute. It is
a permanent covenant of salt§ before the LORD
for you and your offspring."
20 Then the LORD said to Aaron, "You will have
no inheritance in their land, nor will you have
any portion among them. I am your portion and
your inheritance among the Israelites.
21 Behold, I have given to the Levites all the
tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for

† **18:16 18:16** *5 shekels* is approximately 2 ounces or 57 grams of silver. ‡ **18:16 18:16** *20 gerahs* is equivalent to one shekel (approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams). § **18:19 18:19** That is, a perpetual covenant

the work they do, the service of the Tent of Meeting.
22 No longer may the Israelites come near to the Tent of Meeting, or they will incur guilt and die.
23 The Levites are to perform the work of the Tent of Meeting, and they must bear their iniquity. This is a permanent statute for the generations to come. The Levites will not receive an inheritance among the Israelites.
24 For I have given to the Levites as their inheritance the tithe that the Israelites present to the LORD as a contribution. That is why I told them that they would not receive an inheritance among the Israelites."
25 And the LORD instructed Moses,
26 "Speak to the Levites and tell them: 'When you receive from the Israelites the tithe that I have given you as your inheritance, you must present part of it as an offering to the LORD—a tithe of the tithe.
27 Your offering will be reckoned to you as grain from the threshing floor or juice from the winepress.
28 So you are to present an offering to the LORD from all the tithes you receive from the Israelites, and from these you are to give the LORD's offering to Aaron the priest.
29 You must present the offering due the LORD from all the best of every gift, the holiest part of it.'
30 Therefore say to the Levites, 'When you have presented the best part, it will be reckoned

to you as the produce of the threshing floor or winepress.
31 And you and your households may eat the rest of it anywhere; it is the compensation for your work at the Tent of Meeting.
32 Once you have presented the best part of it, you will not incur guilt because of it. But you must not defile the sacred offerings of the Israelites, or else you will die.' "

19

1 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
2 "This is the statute of the law that the LORD has commanded: Instruct the Israelites to bring you an unblemished red heifer that has no defect and has never been placed under a yoke.
3 Give it to Eleazar the priest, and he will have it brought outside the camp and slaughtered in his presence.
4 Eleazar the priest is to take some of its blood on his finger and sprinkle it seven times toward the front of the Tent of Meeting.
5 Then the heifer must be burned in his sight. Its hide, its flesh, and its blood are to be burned, along with its dung.
6 The priest is to take cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet wool and throw them onto the burning heifer.
7 Then the priest must wash his clothes and bathe his body in water; after that he may enter the camp, but he will be ceremonially unclean until evening.

8 The one who burned the heifer must also
wash his clothes and bathe his body in water,
and he too will be ceremonially unclean until
evening.

9 Then a man who is ceremonially clean is to
gather up the ashes of the heifer and store them
in a ceremonially clean place outside the camp.
They must be kept by the congregation of Israel
for preparing the water of purification; this is
for purification from sin.
10 The man who has gathered up the ashes of
the heifer must also wash his clothes, and he
will be ceremonially unclean until evening. This
is a permanent statute for the Israelites and for
the foreigner residing among them.

11 Whoever touches any dead body will be
unclean for seven days.
12 He must purify himself with the water on
the third day and on the seventh day; then he
will be clean. But if he does not purify himself
on the third and seventh days, he will not be
clean.
13 Anyone who touches a human corpse and
fails to purify himself defiles the tabernacle of
the LORD. That person must be cut off from
Israel. He remains unclean, because the water
of purification has not been sprinkled on him,
and his uncleanness is still on him.

14 This is the law when a person dies in a tent:
Everyone who enters the tent and everyone
already in the tent will be unclean for seven
days,

15 and any open container without a lid
fastened on it is unclean.
16 Anyone in the open field who touches
someone who has been killed by the sword or
has died of natural causes, or anyone who
touches a human bone or a grave, will be
unclean for seven days.
17 For the purification of the unclean person,
take some of the ashes of the burnt purification
offering, put them in a jar, and pour fresh
water* over them.
18 Then a man who is ceremonially clean is to
take some hyssop, dip it in the water, and
sprinkle the tent, all the furnishings, and the
people who were there. He is also to sprinkle
the one who touched a bone, a grave, or a
person who has died or been slain.
19 The man who is ceremonially clean is to
sprinkle the unclean person on the third day
and on the seventh day. After he purifies the
unclean person on the seventh day, the one
being cleansed must wash his clothes and bathe
in water, and that evening he will be clean.
20 But if a person who is unclean does not
purify himself, he will be cut off from the
assembly, because he has defiled the sanctuary
of the LORD. The water of purification has not
been sprinkled on him; he is unclean.
21 This is a permanent statute for the people:
The one who sprinkles the water of purification
must wash his clothes, and whoever touches the

* **19:17 19:17** Or *flowing water* or *living water*

water of purification will be unclean until evening.
22 Anything the unclean person touches will become unclean, and anyone who touches it will be unclean until evening."

20

1 In the first month, the whole congregation of Israel entered the Wilderness of Zin and stayed in Kadesh. There Miriam died and was buried.
2 Now there was no water for the congregation, so they gathered against Moses and Aaron.
3 The people quarreled with Moses and said, "If only we had perished with our brothers before the LORD!
4 Why have you brought the LORD's assembly into this wilderness for us and our livestock to die here?
5 Why have you led us up out of Egypt to bring us to this wretched place? It is not a place of grain, figs, vines, or pomegranates—and there is no water to drink!"
6 Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. They fell facedown, and the glory of the LORD appeared to them.
7 And the LORD said to Moses,
8 "Take the staff and assemble the congregation. You and your brother Aaron are to speak to the rock while they watch, and it will pour out its water. You will bring out water from the rock and provide drink for the congregation and their livestock."

9 So Moses took the staff from the LORD's
presence, just as he had been commanded.
10 Then Moses and Aaron gathered the
assembly in front of the rock, and Moses said to
them, "Listen now, you rebels, must we bring
you water out of this rock?"
11 Then Moses raised his hand and struck the
rock twice with his staff, so that a great amount
of water gushed out, and the congregation and
their livestock were able to drink.
12 But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
"Because you did not trust me to show my
holiness in the sight of the Israelites, you will
not bring this assembly into the land that I have
given them."

13 These were the waters of Meribah,* where
the Israelites quarreled with the LORD, and he
showed his holiness among them.

14 From Kadesh, Moses sent messengers to tell
the king of Edom, "This is what your brother
Israel says: You know all the hardship that has
befallen us,
15 how our fathers went down to Egypt, where
we lived many years. The Egyptians mistreated
us and our fathers,
16 and when we cried out to the LORD, he
heard our voice, sent an angel, and brought us
out of Egypt.

Now look, we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge
of your territory.

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* **20:13 20:13** *Meribah* means *quarreling*; also in verse 24; see Exodus 17:7.

17 Please let us pass through your land. We
will not go through any field or vineyard, or
drink water from any well. We will stay on the
King's Highway; we will not turn to the right or
to the left until we have passed through your
territory."
18 But Edom answered, "You may not travel
through our land, or we will come out and
confront you with the sword."
19 "We will stay on the main road," the
Israelites replied, "and if we or our herds drink
your water, we will pay for it. There will be no
problem; only let us pass through on foot."
20 But Edom insisted, "You may not pass
through." And they came out to confront the
Israelites with a large army and a strong hand.
21 So Edom refused to allow Israel to pass
through their territory, and Israel turned away
from them.
22 After they had set out from Kadesh, the
whole congregation of Israel came to Mount Hor.
23 And at Mount Hor, near the border of the
land of Edom, the LORD said to Moses and
Aaron,
24 "Aaron will be gathered to his people; he
will not enter the land that I have given the
Israelites, because both of you rebelled against
my command at the waters of Meribah.
25 Take Aaron and his son Eleazar and bring
them up Mount Hor.
26 Remove Aaron's priestly garments and put
them on his son Eleazar. Aaron will be gathered
to his people and will die there."

27 So Moses did as the LORD had commanded,
and they climbed Mount Hor in the sight of the
whole congregation.
28 After Moses had removed Aaron's garments
and put them on his son Eleazar, Aaron died
there on top of the mountain. Then Moses and
Eleazar came down from the mountain.
29 When the whole congregation saw that
Aaron had died, the entire house of Israel
mourned for him thirty days.

21

1 When the Canaanite king of Arad, who lived
in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming along
the road to Atharim, he attacked Israel and
captured some prisoners.
2 So Israel made a vow to the LORD: "If you
will deliver this people into our hands, we will
devote their cities to destruction.*"
3 And the LORD heard Israel's plea and
delivered up the Canaanites. Israel devoted
them and their cities to destruction; so they
named the place Hormah.†
4 Then they set out from Mount Hor along the
route to the Sea of Reeds,‡ in order to bypass the
land of Edom. But the people grew impatient on
the journey
5 and spoke against God and against Moses:
"Why have you led us up out of Egypt to die in

* **21:2 21:2** Forms of the Hebrew *cherem* refer to the giving over of things or persons to the LORD, either by destroying them or by giving them as an offering; also in verse 3. † **21:3 21:3** *Hormah* means *destruction.* ‡ **21:4 21:4** Or *the Red Sea*

the wilderness? There is no bread or water, and
we detest this wretched food!"
6 So the LORD sent venomous snakes among
the people, and many of the Israelites were
bitten and died.
7 Then the people came to Moses and said, "We
have sinned by speaking against the LORD and
against you. Intercede with the LORD so he will
take the snakes away from us." So Moses
interceded for the people.
8 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery
serpent and mount it on a pole. When anyone
who is bitten looks at it, he will live."
9 So Moses made a bronze snake and mounted
it on a pole. If anyone who was bitten looked at
the bronze snake, he would live.
10 Then the Israelites set out and camped at
Oboth.
11 They journeyed from Oboth and camped at
Iye-abarim in the wilderness opposite Moab to
the east.
12 From there they set out and camped in the
Valley of Zered.
13 From there they moved on and camped on
the other side of the Arnon, in the wilderness
that extends into the Amorite territory.
Now the Arnon is the border between the
Moabites and the Amorites.
14 Therefore it is stated in the Book of the
Wars of the LORD:

"Waheb in Suphah
and the wadis of the Arnon,
15 even the slopes of the wadis

that extend to the site of Ar
and lie along the border of Moab."
16 From there they went on to Beer,§ the well
where the LORD said to Moses, "Gather the
people so that I may give them water."
17 Then Israel sang this song:

"Spring up, O well,
all of you sing to it!
18 The princes dug the well;
the nobles of the people hollowed it out
with their scepters
and with their staffs."
From the wilderness the Israelites went on to
Mattanah,
19 and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from
Nahaliel to Bamoth,
20 and from Bamoth to the valley in Moab
where the top of Pisgah overlooks the
wasteland.*
21 Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of
the Amorites, saying,
22 "Let us pass through your land. We will not
turn aside into any field or vineyard, or drink
water from any well. We will stay on the King's
Highway until we have passed through your
territory."
23 But Sihon would not let Israel pass through
his territory. Instead, he gathered his whole
army and went out to confront Israel in the
wilderness. When he came to Jahaz,† he fought

§ **21:16 21:16** *Beer* means *well.* * **21:20 21:20** Or *Jeshimon*
† **21:23 21:23** *Jahaz* is a variant of *Jahzah*; see 1 Chronicles 6:63.

against Israel.
24 And Israel put him to the sword and took
possession of his land, from the Arnon to the
Jabbok—but only up to the border of the
Ammonites, because it was fortified.‡
25 Israel captured all the cities of the Amorites
and occupied them, including Heshbon and all
its villages.
26 Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the
Amorites, who had fought against the former
king of Moab and taken all his land as far as the
Arnon.
27 That is why the poets say:

"Come to Heshbon, let it be rebuilt;
let the city of Sihon be restored.
28 For a fire went out from Heshbon,
a blaze from the city of Sihon.
It consumed Ar of Moab,
the rulers of Arnon's heights.
29 Woe to you, O Moab!
You are destroyed, O people of Chemosh!
He gave up his sons as refugees,
and his daughters into captivity
to Sihon king of the Amorites.
30 But we have overthrown them;
Heshbon is destroyed as far as Dibon.
We demolished them as far as Nophah,
which reaches to Medeba.§"
31 So Israel lived in the land of the Amorites.

‡ **21:24** **21:24** Or *because the territory was rugged*; literally *because it was strong* § **21:30** **21:30** Or *We demolished them until fire spread to Medeba*

32 After Moses had sent spies to Jazer, Israel
captured its villages and drove out the Amorites
who were there.
33 Then they turned and went up the road to
Bashan, and Og king of Bashan and his whole
army came out to meet them in battle at Edrei.
34 But the LORD said to Moses, “Do not fear
him, for I have delivered him into your hand,
along with all his people and his land. Do to him
as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who
lived in Heshbon.”
35 So they struck down Og, along with his sons
and his whole army, until no remnant was left.
And they took possession of his land.

22

1 Then the Israelites traveled on and camped
in the plains of Moab near the Jordan, across
from Jericho.
2 Now Balak son of Zippor saw all that Israel
had done to the Amorites,
3 and Moab was terrified of the people
because they were numerous. Indeed, Moab
dreaded the Israelites.
4 So the Moabites said to the elders of Midian,
“This horde will devour everything around us,
as an ox licks up the grass of the field.”
Since Balak son of Zippor was king of Moab at
that time,
5 he sent messengers to summon Balaam son
of Beor at Pethor, which is by the Euphrates* in
the land of his people.

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* **22:5 22:5** Hebrew *the River*

"Behold, a people has come out of Egypt," said
Balak. "They cover the face of the land and have
settled next to me.
6 So please come now and put a curse on this
people, because they are too mighty for me.
Perhaps I may be able to defeat them and drive
them out of the land; for I know that those you
bless are blessed, and those you curse are
cursed."
7 The elders of Moab and Midian departed
with the fees for divination in hand. They came
to Balaam and relayed to him the words of
Balak.
8 "Spend the night here," Balaam replied, "and I
will give you the answer that the LORD speaks to
me." So the princes of Moab stayed with Balaam.
9 Then God came to Balaam and asked, "Who
are these men with you?"
10 And Balaam said to God, "Balak son of
Zippor, king of Moab, sent me this message:
11 'Behold, a people has come out of Egypt, and
they cover the face of the land. Now come and
put a curse on them for me. Perhaps I may be
able to fight against them and drive them
away.' "
12 But God said to Balaam, "Do not go with
them. You are not to curse this people, for they
are blessed."
13 So Balaam got up the next morning and said
to Balak's princes, "Go back to your homeland,
because the LORD has refused to let me go with
you."

14 And the princes of Moab arose, returned to
Balak, and said, “Balaam refused to come with
us.”
15 Then Balak sent other princes, more
numerous and more distinguished than the first
messengers.
16 They came to Balaam and said, “This is what
Balak son of Zippor says: ‘Please let nothing
hinder you from coming to me,
17 for I will honor you richly and do whatever
you say. So please come and put a curse on this
people for me!’ ”
18 But Balaam replied to the servants of Balak,
“If Balak were to give me his house full of silver
and gold, I could not do anything small or great
to go beyond the command of the LORD my God.
19 So now, please stay here overnight as the
others did, that I may find out what else the
LORD has to tell me.”
20 That night God came to Balaam and said,
“Since these men have come to summon you, get
up and go with them, but you must only do what
I tell you.”
21 So in the morning Balaam got up, saddled
his donkey, and went with the princes of Moab.
22 Then God’s anger was kindled because
Balaam was going along, and the angel of the
LORD stood in the road to oppose him. Balaam
was riding his donkey, and his two servants
were with him.
23 When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD
standing in the road with a drawn sword in his
hand, she turned off the path and went into a

field. So Balaam beat her to return her to the path.

24 Then the angel of the LORD stood in a narrow passage between two vineyards, with walls on either side.
25 And the donkey saw the angel of the LORD and pressed herself against the wall, crushing Balaam's foot against it. So he beat her once again.

26 And the angel of the LORD moved on ahead and stood in a narrow place where there was no room to turn to the right or left.
27 When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, she lay down under Balaam, and he became furious and beat her with his staff.

28 Then the LORD opened the donkey's mouth, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you that you have beaten me these three times?"

29 Balaam answered the donkey, "You have made a fool of me! If I had a sword in my hand, I would kill you right now!"

30 But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not the donkey you have ridden all your life until today? Have I ever treated you this way before?"

"No," he replied.

31 Then the LORD opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road with a drawn sword in his hand. And Balaam bowed low and fell facedown.

32 The angel of the LORD asked him, "Why have you beaten your donkey these three times?

Behold, I have come out to oppose you, because
your way is perverse† before me.
33 The donkey saw me and turned away from
me these three times. If she had not turned
away, then by now I would surely have killed
you and let her live."
34 "I have sinned," Balaam said to the angel of
the LORD, "for I did not realize that you were
standing in the road to confront me. And now, if
this is displeasing in your sight, I will go back
home."
35 But the angel of the LORD said to Balaam,
"Go with the men, but you are to speak only
what I tell you." So Balaam went with the
princes of Balak.
36 When Balak heard that Balaam was coming,
he went out to meet him at the Moabite city on
the Arnon border, at the edge of his territory.
37 And he said to Balaam, "Did I not send you
an urgent summons? Why did you not come to
me? Am I really not able to reward you richly?"
38 "See, I have come to you," Balaam replied,
"but can I say just anything? I must speak only
the word that God puts in my mouth."
39 So Balaam accompanied Balak, and they
came to Kiriath-huzoth.
40 Balak sacrificed cattle and sheep, and he
gave portions to Balaam and the princes who
were with him.
41 The next morning, Balak took Balaam and
brought him up to Bamoth-baal. From there he
could see the outskirts of the camp of the people.

† **22:32 22:32** Or *reckless* or *contrary*

23

1 Then Balaam said to Balak, “Build for me
seven altars here, and prepare for me seven
bulls and seven rams.”
2 So Balak did as Balaam had instructed, and
Balak and Balaam offered a bull and a ram on
each altar.
3 “Stay here by your burnt offering while I am
gone,” Balaam said to Balak. “Perhaps the LORD
will meet with me. And whatever he reveals to
me, I will tell you.”
So Balaam went off to a barren height,
4 and God met with him. “I have set up seven
altars,” Balaam said, “and on each altar I have
offered a bull and a ram.”
5 Then the LORD put a message in Balaam’s
mouth, saying, “Return to Balak and give him
this message.”
6 So he returned to Balak, who was standing
there beside his burnt offering, with all the
princes of Moab.
7 And Balaam lifted up an oracle, saying:

“Balak brought me from Aram,
the king of Moab from the mountains of the
east.
‘Come,’ he said, ‘put a curse on Jacob for me;
come and denounce Israel!’
8 How can I curse those whom God has not
cursed?
How can I denounce those whom the LORD
has not denounced?
9 For I see them from atop the rocky cliffs,
and I watch them from the hills.
Behold, a people dwelling apart,

not reckoning themselves among the
nations.
10 Who can count the dust of Jacob
or number even a fourth of Israel?
Let me die the death of the righteous;
let my end be like theirs!"
11 Then Balak said to Balaam, "What have you
done to me? I brought you here to curse my
enemies, and behold, you have only blessed
them!"
12 But Balaam replied, "Should I not speak
exactly what the LORD puts in my mouth?"
13 Then Balak said to him, "Please come with
me to another place where you can see them.
You will only see the outskirts of their
camp—not all of them. And from there, curse
them for me."
14 So Balak took him to the field of Zophim, to
the top of Pisgah, where he built seven altars
and offered a bull and a ram on each altar.
15 Balaam said to Balak, "Stay here beside your
burnt offering while I meet the LORD over
there."
16 And the LORD met with Balaam and put a
message in his mouth, saying, "Return to Balak
and speak what I tell you."
17 So he returned to Balak, who was standing
there by his burnt offering with the princes of
Moab.
"What did the LORD say?" Balak asked.
18 Then Balaam lifted up an oracle, saying:

"Arise, O Balak, and listen;
give ear to me, O son of Zippor.

19 God is not a man, that he should lie,
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
Does he speak and not act?
Does he promise and not fulfill?
20 I have indeed received a command to bless;
he has blessed, and I cannot change it.
21 He considers no disaster for Jacob;
he sees no trouble for Israel.
The LORD their God is with them,
and the shout of the King is among them.
22 God brought them out of Egypt
with strength like a wild ox.
23 For there is no spell against Jacob
and no divination against Israel.
It will now be said of Jacob and Israel,
'What great things God has done!'
24 Behold, the people rise like a lioness;
they rouse themselves like a lion,
not resting until they devour their prey
and drink the blood of the slain."
25 Now Balak said to Balaam, "Then neither curse them at all nor bless them at all!"
26 But Balaam replied, "Did I not tell you that whatever the LORD says, I must do?"
27 "Please come," said Balak, "I will take you to another place. Perhaps it will please God that you curse them for me from there."
28 And Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor, which overlooks the wasteland.*

* **23:28 23:28** Or *Jeshimon*

29 Then Balaam said, “Build for me seven
altars here, and prepare for me seven bulls and
seven rams.”
30 So Balak did as Balaam had instructed, and
he offered a bull and a ram on each altar.

24

1 And when Balaam saw that it pleased the
LORD to bless Israel, he did not seek omens as
on previous occasions, but he turned his face
toward the wilderness.
2 When Balaam looked up and saw Israel
encamped tribe by tribe, the spirit of God came
upon him,
3 and he lifted up an oracle, saying:

“This is the prophecy of Balaam son of Beor,
the prophecy of a man whose eyes are open,
4 the prophecy of one who hears the words of
God,
who sees a vision from the Almighty,*
who bows down with eyes wide open:
5 How lovely are your tents, O Jacob,
your dwellings, O Israel!
6 They spread out like palm groves,†
like gardens beside a stream,
like aloes the LORD has planted,
like cedars beside the waters.
7 Water will flow from his buckets,
and his seed will have abundant water.
His king will be greater than Agag,
and his kingdom will be exalted.

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* **24:4 24:4** Hebrew *Shaddai*; also in verse 16 † **24:6 24:6** Or *like valleys*

8 God brought him out of Egypt
with strength like a wild ox,
to devour hostile nations and crush their bones,
to pierce them with arrows.
9 He crouches, he lies down like a lion,
like a lioness—who dares to rouse him?
Blessed are those who bless you
and cursed are those who curse you."
10 Then Balak's anger burned against Balaam,
and he struck his hands together and said to
Balaam, "I summoned you to curse my enemies,
but behold, you have persisted in blessing them
these three times.
11 Therefore, flee at once to your home! I said
I would reward you richly, but instead the LORD
has denied your reward."
12 Balaam answered Balak, "Did I not already
tell the messengers you sent me
13 that even if Balak were to give me his house
full of silver and gold, I could not do anything of
my own accord, good or bad, to go beyond the
command of the LORD? I must speak whatever
the LORD says.
14 Now I am going back to my people, but
come, let me warn you what this people will do
to your people in the days to come."
15 Then Balaam lifted up an oracle, saying,

"This is the prophecy of Balaam son of Beor,
the prophecy of a man whose eyes are open,
16 the prophecy of one who hears the words of
God,
who has knowledge from the Most High,

who sees a vision from the Almighty,
who bows down with eyes wide open:
17 I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near.
A star will come forth from Jacob,
and a scepter will arise from Israel.
He will crush the skulls‡ of Moab
and strike down all the sons of Sheth.
18 Edom will become a possession,
as will Seir, his enemy;
but Israel will perform with valor.
19 A ruler will come from Jacob
and destroy the survivors of the city."
20 Then Balaam saw Amalek and lifted up an oracle, saying:

"Amalek was first among the nations,
but his end is destruction."

21 Next he saw the Kenites and lifted up an oracle, saying:

"Your dwelling place is secure,
and your nest is set in a cliff.
22 Yet Kain will be destroyed
when Asshur§ takes you captive."
23 Once more Balaam lifted up an oracle, saying:

"Ah, who can live
unless God has ordained it?

‡ **24:17 24:17** SP *foreheads*; Hebrew *corners (of the head)*; LXX *princes* § **24:22 24:22** Or *Assyria*; also in verse 24

24 Ships will come from the coasts of Cyprus;*
they will subdue Asshur and Eber,
but they too will perish forever."
25 Then Balaam arose and returned to his homeland, and Balak also went on his way.

25

1 While Israel was staying in Shittim,* the men began to indulge in sexual immorality with the daughters of Moab,
2 who also invited them to the sacrifices for their gods. And the people ate and bowed down to these gods.
3 So Israel joined in worshiping Baal of Peor, and the anger of the LORD burned against them.
4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Take all the leaders of the people and execute them in broad daylight before the LORD, so that his fierce anger may turn away from Israel."
5 So Moses told the judges of Israel, "Each of you must kill all of his men who have joined in worshiping Baal of Peor."
6 Just then an Israelite man brought to his family a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and the whole congregation of Israel while they were weeping at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
7 On seeing this, Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, got up from the assembly, took a spear in his hand,

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* **24:24 24:24** Hebrew *Kittim* * **25:1 25:1** Or *Acacia Grove*

8 followed the Israelite into the tent, and drove
the spear through both of them—through the
Israelite and on through the belly of the woman.

So the plague against the Israelites was halted,
9 but those who died in the plague numbered
24,000.

10 Then the LORD said to Moses,
11 "Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron
the priest, has turned my wrath away from the
Israelites; for he was zealous for my sake among
them, so that I did not consume the Israelites in
my zeal.
12 Declare, therefore, that I am granting him
my covenant of peace.
13 It will be a covenant of permanent
priesthood for him and his descendants,
because he was zealous for his God and made
atonement for the Israelites."

14 The name of the Israelite who was slain
with the Midianite woman was Zimri son of
Salu, the leader of a Simeonite family.
15 And the name of the slain Midianite woman
was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur, a tribal chief of a
Midianite family.

16 And the LORD said to Moses,
17 "Attack the Midianites and strike them dead.
18 For they assailed you deceitfully when they
seduced you in the matter of Peor and their
sister Cozbi, the daughter of the Midianite
leader, the woman who was killed on the day the
plague came because of Peor."

19 After the plague had ended,

26

1 the LORD said to Moses and Eleazar son of
Aaron the priest,
2 “Take a census of the whole congregation of
Israel by the houses of their fathers—all those
twenty years of age or older who can serve in
the army of Israel.”
3 So on the plains of Moab by the Jordan,
across from Jericho, Moses and Eleazar the
priest issued the instruction,
4 “Take a census of the men twenty years of age
or older,* as the LORD has commanded Moses.”
And these were the Israelites who came out of
the land of Egypt:
5 Reuben was the firstborn of Israel. These
were the descendants of Reuben:

The Hanochite clan from Hanoch,
the Palluite clan from Pallu,
6 the Hezronite clan from Hezron,
and the Carmite clan from Carmi.
7 These were the clans of Reuben, and their
registration numbered 43,730.
8 Now the son of Pallu was Eliab,
9 and the sons of Eliab were Nemuel, Dathan,
and Abiram.
It was Dathan and Abiram, chosen by the
congregation, who rebelled against Moses and
Aaron with the followers of Korah who rebelled
against the LORD.
10 And the earth opened its mouth and
swallowed them along with Korah, whose

* **26:4 26:4** *Take a census of the men* is implied but not included in the Hebrew; see verse 2.

followers died when the fire consumed 250 men.
They serve as a warning sign.
11 However, the line of Korah did not die out.
12 These were the descendants of Simeon by
their clans:

The Nemuelite clan from Nemuel,†
the Jaminite clan from Jamin,
the Jachinite clan from Jachin,
13 the Zerahite clan from Zerah,‡
and the Shaulite clan from Shaul.
14 These were the clans of Simeon, and there
were 22,200 men.
15 These were the descendants of Gad by their
clans:

The Zephonite clan from Zephon,
the Haggite clan from Haggi,
the Shunite clan from Shuni,
16 the Oznite clan from Ozni,
the Erite clan from Eri,
17 the Arodite clan from Arod,§
and the Arelite clan from Areli.
18 These were the clans of Gad, and their
registration numbered 40,500.
19 The sons of Judah were Er and Onan, but
they died in the land of Canaan.
20 These were the descendants of Judah by
their clans:

The Shelanite clan from Shelah,

† **26:12 26:12** *Nemuel* is another name for *Jemuel*; see Genesis 46:10. ‡ **26:13 26:13** *Zerah* is a variant of *Zohar*; see Genesis 46:10 and Exodus 6:15. § **26:17 26:17** SP and Syriac *Arodi*; see Genesis 46:16.

the Perezite clan from Perez,
and the Zerahite clan from Zerah.

21 And these were the descendants of Perez:
the Hezronite clan from Hezron
and the Hamulite clan from Hamul.
22 These were the clans of Judah, and their registration numbered 76,500.
23 These were the descendants of Issachar by their clans:

The Tolaite clan from Tola,
the Punite clan from Puvah,*
24 the Jashubite clan from Jashub,†
and the Shimronite clan from Shimron.
25 These were the clans of Issachar, and their registration numbered 64,300.
26 These were the descendants of Zebulun by their clans:

The Seredite clan from Sered,
the Elonite clan from Elon,
and the Jahleelite clan from Jahleel.
27 These were the clans of Zebulun, and their registration numbered 60,500.
28 The descendants of Joseph included the clans of Manasseh and Ephraim.
29 These were the descendants of Manasseh:

The Machirite clan from Machir, the father of Gilead,
and the Gileadite clan from Gilead.

* **26:23 26:23** SP, LXX, Vulgate, and Syriac *the Puite clan from Puah*; see 1 Chronicles 7:1. † **26:24 26:24** *Jashub* is a variant of *Job*; see Genesis 46:13.

30 These were the descendants of Gilead:
the Iezerite clan from Iezer,‡
the Helekite clan from Helek,
31 the Asrielite clan from Asriel,
the Shechemite clan from Shechem,
32 the Shemidaite clan from Shemida,
and the Hepherite clan from Hepher.
33 Now Zelophehad son of Hepher had no
sons but only daughters. The names of his
daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah,
Milcah, and Tirzah.

34 These were the clans of Manasseh, and their registration numbered 52,700.

35 These were the descendants of Ephraim by their clans:

The Shuthelahite clan from Shuthelah,
the Becherite clan from Becher,
and the Tahanite clan from Tahan.

36 And the descendants of Shuthelah were the
Eranite clan from Eran.
37 These were the clans of Ephraim, and their registration numbered 32,500.

These clans were the descendants of Joseph.

38 These were the descendants of Benjamin by their clans:

The Belaite clan from Bela,
the Ashbelite clan from Ashbel,
the Ahiramite clan from Ahiram,

‡ **26:30 26:30** *Iezer* is a variant of *Abiezer*; see Joshua 17:2.

39 the Shuphamite clan from Shephupham,§
and the Huphamite clan from Hupham.

40 And the descendants of Bela from Ard and
Naaman were the Ardite clan* and the
Naamite clan from Naaman.
41 These were the clans of Benjamin, and their
registration numbered 45,600.
42 These were the descendants of Dan by their
clans:

The Shuhamite clan from Shuham.
These were the clans of Dan.
43 All of them were Shuhamite clans, and their
registration numbered 64,400.
44 These were the descendants of Asher by
their clans:

The Imnite clan from Imnah,
the Ishvite clan from Ishvi,
and the Beriite clan from Beriah.
45 And these were the descendants of Beriah:
the Heberite clan from Heber
and the Malchielite clan from Malchiel.
46 And the name of Asher's daughter was
Serah.
47 These were the clans of Asher, and their
registration numbered 53,400.
48 These were the descendants of Naphtali by
their clans:

The Jahzeelite clan from Jahzeel,

§ **26:39 26:39** Leningrad Codex and most MT manuscripts; a few MT manuscripts, SP, Vulgate, and Syriac (see also LXX) *Shupham*

* **26:40 26:40** SP and Vulgate (see also LXX) add *from Ard*

the Gunite clan from Guni,
49 the Jezerite clan from Jezer,
and the Shillemite clan from Shillem.
50 These were the clans of Naphtali, and their registration numbered 45,400.
51 These men of Israel numbered 601,730 in all.
52 Then the LORD said to Moses,
53 “The land is to be divided among the tribes as an inheritance, according to the number of names.
54 Increase the inheritance for a large tribe and decrease it for a small one; each tribe is to receive its inheritance according to the number of those registered.
55 Indeed, the land must be divided by lot; they shall receive their inheritance according to the names of the tribes of their fathers.
56 Each inheritance is to be divided by lot among the larger and smaller tribes.”
57 Now these were the Levites numbered by their clans:

The Gershonite clan from Gershon,
the Kohathite clan from Kohath,
and the Merarite clan from Merari.
58 These were the families of the Levites:

The Libnite clan,
the Hebronite clan,
the Mahlite clan,
the Mushite clan,
and the Korahite clan.
Now Kohath was the father of Amram,

59 and Amram's wife was named Jochebed.
She was also a daughter of Levi, born to Levi in
Egypt. To Amram she bore Aaron, Moses, and
their sister Miriam.
60 Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar were
born to Aaron,
61 but Nadab and Abihu died when they
offered strange† fire before the LORD.
62 The registration of the Levites totaled
23,000, every male a month old or more; they
were not numbered among the other Israelites,
because no inheritance was given to them
among the Israelites.
63 These were the ones numbered by Moses
and Eleazar the priest when they counted the
Israelites on the plains of Moab by the Jordan,
across from Jericho.
64 Among all these, however, there was not
one who had been numbered by Moses and
Aaron the priest when they counted the
Israelites in the Wilderness of Sinai.
65 For the LORD had told them that they would
surely die in the wilderness. Not one was left
except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son
of Nun.

27

1 Now the daughters of Zelophehad son of
Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the
son of Manasseh, belonged to the clans of
Manasseh son of Joseph. These were the names

† **26:61 26:61** Or *unauthorized*

of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah,
and Tirzah. They approached
2 the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, stood
before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders,
and the whole congregation, and said,
3 "Our father died in the wilderness, but he
was not among the followers of Korah who
gathered together against the LORD. Instead, he
died because of his own sin, and he had no sons.
4 Why should the name of our father
disappear from his clan because he had no sons?
Give us property among our father's brothers."
5 So Moses brought their case before the LORD,
6 and the LORD answered him,
7 "The daughters of Zelophehad speak
correctly. You certainly must give them property
as an inheritance among their father's brothers
and transfer their father's inheritance to them.
8 Furthermore, you shall say to the Israelites,
'If a man dies and leaves no son, you are to
transfer his inheritance to his daughter.
9 If he has no daughter, give his inheritance to
his brothers.
10 If he has no brothers, give his inheritance to
his father's brothers.
11 And if his father has no brothers, give his
inheritance to the next of kin from his clan, that
he may take possession of it. This is to be a
statutory ordinance for the Israelites, as the
LORD has commanded Moses.' "
12 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go up this
mountain of the Abarim range* and see the land

* **27:12 27:12** LXX *Go up Mount Nebo beyond the Jordan*

that I have given the Israelites.
13 After you have seen it, you too will be
gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron
was;
14 for when the congregation contended in the
Wilderness of Zin, both of you rebelled against
my command to show my holiness in their sight
regarding the waters." Those were the waters of
Meribah† in Kadesh, in the Wilderness of Zin.
15 So Moses appealed to the LORD,
16 "May the LORD, the God of the spirits of all
flesh, appoint a man over the congregation
17 who will go out and come in before them,
and who will lead them out and bring them in,
so that the congregation of the LORD will not be
like sheep without a shepherd."
18 And the LORD replied to Moses, "Take
Joshua son of Nun, a man with the spirit in him,
and lay your hands on him.
19 Have him stand before Eleazar the priest
and the whole congregation, and commission
him in their sight.
20 Confer on him some of your authority, so
that the whole congregation of Israel will obey
him.
21 He shall stand before Eleazar the priest,
who will seek counsel for him before the LORD
by the judgment of the Urim.‡ At his command,
he and all the Israelites with him—the entire
congregation—will go out and come in."

† **27:14 27:14** *Meribah* means *quarreling*; see Exodus 17:7.
‡ **27:21 27:21** Literally *the Lights*

22 Moses did as the LORD had commanded
him. He took Joshua, had him stand before
Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation,
23 and laid his hands on him and
commissioned him, as the LORD had instructed
through Moses.

28

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Command the Israelites and say to them:
See that you present to me at its appointed time
the food for my food offerings, as a pleasing
aroma to me.
3 And tell them that this is the food offering
you are to present to the LORD as a regular
burnt offering each day: two unblemished
year-old male lambs.
4 Offer one lamb in the morning and the other
at twilight,*
5 along with a tenth of an ephah of fine flour†
as a grain offering, mixed with a quarter hin of
oil from pressed olives.‡
6 This is a regular burnt offering established at
Mount Sinai as a pleasing aroma, a food offering
to the LORD.
7 The drink offering accompanying each lamb
shall be a quarter hin. Pour out the offering of

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* **28:4 28:4** Hebrew *between the two evenings*; also in verse 8
† **28:5 28:5** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour); also in verses 13, 21, and 29. ‡ **28:5 28:5** Or *a quarter hin of pure olive oil*; Hebrew *a quarter hin of pressed oil*; that is, approximately 0.97 quarts or 0.92 liters; similarly in verses 7 and 14

fermented drink to the LORD in the sanctuary
area.
8 And offer the second lamb at twilight, with
the same grain offering and drink offering as in
the morning. It is a food offering, a pleasing
aroma to the LORD.

9 On the Sabbath day, present two
unblemished year-old male lambs, accompanied
by a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of
fine flour§ mixed with oil, as well as a drink
offering.

10 This is the burnt offering for every Sabbath,
in addition to the regular burnt offering and its
drink offering.

11 At the beginning of every month, you are to
present to the LORD a burnt offering of two
young bulls, one ram, and seven male lambs a
year old, all unblemished,
12 along with three-tenths of an ephah of fine
flour* mixed with oil as a grain offering with
each bull, two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering with the ram,
13 and a tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed
with oil as a grain offering with each lamb. This
is a burnt offering, a pleasing aroma, a food
offering to the LORD.

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§ **28:9 28:9** *Two-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 4 dry quarts or 4.4 liters (probably about 5.1 pounds or 2.3 kilograms of flour); also in verses 12, 20, and 28. * **28:12 28:12** *Three-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 6 dry quarts or 6.6 liters (probably about 7.6 pounds or 3.5 kilograms of flour); also in verses 20 and 28.

14 Their drink offerings shall be half a hin of
wine† with each bull, a third of a hin‡ with the
ram, and a quarter hin with each lamb. This is
the monthly burnt offering to be made at each
new moon throughout the year.
15 In addition to the regular burnt offering
with its drink offering, one male goat is to be
presented to the LORD as a purification offering.
16 The fourteenth day of the first month is the
LORD's Passover.
17 On the fifteenth day of this month, there
shall be a feast; for seven days unleavened
bread is to be eaten.
18 On the first day there is to be a sacred
assembly; you must not do any regular work.
19 Present to the LORD a food offering, a burnt
offering of two young bulls, one ram, and seven
male lambs a year old, all unblemished.
20 The grain offering shall consist of fine flour
mixed with oil; offer three-tenths of an ephah
with each bull, two-tenths of an ephah with the
ram,
21 and a tenth of an ephah with each of the
seven lambs.
22 Include one male goat as a purification
offering to make atonement for you.
23 You are to present these in addition to the
regular morning burnt offering.
24 Offer the same food each day for seven days
as a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

† **28:14 28:14** *Half a hin* is approximately 1.9 quarts or 1.8 liters of wine. ‡ **28:14 28:14** *A third of a hin* is approximately 1.3 quarts or 1.2 liters of wine.

It is to be offered with its drink offering and the
regular burnt offering.
25 On the seventh day you shall hold a sacred
assembly; you must not do any regular work.
26 On the day of firstfruits, when you present
an offering of new grain to the LORD during the
Feast of Weeks,§ you are to hold a sacred
assembly; you must not do any regular work.
27 Present a burnt offering of two young bulls,
one ram, and seven male lambs a year old as a
pleasing aroma to the LORD,
28 together with their grain offerings of fine
flour mixed with oil—three-tenths of an ephah
with each bull, two-tenths of an ephah with the
ram,
29 and a tenth of an ephah with each of the
seven lambs.
30 Include one male goat to make atonement
for you.
31 Offer them with their drink offerings in
addition to the regular burnt offering and its
grain offering. The animals must be
unblemished.

29

1 “On the first day of the seventh month, you
are to hold a sacred assembly, and you must not
do any regular work. This will be a day for you
to sound the trumpets.

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§ **28:26 28:26** That is, Shavuot, the late spring feast of pilgrimage to Jerusalem; it is also known as *the Feast of Harvest* (see Exodus 23:16) or *the Feast of Pentecost*.

2 As a pleasing aroma to the LORD, you are to
present a burnt offering of one young bull, one
ram, and seven male lambs a year old, all
unblemished,
3 together with their grain offerings of fine
flour mixed with oil—three-tenths of an ephah*
with the bull, two-tenths of an ephah† with the
ram,
4 and a tenth of an ephah‡ with each of the
seven male lambs.
5 Include one male goat as a purification
offering to make atonement for you.
6 These are in addition to the monthly and
daily burnt offerings with their prescribed grain
offerings and drink offerings. They are a
pleasing aroma, a food offering to the LORD.
7 On the tenth day of this seventh month, you
are to hold a sacred assembly, and you shall
deny yourselves;§ you must not do any work.
8 Present as a pleasing aroma to the LORD a
burnt offering of one young bull, one ram, and
seven male lambs a year old, all unblemished,
9 together with their grain offerings of fine
flour mixed with oil—three-tenths of an ephah

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* **29:3 29:3** *Three-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 6 dry quarts or 6.6 liters (probably about 7.6 pounds or 3.5 kilograms of flour); also in verses 9 and 14. † **29:3 29:3** *Two-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 4 dry quarts or 4.4 liters (probably about 5.1 pounds or 2.3 kilograms of flour); also in verses 9 and 14. ‡ **29:4 29:4** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour); also in verses 10 and 15. § **29:7 29:7** Or *afflict your souls* or *humble yourselves*

with the bull, two-tenths of an ephah with the ram,
10 and a tenth of an ephah with each of the seven lambs.

11 Include one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the purification offering of atonement and the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offerings.

12 On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, you are to hold a sacred assembly; you must not do any regular work, and you shall observe a feast to the LORD for seven days.

13 As a pleasing aroma to the LORD, you are to present a food offering, a burnt offering of thirteen young bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year old, all unblemished,
14 along with the grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil with each of the thirteen bulls, two-tenths of an ephah with each of the two rams,
15 and a tenth of an ephah with each of the fourteen lambs.
16 Include one male goat as a purification offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

17 On the second day you are to present twelve young bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year old, all unblemished,
18 along with the grain and drink offerings for the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the number prescribed.

19 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.
20 On the third day you are to present eleven
bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all unblemished,
21 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the
number prescribed.
22 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.
23 On the fourth day you are to present ten
bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all unblemished,
24 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the
number prescribed.
25 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.
26 On the fifth day you are to present nine
bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all unblemished,
27 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the
number prescribed.
28 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.
29 On the sixth day you are to present eight
bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all unblemished,

30 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the
number prescribed.
31 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.

32 On the seventh day you are to present seven
bulls, two rams, and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all unblemished,
33 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bulls, rams, and lambs, according to the
number prescribed.
34 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.

35 On the eighth day you are to hold a solemn
assembly; you must not do any regular work.
36 As a pleasing aroma to the LORD, you are to
present a food offering, a burnt offering of one
bull, one ram, and seven male lambs a year old,
all unblemished,
37 along with the grain and drink offerings for
the bull, the ram, and the lambs, according to
the number prescribed.
38 Include one male goat as a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offering.

39 You are to present these offerings to the
LORD at your appointed times, in addition to
your vow and freewill offerings, whether burnt
offerings, grain offerings, drink offerings, or
peace offerings."

30

1 So Moses spoke all this to the Israelites just
as the LORD had commanded him.

2 Then Moses said to the heads of the tribes of
Israel, “This is what the LORD has commanded:
3 If a man makes a vow to the LORD or swears
an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must
not break his word; he must do everything he
has promised.

4 And if a woman in her father’s house during
her youth makes a vow to the LORD or obligates
herself by a pledge,
5 and her father hears about her vow or
pledge but says nothing to her, then all the vows
or pledges by which she has bound herself shall
stand.
6 But if her father prohibits her on the day he
hears about it, then none of the vows or pledges
by which she has bound herself shall stand. The
LORD will absolve her because her father has
prohibited her.

7 If a woman marries while under a vow or
rash promise by which she has bound herself,
8 and her husband hears of it but says nothing
to her on that day, then the vows or pledges by
which she has bound herself shall stand.
9 But if her husband prohibits her when he
hears of it, he nullifies the vow that binds her or
the rash promise she has made, and the LORD
will absolve her.

10 Every vow a widow or divorced woman
pledges to fulfill is binding on her.

11 If a woman in her husband's house has
made a vow or put herself under an obligation
with an oath,
12 and her husband hears of it but says
nothing to her and does not prohibit her, then all
the vows or pledges by which she has bound
herself shall stand.
13 But if her husband nullifies them on the day
he hears of them, then nothing that came from
her lips, whether her vows or pledges, shall
stand. Her husband has nullified them, and the
LORD will absolve her.
14 Her husband may confirm or nullify any
vow or any sworn pledge to deny herself.*
15 But if her husband says nothing to her from
day to day, then he confirms all the vows and
pledges that bind her. He has confirmed them,
because he said nothing to her on the day he
heard about them.
16 But if he nullifies them after he hears of
them, then he will bear her iniquity."
17 These are the statutes that the LORD
commanded Moses concerning the relationship
between a man and his wife, and between a
father and a young daughter still in his home.

31

1 And the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Take vengeance on the Midianites for the
Israelites. After that, you will be gathered to
your people."
3 So Moses told the people, "Arm some of your
men for war, that they may go against the

* **30:14 30:14** Or *to fast*

Midianites and execute the LORD's vengeance
on them.
4 Send into battle a thousand men from each
tribe of Israel."
5 So a thousand men were recruited from each
tribe of Israel—twelve thousand armed for war.
6 And Moses sent the thousand from each tribe
into battle, along with Phinehas son of Eleazar
the priest, who took with him the vessels of the
sanctuary and the trumpets for signaling.
7 Then they waged war against Midian, as the
LORD had commanded Moses, and they killed
every male.
8 Among the slain were Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur,
and Reba—the five kings of Midian. They also
killed Balaam son of Beor with the sword.
9 The Israelites captured the Midianite women
and their children, and they plundered all their
herds, flocks, and goods.
10 Then they burned all the cities where the
Midianites had lived, as well as all their
encampments,
11 and carried away all the plunder and spoils,
both people and animals.
12 They brought the captives, spoils, and
plunder to Moses, to Eleazar the priest, and to
the congregation of Israel at the camp on the
plains of Moab, by the Jordan across from
Jericho.
13 And Moses, Eleazar the priest, and all the
leaders of the congregation went to meet them
outside the camp.
14 But Moses was angry with the officers of the
army—the commanders of thousands and

commanders of hundreds—who were returning
from the battle.
15 “Have you spared all the women?” he asked
them.
16 “Look, these women caused the sons of
Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to turn
unfaithfully against the LORD at Peor, so that the
plague struck the congregation of the LORD.
17 So now, kill all the boys, as well as every
woman who has had relations with a man,
18 but spare for yourselves every girl who has
never had relations with a man.
19 All of you who have killed a person or
touched the dead are to remain outside the
camp for seven days. On the third day and the
seventh day you are to purify both yourselves
and your captives.
20 And purify every garment and leather good,
everything made of goat's hair, and every article
of wood.”
21 Then Eleazar the priest said to the soldiers
who had gone into battle, “This is the statute of
the law which the LORD has commanded Moses:
22 Only the gold, silver, bronze, iron, tin, and
lead—
23 everything that can withstand the
fire—must be put through the fire, and it will be
clean. But it must still be purified with the water
of purification. And everything that cannot
withstand the fire must pass through the water.
24 On the seventh day you are to wash your
clothes, and you will be clean. After that you
may enter the camp.”
25 The LORD said to Moses,

26 “You and Eleazar the priest and the family
heads of the congregation are to take a count of
what was captured, both of man and beast.
27 Then divide the captives between the troops
who went out to battle and the rest of the
congregation.
28 Set aside a tribute for the LORD from what
belongs to the soldiers who went into battle: one
out of every five hundred, whether persons,
cattle, donkeys, or sheep.
29 Take it from their half and give it to Eleazar
the priest as an offering to the LORD.
30 From the Israelites’ half, take one out of
every fifty, whether persons, cattle, donkeys,
sheep, or other animals, and give them to the
Levites who keep charge of the tabernacle of the
LORD.”
31 So Moses and Eleazar the priest did as the
LORD had commanded Moses,
32 and this plunder remained from the spoils
the soldiers had taken:
675,000 sheep,
33 72,000 cattle,
34 61,000 donkeys,
35 and 32,000 women who had not slept with a
man.
36 This was the half portion for those who had
gone to war:
337,500 sheep,
37 including a tribute to the LORD of 675,
38 36,000 cattle, including a tribute to the
LORD of 72,
39 30,500 donkeys, including a tribute to the
LORD of 61,

40 and 16,000 people, including a tribute to the
LORD of 32.
41 Moses gave the tribute to Eleazar the priest
as an offering for the LORD, as the LORD had
commanded Moses.
42 From the Israelites' half, which Moses had
set apart from the men who had gone to war,
43 this half belonged to the congregation:
337,500 sheep,
44 36,000 cattle,
45 30,500 donkeys,
46 and 16,000 people.
47 From the Israelites' half, Moses took one out
of every fifty persons and animals and gave
them to the Levites who kept charge of the
tabernacle of the LORD, as the LORD had
commanded him.
48 Then the officers who were over the units of
the army—the commanders of thousands and of
hundreds—approached Moses
49 and said, "Your servants have counted the
soldiers under our command, and not one of us
is missing.
50 So we have brought to the LORD an offering
of the gold articles each man acquired—armlets,
bracelets, rings, earrings, and necklaces—to
make atonement for ourselves before the LORD."
51 So Moses and Eleazar the priest received
from them all the articles made out of gold.
52 All the gold that the commanders of
thousands and of hundreds presented as an
offering to the LORD weighed 16,750 shekels.*

* **31:52 31:52** *16,750 shekels* is approximately 420.8 pounds or 190.9 kilograms.

53 Each of the soldiers had taken plunder for
himself.
54 And Moses and Eleazar the priest received
the gold from the commanders of thousands and
of hundreds and brought it into the Tent of
Meeting as a memorial for the Israelites before
the LORD.

32

1 Now the Reubenites and Gadites, who had
very large herds and flocks, surveyed the lands
of Jazer and Gilead, and they saw that the region
was suitable for livestock.
2 So the Gadites and Reubenites came to
Moses, Eleazar the priest, and the leaders of the
congregation, and said,
3 "Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah, Heshbon,
Elealeh, Sebam,* Nebo, and Beon,
4 which the LORD conquered before the
congregation of Israel, are suitable for
livestock—and your servants have livestock."
5 "If we have found favor in your sight," they
said, "let this land be given to your servants as a
possession. Do not make us cross the Jordan."
6 But Moses asked the Gadites and Reubenites,
"Shall your brothers go to war while you sit
here?
7 Why are you discouraging the Israelites from
crossing into the land that the LORD has given
them?
8 This is what your fathers did when I sent
them from Kadesh-barnea to inspect the land.

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* **32:3 32:3** See verse 38, and similarly in SP and LXX *Sibmah*

9 For when your fathers went up to the Valley
of Eshcol and saw the land, they discouraged the
Israelites from entering the land that the LORD
had given them.
10 So the anger of the LORD was kindled that
day, and he swore an oath, saying,
11 'Because they did not follow me
wholeheartedly, not one of the men twenty
years of age or older who came out of Egypt will
see the land that I swore to give Abraham, Isaac,
and Jacob—
12 not one except Caleb son of Jephunneh the
Kenizzite and Joshua son of Nun—because they
did follow the LORD wholeheartedly.'
13 The anger of the LORD burned against
Israel, and he made them wander in the
wilderness forty years, until the whole
generation who had done evil in his sight was
gone.
14 Now behold, you, a brood of sinners, have
risen up in place of your fathers to further stoke
the burning anger of the LORD against Israel.
15 For if you turn away from following him, he
will once again leave this people in the
wilderness, and you will be the cause of their
destruction."
16 Then the Gadites and Reubenites
approached Moses and said, "We want to build
sheepfolds here for our livestock and cities for
our little ones.
17 But we will arm ourselves and be ready† to
go ahead of the Israelites until we have brought

† **32:17 32:17** LXX *we will arm ourselves for battle*

them into their place. Meanwhile, our little ones
will remain in the fortified cities for protection
from the inhabitants of the land.
18 We will not return to our homes until every
Israelite has taken possession of his inheritance.
19 Yet we will not have an inheritance with
them across the Jordan and beyond, because our
inheritance has come to us on the east side of
the Jordan."
20 Moses replied, "If you will do this—if you
will arm yourselves before the LORD for battle,
21 and if every one of your armed men crosses
the Jordan before the LORD, until he has driven
his enemies out before him,
22 then when the land is subdued before the
LORD, you may return and be free of obligation
to the LORD and to Israel. And this land will
belong to you as a possession before the LORD.
23 But if you do not do this, you will certainly
sin against the LORD—and be assured that your
sin will find you out.
24 Build cities for your little ones and folds for
your flocks, but do what you have promised."
25 The Gadites and Reubenites said to Moses,
"Your servants will do just as our lord
commands.
26 Our children, our wives, our livestock, and
all our animals will remain here in the cities of
Gilead.
27 But your servants are equipped for war, and
every man will cross over to the battle before
the LORD, just as our lord says."
28 So Moses gave orders about them to Eleazar
the priest, to Joshua son of Nun, and to the

family leaders of the tribes of Israel.
29 And Moses said to them, “If the Gadites and
Reubenites cross the Jordan with you, with
every man armed for battle before the LORD,
and the land is subdued before you, then you are
to give them the land of Gilead as a possession.
30 But if they do not arm themselves and go
across with you, then they must accept their
possession among you in the land of Canaan.”
31 The Gadites and Reubenites replied, “As the
LORD has spoken to your servants, so we will do.
32 We will cross over into the land of Canaan
armed before the LORD, that we may have our
inheritance on this side of the Jordan.”
33 So Moses gave to the Gadites, to the
Reubenites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh
son of Joseph the kingdom of Sihon king of the
Amorites and the kingdom of Og king of
Bashan—the land including its cities and the
territory surrounding them.
34 And the Gadites built up Dibon, Ataroth,
Aroer,
35 Atroth-shophan, Jazer, Jogbehah,
36 Beth-nimrah, and Beth-haran as fortified
cities, and they built folds for their flocks.
37 The Reubenites built up Heshbon, Elealeh,
Kiriathaim,
38 as well as Nebo and Baal-meon (whose
names were changed), and Sibmah. And they
renamed the cities they rebuilt.
39 The descendants of Machir son of Manasseh
went to Gilead, captured it, and drove out the
Amorites who were there.

40 So Moses gave Gilead to the clan of Machir
son of Manasseh, and they settled there.
41 Jair, a descendant of Manasseh, went and
captured their villages and called them
Havvoth-jair.‡
42 And Nobah went and captured Kenath and
its villages and called it Nobah, after his own
name.

33

1 These are the journeys of the Israelites when
they came out of the land of Egypt by their
divisions under the leadership of Moses and
Aaron.
2 At the LORD's command, Moses recorded the
stages of their journey. These are the stages
listed by their starting points:

3 On the fifteenth day of the first month, on
the day after the Passover, the Israelites set
out from Rameses. They marched out
defiantly* in full view of all the Egyptians,
4 who were burying all their firstborn, whom
the LORD had struck down among them; for the
LORD had executed judgment against their gods.
5 The Israelites set out from Rameses and
camped at Succoth.
6 They set out from Succoth and camped at
Etham, on the edge of the wilderness.

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‡ **32:41 32:41** *Havvoth-jair* means *the villages of Jair*. * **33:3 33:3** Or *marched out boldly*; literally *marched out with an upraised hand*

7 They set out from Etham and turned back to
Pi-hahiroth, opposite Baal-zephon, and they
camped near Migdol.
8 They set out from before Hahiroth† and
crossed through the sea, into the wilderness,
and they journeyed three days into the
Wilderness of Etham and camped at Marah.
9 They set out from Marah and came to Elim,
where there were twelve springs and
seventy palm trees, and they camped there.
10 They set out from Elim and camped by the
Sea of Reeds.‡
11 They set out from the Sea of Reeds and
camped in the Desert of Sin.§
12 They set out from the Desert of Sin and
camped at Dophkah.
13 They set out from Dophkah and camped at
Alush.
14 They set out from Alush and camped at
Rephidim, where there was no water for the
people to drink.
15 They set out from Rephidim and camped in
the Wilderness of Sinai.
16 They set out from the Wilderness of Sinai
and camped at Kibroth-hattaavah.
17 They set out from Kibroth-hattaavah and
camped at Hazeroth.

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† **33:8 33:8** Leningrad Codex and most MT manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts, SP, and Vulgate (see verse 7) *from Pi-hahiroth*

‡ **33:10 33:10** Or *the Red Sea*; also in verse 11

§ **33:11 33:11** The geographical name *Sin* is related to *Sinai* and should not be mistaken for the English word *sin*; also in verse 12.

18 They set out from Hazeroth and camped at
Rithmah.

19 They set out from Rithmah and camped at
Rimmon-perez.
20 They set out from Rimmon-perez and
camped at Libnah.
21 They set out from Libnah and camped at
Rissah.
22 They set out from Rissah and camped at
Kehelathah.
23 They set out from Kehelathah and camped
at Mount Shepher.
24 They set out from Mount Shepher and
camped at Haradah.
25 They set out from Haradah and camped at
Makheloth.
26 They set out from Makheloth and camped at
Tahath.
27 They set out from Tahath and camped at
Terah.
28 They set out from Terah and camped at
Mithkah.
29 They set out from Mithkah and camped at
Hashmonah.
30 They set out from Hashmonah and camped
at Moseroth.
31 They set out from Moseroth and camped at
Bene-jaakan.
32 They set out from Bene-jaakan and camped
at Hor-haggidgad.

33 They set out from Hor-haggidgad and
camped at Jotbathah.

34 They set out from Jotbathah and camped at
Abronah.
35 They set out from Abronah and camped at
Ezion-geber.
36 They set out from Ezion-geber and camped
at Kadesh in the Wilderness of Zin.
37 They set out from Kadesh and camped at
Mount Hor, on the outskirts of the land of
Edom.
38 At the LORD's command, Aaron the priest
climbed Mount Hor and died there on the first
day of the fifth month, in the fortieth year after
the Israelites had come out of the land of Egypt.
39 Aaron was 123 years old when he died on
Mount Hor.
40 Now the Canaanite king of Arad, who lived
in the Negev in the land of Canaan, heard
that the Israelites were coming.
41 And the Israelites set out from Mount Hor
and camped at Zalmonah.
42 They set out from Zalmonah and camped at
Punon.
43 They set out from Punon and camped at
Oboth.
44 They set out from Oboth and camped at
Iye-abarim on the border of Moab.
45 They set out from Iyim* and camped at
Dibon-gad.
46 They set out from Dibon-gad and camped at
Almon-diblathaim.
47 They set out from Almon-diblathaim and

* **33:45 33:45** *Iyim* is another name for *Iye-abarim*; see verse 44.

camped in the mountains of Abarim† facing
Nebo.
48 They set out from the mountains of Abarim
and camped on the plains of Moab by the
Jordan across from Jericho.
49 And there on the plains of Moab they
camped by the Jordan, from Beth-jeshimoth
to Abel-shittim.‡
50 On the plains of Moab by the Jordan across
from Jericho, the LORD said to Moses,
51 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When
you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
52 you must drive out before you all the
inhabitants of the land, destroy all their carved
images and cast idols, and demolish all their
high places.
53 You are to take possession of the land and
settle in it, for I have given you the land to
possess.
54 And you are to divide the land by lot
according to your clans. Give a larger
inheritance to a larger clan and a smaller
inheritance to a smaller one. Whatever falls to
each one by lot will be his. You will receive an
inheritance according to the tribes of your
fathers.
55 But if you do not drive out the inhabitants
of the land before you, those you allow to
remain will become barbs in your eyes and

† **33:47 33:47** Or *the mountains beyond the river*; also in verse 48
‡ **33:49 33:49** Or *the Meadow of the Acacias*; that is, an area in the lowlands of Moab

thorns in your sides; they will harass you in the
land where you settle.
56 And then I will do to you what I had
planned to do to them."

34

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Command the Israelites and say to them:
When you enter the land of Canaan, it will be
allotted to you as an inheritance with these
boundaries:
3 Your southern border will extend from the
Wilderness of Zin along the border of Edom.
On the east, your southern border will run
from the end of the Salt Sea,*
4 cross south of the Ascent of Akrabbim,†
continue to Zin, and go south of Kadesh-barnea.
Then it will go on to Hazar-addar and proceed to
Azmon,
5 where it will turn from Azmon, join the
Brook of Egypt, and end at the Sea.‡
6 Your western border will be the coastline of
the Great Sea; this will be your boundary on
the west.
7 Your northern border will run from the
Great Sea directly to Mount Hor,
8 and from Mount Hor to Lebo-hamath, then
extend to Zedad,
9 continue to Ziphron, and end at Hazar-enan.
This will be your boundary on the north.

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* **34:3 34:3** That is, the Dead Sea; also in verse 12 † **34:4 34:4** Or *the Ascent of Scorpions* or *Scorpion Pass* ‡ **34:5 34:5** That is, the Mediterranean Sea, also called the Great Sea; also in verses 6 and 7

10 And your eastern border will run straight
from Hazar-enan to Shepham,
11 then go down from Shepham to Riblah on
the east side of Ain and continue along the
slopes east of the Sea of Chinnereth.§
12 Then the border will go down along the
Jordan and end at the Salt Sea.
This will be your land, defined by its borders
on all sides."
13 So Moses commanded the Israelites,
"Apportion this land by lot as an inheritance.
The LORD has commanded that it be given to
the nine and a half tribes.
14 For the tribes of the Reubenites and Gadites,
along with the half-tribe of Manasseh, have
already received their inheritance.
15 These two and a half tribes have received
their inheritance across the Jordan from Jericho,
toward the sunrise."
16 Then the LORD said to Moses,
17 "These are the names of the men who are to
assign the land as an inheritance for you:
Eleazar the priest and Joshua son of Nun.
18 Appoint one leader from each tribe to
distribute the land.
19 These are their names:

Caleb son of Jephunneh from the tribe of
Judah;
20 Shemuel son of Ammihud from the tribe of
Simeon;
21 Elidad son of Chislon from the tribe of
Benjamin;

§ **34:11 34:11** That is, the Sea of Galilee

22 Bukki son of Jogli, a leader from the tribe of
Dan;
23 Hanniel son of Ephod, a leader from the
tribe of Manasseh son of Joseph;
24 Kemuel son of Shiphtan, a leader from the
tribe of Ephraim;
25 Eli-zaphan son of Parnach, a leader from
the tribe of Zebulun;
26 Paltiel son of Azzan, a leader from the tribe
of Issachar;
27 Ahihud son of Shelomi, a leader from the
tribe of Asher;
28 and Pedahel son of Ammihud, a leader from
the tribe of Naphtali."
29 These are the ones whom the LORD
commanded to apportion the inheritance to the
Israelites in the land of Canaan.

35

1 Again the LORD spoke to Moses on the plains
of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho:
2 "Command the Israelites to give, from the
inheritance they will possess, cities for the
Levites to live in and pasturelands around the
cities.
3 The cities will be for them to live in, and the
pasturelands will be for their herds, their flocks,
and all their other livestock.
4 The pasturelands around the cities you are to
give the Levites will extend a thousand cubits*
from the wall on every side.

* **35:4 35:4** *1,000 cubits* is approximately 1,500 feet or 457.2 meters.

5 You are also to measure two thousand
cubits† outside the city on the east, two thousand
on the south, two thousand on the west, and two
thousand on the north, with the city in the
center. These areas will serve as pasturelands
for the cities.
6 Six of the cities you give the Levites are to be
appointed as cities of refuge, to which a
manslayer may flee. In addition to these, give
the Levites forty-two other cities.
7 The total number of cities you give the
Levites will be forty-eight, with their
corresponding pasturelands.
8 The cities that you apportion from the
territory of the Israelites should be given to the
Levites in proportion to the inheritance of each
tribe: more from a larger tribe and less from a
smaller one."
9 Then the LORD said to Moses,
10 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When
you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
11 designate cities to serve as your cities of
refuge, so that a person who kills someone
unintentionally may flee there.
12 You are to have these cities as a refuge from
the avenger, so that the manslayer will not die
until he stands trial before the assembly.
13 The cities you select will be your six cities of
refuge.
14 Select three cities across the Jordan and
three in the land of Canaan as cities of refuge.

† **35:5 35:5** *2,000 cubits* is approximately 3,000 feet or 914.4 meters.

15 These six cities will serve as a refuge for the
Israelites and for the foreigner or stranger
among them, so that anyone who kills a person
unintentionally may flee there.

16 If, however, anyone strikes a person with an
iron object and kills him, he is a murderer; the
murderer must surely be put to death.
17 Or if anyone has in his hand a stone of
deadly size, and he strikes and kills another, he
is a murderer; the murderer must surely be put
to death.
18 If anyone has in his hand a deadly object of
wood, and he strikes and kills another, he is a
murderer; the murderer must surely be put to
death.

19 The avenger of blood is to put the murderer
to death; when he finds him, he is to kill him.

20 Likewise, if anyone maliciously pushes
another or intentionally throws an object at him
and kills him,
21 or if in hostility he strikes him with his hand
and he dies, the one who struck him must surely
be put to death; he is a murderer. When the
avenger of blood finds the murderer, he is to kill
him.

22 But if anyone pushes a person suddenly,
without hostility, or throws an object at him
unintentionally,
23 or without looking drops a heavy stone that
kills him, but he was not an enemy and did not
intend to harm him,

24 then the congregation must judge between
the slayer and the avenger of blood according to
these ordinances.
25 The assembly is to protect the manslayer
from the hand of the avenger of blood. Then the
assembly will return him to the city of refuge to
which he fled, and he must live there until the
death of the high priest, who was anointed with
the holy oil.
26 But if the manslayer ever goes outside the
limits of the city of refuge to which he fled
27 and the avenger of blood finds him outside
of his city of refuge and kills him, then the
avenger will not be guilty of bloodshed,
28 because the manslayer must remain in his
city of refuge until the death of the high priest.
Only after the death of the high priest may he
return to the land he owns.
29 This will be a statutory ordinance for you
for the generations to come, wherever you live.
30 If anyone kills a person, the murderer is to
be put to death on the testimony of the
witnesses. But no one is to be put to death based
on the testimony of a lone witness.
31 You are not to accept a ransom for the life of
a murderer who deserves to die; he must surely
be put to death.
32 Nor should you accept a ransom for the
person who flees to a city of refuge and allow
him to return and live on his own land before
the death of the high priest.
33 Do not pollute the land where you live, for
bloodshed pollutes the land, and no atonement

can be made for the land on which the blood is
shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it.
34 Do not defile the land where you live and
where I dwell. For I, the LORD, dwell among the
Israelites."

36

1 Now the family heads of the clan of Gilead
son of Machir son of Manasseh, one of the clans
of Joseph, approached Moses and the leaders
who were the heads of the Israelite families and
addressed them,
2 saying, "When the LORD commanded my
lord to give the land as an inheritance to the
Israelites by lot, he also commanded him to give
the inheritance of our brother Zelophehad to his
daughters.
3 But if they marry any of the men from the
other tribes of Israel, their inheritance will be
withdrawn from the portion of our fathers and
added to the tribe into which they marry. So our
allotted inheritance would be taken away.
4 And when the Jubilee for the Israelites
comes, their inheritance will be added to the
tribe into which they marry and taken away
from the tribe of our fathers."
5 So at the word of the LORD, Moses
commanded the Israelites: "The tribe of the sons
of Joseph speaks correctly.
6 This is what the LORD has commanded
concerning the daughters of Zelophehad: They
may marry anyone they please, provided they
marry within a clan of the tribe of their father.

7 No inheritance in Israel may be transferred
from tribe to tribe, because each of the Israelites
is to retain the inheritance of the tribe of his
fathers.
8 Every daughter who possesses an
inheritance from any Israelite tribe must marry
within a clan of the tribe of her father, so that
every Israelite will possess the inheritance of his
fathers.
9 No inheritance may be transferred from one
tribe to another, for each tribe of Israel must
retain its inheritance."
10 So the daughters of Zelophehad did as the
LORD had commanded Moses.
11 Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Noah,
the daughters of Zelophehad, were married to
cousins on their father's side.
12 They married within the clans of the
descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph, and
their inheritance remained within the tribe of
their father's clan.
13 These are the commandments and
ordinances that the LORD gave the Israelites
through Moses on the plains of Moab by the
Jordan across from Jericho.

Masoretic English Tanakh

The Tanakh (Law, Prophets, and Writings) of the Holy Bible in English, conformed to the Masoretic Text.

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