

NUMBERS

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

To inspire the present generation of God's people to avoid the failures of the past and trust Him for their victory and needs. To call the second generation of Israel to arms as the holy army of God.

Author

Moses

Date

Numbers was written to the second generation of Israelites on the plains of Moab as they were preparing to enter the Promised Land (around 1410 BC).

Audience

The people of Israel.

Setting

The experiences of the Israelites in the wilderness as they journeyed from Mount Sinai to Canaan.

Special Features

The twelve spies at Kadesh-barnea, the rebellion of the Israelites and the 40 years wandering in the Wilderness.



Key Verses

“God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?” (23:19 ESV)

“But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness. And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness.” (14:32-33 ESV)

Key People

Moses, Miriam, Aaron, Yahweh, Korah, Balaak, Balaam, and Joshua.

Key Places

Sinai, Canaan, Kadesh-barnea.