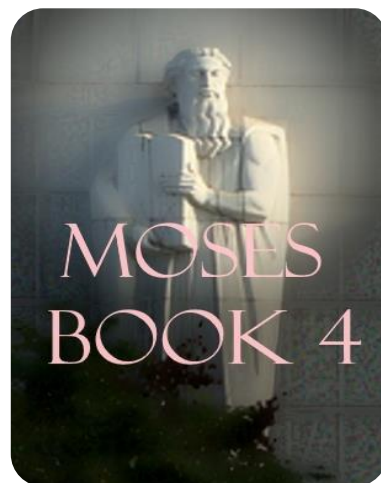


NUMBERS 4 vs 1

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In the preface to this Book of Moses we read: The titles of the five books of Moses, which we use in our Bibles, are all borrowed from the Greek translation of the Seventy, the most ancient version of the Old Testament what we know of. But the title of this book we only turn into English; in all the rest we retain the Greek word, for which difference I know no reason, but that the Latin translators have done the same. Otherwise this book might as well have been called: **Arithmoi**. Where we get our word: **arithmetic**. The Greek title = the numbering; as it shows the promise of God to Abraham that his children would be as the stars of heaven. In this book are two numberings: one at Mount Sinai in Arabia – chapter 1; and the other on the plains of Moab 39 years later. -- Matthew Henry.



Duties of the Sons of Kohath,

¹ Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: ²Take a census of the sons of Kohath from among the children of Levi, by their families, by their fathers' house, ³from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, all who enter the service to do the work in the Tent of meeting.

⁴This is the service of the sons of Kohath in the Tent of meeting, relating to the most holy things: ⁵When the camp prepares to journey, Aaron and his sons will come, and they will take down the covering veil and cover the ark of the Testimony with it. ⁶Then they will put on it a covering of badger skins, and spread over that a cloth entirely of blue; and they will insert its poles.

⁷On the table of showbread they will spread a blue cloth, and put on it the dishes, the pans, the bowls, and the pitchers for pouring; and the showbread will be on it. ⁸They will spread over them a scarlet cloth, and cover the same with a covering of badger skins; and they will insert its poles. ⁹And they will take a blue cloth and cover the lampstand of the light, with its lamps, its wick-trimmers, its trays, and all its oil vessels, with which they service it. ¹⁰Then they will put it with all its utensils in a covering of badger skins, and put it on a carrying beam.

¹¹Over the golden altar they will spread a blue cloth, and cover it with a covering of badger skins; and they will insert its poles. ¹²Then they will take all the utensils of service with which they minister in the sanctuary, put them in a blue cloth, cover them with a covering of badger skins, and put them on a carrying beam. ¹³Also they will take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth over it. ¹⁴They will put on it all its implements with which they minister there -- the firepans, the forks, the shovels, the basins, and all the utensils of the altar—and they will spread on it a covering of badger skins, and insert its poles.

¹⁵ And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is set to go, then the sons of Kohath will come to carry them; but they will not touch any holy thing, lest they die.

These are the things in the Tent of meeting which the sons of Kohath are to carry.

¹⁶ The appointed duty of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is the oil for the light, the sweet incense, the daily grain offering, the anointing oil, the oversight of all the Tent, of all that is in it, with the sanctuary and its furnishings.

¹⁷ Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: ¹⁸ Do not cut off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites from among the Levites; ¹⁹ but do this in regard to them, that they may live and not die when they approach the most holy things: **Aaron and his sons will go in and appoint each of them to his service and his task. ²⁰ But they will not go in to watch while the holy things are being covered, lest they die.**

Duties of the Sons of Gershon,

²¹ Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ²² Also take a census of the sons of Gershon, by their fathers' house, by their families. ²³ From thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, you will number them, all who enter to perform the service, to do the work in the Tent of meeting. ²⁴ This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, in serving and carrying: ²⁵ They will carry the curtains of the Tent and the Tent of meeting with its covering, the covering of badger skins that is on it, the screen for the door of the Tent of meeting, ²⁶ the screen for the door of the gate of the court, the hangings of the court which are around the Tent and altar, and their cords, all the furnishings for their service and all that is made for these things: so will they serve.

²⁷ Aaron and his sons will assign all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, all their tasks and all their service. And you will appoint to them all their tasks as their duty. ²⁸ This is the service of the families of the sons of Gershon in the Tent of meeting. And their duties will be under the authority of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

Duties of the Sons of Merari,

²⁹ As for the sons of Merari, you will number them by their families and by their fathers' house. ³⁰ From thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, you will number them, everyone who enters the service to do the work of the Tent of meeting. ³¹ And this is what they must carry as all their service for the Tent of meeting: the boards of the Tent, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, ³² and the pillars around the court with their sockets, pegs, and cords, with all their furnishings and all their service; and you will assign to each man by name the items he must carry.

³³ This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, as all their service for the Tent of meeting, under the authority of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

Census of the Levites,

³⁴ And Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of the assembly numbered the sons of the Kohathites by their families and by their fathers' house, ³⁵ from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the Tent of meeting; ³⁶ and those who were numbered by their families were 2,750. ³⁷ These were the ones who were numbered of the families of the Kohathites, all who might serve in the Tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the instruction of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

³⁸ And those who were numbered of the sons of Gershon, by their families and by their fathers' house, ³⁹ from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the Tent of meeting— ⁴⁰ those who were numbered by their families, by their fathers' house, were 2,630. ⁴¹ These are the ones who were numbered of the families of the sons of Gershon, of all who might serve in the Tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the instruction of the Lord.

⁴² Those of the families of the sons of Merari who were numbered, by their families, by their fathers' house, ⁴³ from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the Tent of meeting— ⁴⁴ those who were numbered by their families were 3,200. ⁴⁵ These are the ones who were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the word of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

⁴⁶ All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of Israel numbered, by their families and by their fathers' houses, ⁴⁷ from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who came to do the work of service and the work of bearing burdens in the Tent of meeting— ⁴⁸ those who were numbered were 8,580.

⁴⁹ According to the instruction of the Lord they were numbered by the hand of Moses, each according to his service and according to his task; thus were they numbered by him, as the Lord commanded Moses.

We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses.

Were Adam and Eve Real People?