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# BOOK OVERVIEW

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## Numbers

**Author:** Moses

**Date:** about 1401 B.C.

**Recipients:** the nation of Israel, especially Aaron and his descendants

**Key word:** wilderness (45 times)

**Summary:** the price Israel paid for not trusting in God

**Key verses:** Numbers 14:28–30

**Notes:**

While Leviticus covers about a month of Israel's time in the wilderness, this book reviews almost the entire 40 years.

The book tells of two "numberings." The first was taken at Mt. Sinai and the second just before entering Canaan.

Along with Jacob, 60 people entered Egypt. The first census indicates that 600,000 men, not including their wives and children, left Egypt in the Exodus. The second census indicates that 601,000 men, not including their wives and children, prepared to enter the Promised Land. All of this in spite of the thousands who died during the 40 years in the wilderness.

The key to understanding the book is the sending of twelve men to spy out the Promised Land and their subsequent report. Had most of the spies trusted God, the book would have been very short.

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