

## WEEK 8 — FROM SINAI TO CANAAN (ALMOST)

**Date:** probably spring of 1445 BC to about January 1406 BC • Moses goes from about 81 years old in Numbers 1 to 120 years old by Numbers 21.

**The Story:** God finishes giving his laws to Israel at Mount Sinai, then leads his people to the edge of Canaan, the land he had promised to give to Abraham's descendants (Genesis 15:18-21). But the people rebel—first against Moses' leadership, then against God, not believing he will give them victory over the peoples living in Canaan. For their disobedience and lack of faith, God consigns Israel to forty years of wandering in the wilderness before he takes their children into the promised land. Numbers provides a few notable events from those four decades: Korah's rebellion, Moses' mistake with a rock, Aaron's death, and a major victory over two aggressive kings. This week's readings conclude with Psalm 90, the Bible's one psalm (a type of song) authored by Moses.

\* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

### FEBRUARY 20 NUMBERS 8:1 to 10:10 • NUMBERS 1

**Today's reading** continues the story of the dedication of the tabernacle and its furnishings. God sets the Levites apart to assist the priests at the tabernacle. Then Israel celebrates its first Passover after the exodus from Egypt. Following the story chronologically, we jump to Numbers 1, which takes place about a month after the tabernacle dedication. There we see how Numbers got its name: from a military census.

**Date:** probably spring of 1445 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 8:1 to 10:10

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 12:1 to 13:25

### FEBRUARY 21 NUMBERS 2-4

**Today's reading** covers practical details related to the organization required for the movement of the vast number of people in Israel's twelve tribes, with special attention given to the roles of various groups of Levites as they transport the sacred tabernacle during Israel's travels.

**Date:** probably spring of 1445 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 2-3

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 13:26 to 14:45

### FEBRUARY 22 NUMBERS 5-6 • NUMBERS 10:11-36

**Today's reading** starts with more laws God gives to Israel. Notice God's commands concerning the Nazirite, a person who voluntarily enters into a specified period of particular holiness in service to God. This reading concludes by returning to Numbers 10, where Israel finally leaves Mount Sinai en route to Canaan.

**Date:** probably spring of 1445 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 6 • Numbers 10:11-36

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 16-17

### FEBRUARY 23 NUMBERS 11-13

**Today's reading** shatters the excitement of Israel's resumption of their journey (chapter 10) with Israel's bad attitude toward Moses and God as they encounter difficulties. God, in defense of his divine honor, punishes the people; but he also graciously provides them with food and establishes a council of elders to assist Moses. The people struggle against God again, though: Moses' own sister and brother oppose him, and then spies sent to explore the promised land return and discourage the people from entering it.

**Date:** probably spring and summer of 1445 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 11-13

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 18

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ**

**FEBRUARY 24 NUMBERS 14-15**

**Today's reading** turns ugly in chapter 14. The Israelites rebel against God, rejecting his promise (first given to Abraham) to give them the promised land, because they are afraid of the people already living there. God decrees that Israel must wander in the wilderness forty years, until the current generation of adults dies off; then he will give the promised land to their children. Chapter 15 breaks away from the story (suggesting a long passage of time) to give more of God's laws for Israel.

**Date:** probably summer of 1445 BC (Numbers 14) • sometime between about 1445 and 1407 BC (Numbers 15)  
• from 1445 to 1407 BC, Moses ages from 81 to 120 years old

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 14-15

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 20

**FEBRUARY 25 NUMBERS 16-18**

**Today's reading** reports another major conflict in chapters 16-17, this one sometime during Israel's wandering in the wilderness. A man named Korah, with about 250 followers, rejects Moses' leadership and the exclusive right of Aaron and his family to serve as priests. But God miraculously defends Moses' and Aaron's authority. Even so, thousands more people grumble against Moses and Aaron, drawing a stern response from the Lord. Chapter 18 gives laws relating to the priests and the Levites.

**Date:** sometime between about 1445 and 1407 BC • in 1445-1407 BC, Moses ages from 81 to 120 years old

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 16-17

**Kids' Reading\*:** Numbers 21

**FEBRUARY 26 NUMBERS 19-21 • PSALM 90**

**Today's reading** puts Israel's topsy-turvy relationship with God at this time on display. God gives more laws. The Israelites quarrel with Moses, anger God, and are punished by God. Even Moses, in anger at the people, disobeys God. Difficulties abound. Israel meets a barrier to its progress into the promised land. Aaron dies. Enemies attack. Yet through it all, the God who rescued Israel from slavery and now punishes them for their sin also provides for them and gives them victory. He is faithful, even when they are not, and he continues to lead them (as they grow in faith) toward the promised land. This reading includes our first psalm, Psalm 90, a prayer that Moses wrote.

**Date:** sometime between about 1445 and 1407 BC (Numbers 19) • about March 1407 to January 1406 BC (Numbers 20-21) • probably between 1446 and 1407 BC (Psalm 90) • from 1445 to 1407 BC, Moses ages from 81 to 120 years old

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Numbers 20-21 • Psalm 90

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalm 90

**Parents' Guide**

PG preview for young children

Num 1:51 (T)

Num 5:1-3 (T)

Num 8:17 (V)

Num 11:1-3 (V), 33-34 (V)

Num 12:10-15 (T)

Num 14:3 (V), 10-45 (T, V)

Num 15:35-36 (V), 39 (S)

Num 16:30-35 (V), 39-41 (V), 46-50 (V)

Num 18:1-7 (T), 17 (T), 22 (T)

Num chapter 19 (T)

Num 21:1-3 (V), 6-9 (T), 23-24 (V), 35 (V)

PG-13 preview for under age 13

Num 5:11-31 (S, T)

R shocking, graphic, or disturbing  
none

C = Circumcision  
N = Nudity  
S = Sexuality  
T = Dark/Sensitive Themes  
V = Violence