

Numbers 33:1 ¶ These *are* the journeys of the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Numbers 33:2 And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD: and these *are* their journeys according to their goings out.

This chapter is basically a record that charts the various campsites of Israel during their wilderness journeys after leaving Egypt. Point is made that the people journeyed as the LORD led.

Numbers 33:3 And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

Numbers 33:4 For the Egyptians buried all *their* firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.

It is noted that the people of Israel left Rameses (probably another name for Goshen) on the fifteenth day of the first month, the day after the Passover. They didn't slink out of the land; they left boldly and defiantly with heads held high. As Israel left, the Egyptians were burying their firstborn, a final testimony to the power of the LORD over their false gods.

Numbers 33:5 And the children of Israel removed from Rameses, and pitched in Succoth.

Numbers 33:6 And they departed from Succoth, and pitched in Etham, which *is* in the edge of the wilderness.

Numbers 33:7 And they removed from Etham, and turned again unto Pihahiroth, which *is* before Baalzephon: and they pitched before Migdol.

Numbers 33:8 And they departed from before Pihahiroth, and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness, and went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and pitched in Marah.

They journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, then to Etham, which was on the border of the desert. They left Etham and headed to Pihahiroth and then camped before Migdol. It was from here that they escaped the Egyptian army through the parted waters of the Red Sea and journey for three days in the wilderness of Etham before camping at Marah.

Numbers 33:9 And they removed from Marah, and came unto Elim: and in Elim *were* twelve fountains of water, and threescore and ten palm trees; and they pitched there.

Numbers 33:10 And they removed from Elim, and encamped by the Red sea.

Numbers 33:11 And they removed from the Red sea, and encamped in the wilderness of Sin.

From Marah they journeyed to Elim, a place noted for twelve fountains of water and 70 palm trees, where they made camp. They continued from Elim to eventually make camp by the Red Sea. They continued from there to make camp

in the wilderness of Sin (Sinai).

Numbers 33:12 And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin, and encamped in Dophkah.

Numbers 33:13 And they departed from Dophkah, and encamped in Alush.

Numbers 33:14 And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink.

Numbers 33:15 And they departed from Rephidim, and pitched in the wilderness of Sinai.

Numbers 33:16 And they removed from the desert of Sinai, and pitched at Kibrothhattaavah.

Numbers 33:17 And they departed from Kibrothhattaavah, and encamped at Hazeroth.

Numbers 33:18 And they departed from Hazeroth, and pitched in Rithmah.

Numbers 33:19 And they departed from Rithmah, and pitched at Rimmonparez.

Numbers 33:20 And they departed from Rimmonparez, and pitched in Libnah.

Numbers 33:21 And they removed from Libnah, and pitched at Rissah.

Numbers 33:22 And they journeyed from Rissah, and pitched in Kehelathah.

Numbers 33:23 And they went from Kehelathah, and pitched in mount Shapher.

Numbers 33:24 And they removed from mount Shapher, and encamped in Haradah.

Numbers 33:25 And they removed from Haradah, and pitched in Makheloth.

Numbers 33:26 And they removed from Makheloth, and encamped at Tahath.

Numbers 33:27 And they departed from Tahath, and pitched at Tarah.

Numbers 33:28 And they removed from Tarah, and pitched in Mithcah.

Numbers 33:29 And they went from Mithcah, and pitched in Hashmonah.

Numbers 33:30 And they departed from Hashmonah, and encamped at Moseroth.

Numbers 33:31 And they departed from Moseroth, and pitched in Benejaakan.

Numbers 33:32 And they removed from Benejaakan, and encamped at Horhagidgad.

Numbers 33:33 And they went from Horhagidgad, and pitched in Jotbathah.

Numbers 33:34 And they removed from Jotbathah, and encamped at Ebronah.

Numbers 33:35 And they departed from Ebronah, and encamped at Eziongaber.

Numbers 33:36 And they removed from Eziongaber, and pitched in the wilderness of Zin, which is Kadesh.

Numbers 33:37 And they removed from Kadesh, and pitched in mount Hor, in the edge of the land of Edom.

This section continues mapping the journey of Israel until they came to mount Hor on the edge of Edom where Aaron would die.

Numbers 33:38 And Aaron the priest went up into mount Hor at the commandment of the LORD, and died there, in the fortieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the first *day* of the fifth month.

Numbers 33:39 And Aaron *was* an hundred and twenty and three years old

when he died in mount Hor.

At the LORD's command, Aaron was taken up mount Hor where he died in the 40th year after the people had left Egypt. Aaron was 123 years old when he died.

Numbers 33:40 And king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south in the land of Canaan, heard of the coming of the children of Israel.

Numbers 33:41 And they departed from mount Hor, and pitched in Zalmonah.

Numbers 33:42 And they departed from Zalmonah, and pitched in Punon.

Numbers 33:43 And they departed from Punon, and pitched in Oboth.

Numbers 33:44 And they departed from Oboth, and pitched in Ijeabarim, in the border of Moab.

Numbers 33:45 And they departed from Iim, and pitched in Dibongad.

Numbers 33:46 And they removed from Dibongad, and encamped in Almondiblathaim.

Numbers 33:47 And they removed from Almondiblathaim, and pitched in the mountains of Abarim, before Nebo.

Numbers 33:48 And they departed from the mountains of Abarim, and pitched in the plains of Moab by Jordan *near* Jericho.

It is noted that the people of Israel are getting the attention of the Canaanite kings—specifically king Arad in the south of Canaan.

Once again the rest of this section is a map of their continued journey until reaching the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho.

The NIV Commentary notes that the Israelite camp stretched for a distance of five miles.

Numbers 33:49 And they pitched by Jordan, from Bethjesimoth *even* unto Abelshittim in the plains of Moab.

Numbers 33:50 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan *near* Jericho, saying,

Numbers 33:51 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye are passed over Jordan into the land of Canaan;

Numbers 33:52 Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places:

Numbers 33:53 And ye shall dispossess *the inhabitants* of the land, and dwell therein: for I have given you the land to possess it.

It is recorded here that the LORD told Moses to instruct the people regarding the time when they crossed Jordan into Canaan. They were to drive out all of the inhabitants of the land and destroy all their pictures, idols and the high places where they worshipped their false gods. We know from the record of Deuteronomy that “drive out” is a reference to destruction.

Deuteronomy 20:16–18 “But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee for an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth: But thou shalt

utterly destroy them; namely, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee: That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God."

The LORD declares that it is His land to give, and He has chosen to give it to the people of Israel.

As THE Creator, everything in creation is under the authority of the LORD. Though Satan has been allowed his time of limited dominion due to man's rebellion against God's authority, it will not continue indefinitely. That time will come to an end, and Satan will be cast into the fires of hell. Almighty God maintains His authority, and the creation is His to do with as He wills. Those today who still refuse to recognize that authority, will one day face that very truth to their own destruction.

Numbers 33:54 And ye shall divide the land by lot for an inheritance among your families: *and* to the more ye shall give the more inheritance, and to the fewer ye shall give the less inheritance: every man's *inheritance* shall be in the place where his lot falleth; according to the tribes of your fathers ye shall inherit.

Once again it is recorded that the land is to be divided by lot to determine the inheritance among families. We learned previously that the lot was under God's control. Those who had a greater number of people would be given more land, and those with less given less. Inheritances would be allocated in the land allotted to their tribe.

Numbers 33:55 But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them *shall be* pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell.

Numbers 33:56 Moreover it shall come to pass, *that* I shall do unto you, as I thought to do unto them.

The LORD warned that if they did not completely drive out the inhabitants of the land, they would pose continual problems to the people. Not only that, they would suffer the consequences of disobeying the LORD.

"as I thought to do unto them" = He would drive them out of the land as well.