

Parashah 34 Tidbit
B'Midbar, בְּמִדְבָּר, In the Wilderness
Numbers 1:1–4:20

by
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Numbers 1:3-54,

Today's Parashah is called B'Midbar and it means *in the wilderness*. Within the word B'Midbar we find the word *Dabar*, which means, *word* or *thing*. Therefore, it is in the wilderness away from all of the influences of the world that we can truly be nourished by the Bread of Life, the Word of Elohim, His eternal **TRUTH**, the Words of His Torah of Life. So our journey into the book that leads us into the wilderness, away from all of our fleshly temptations, and, onto the Word of Elohim, which gives us eternal life, begins today.

Furthermore, in the word Bamidbar, is also found the word Bar, which is translated as son, in *Psalms* 2 in *verse 12*, where it says *Kiss the Son*, (נִשְׁקוּ-בָר, Nashqu Bar) *lest he be angry, and you perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him.*

This word Bar, also means, pure, clean, purity, just, pious, innocent, and the word Nasqu, does mean Kiss, but it also means, to embrace; therefore these two words tell us that when we choose to embrace the Son, who **IS** the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, we are actually embracing purity, cleanliness, justice, piousness, and innocence.

This event takes place one year and seventeen days after Yisrael left Egypt. They left Egypt on the 15th day of the first month, the month of Aviv, and we are now one year, and half a month later, on the first day of the second month, which makes it, one year and seventeen days later, if we count the day of departure. The number seventeen, in Scripture, is a picture of victory and resurrection, for it was on the seventeenth day of the month of Aviv, sometimes called the month of Nissan, that Messiah rose from the tomb. Therefore, it is quite obvious that YHVH was leading them into the wilderness where they were suppose to feed on His Word, His Manna only, and it is where they were to actually embrace the purity, cleanliness, justice, piousness, and innocence found in in the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, before bringing them into His Promised Land.

YHVH tells Mosheh that he is to **number** the children of Yisrael. In the Hebrew it says, *lift up the heads of the children of Yisrael by their families, by the houses of their fathers according to the number* (mispar, מִסְפָּר) *of names, every male by their heads, from twenty years old.*

The number Twenty in Scripture speaks of redemption, and the word translated as numbers is the word *mispar*, מִסְפָּר. Within the word mispar is the word *sepher*, סֵפֶר, which means, book, a registry if you will, and it can also mean, to count, number or recount, as a story. So here, we have YHVH instructing Mosheh to record or register in a book, probably comparable to the book of Life, all those that are the heads of the children of Yisrael, that have been redeemed and in a sense resurrected from a life of bondage, and are being brought into a glorious life of freedom. Therefore I

hope that you can see, that in these first *verses*, we are actually being instructed on **HOW** the complete, YHVH's redemption onto salvation plan for us.

In these *verses*, we can also see that YHVH has put the male as the leader of his family, and with that leadership, comes great responsibility. The head of the family **IS** to be the spiritual leader of the family, and as the spiritual leader, he is to teach his complete household, his wife and all his children, **ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, in a loving, caring, diligent and compassionate manner. Furthermore in His role as leader of the family, the father is to protect his family at all cost; he is to go to war, if need be, to protect his family, his community and the Words of YHVH.

This Commandment to number the children of Yisrael, **IS** much more than just counting them to see how many people there were, it was actually singling out each and every individual male, and **MAKING THEM TOTALLY ACCOUNTABLE FOR ALL OF THEIR ACTIONS, WORDS AND DEEDS**. That is what it means for a man to be written in the Book of Life, he absolutely **HAS TO** take responsibility for **ALL** of His family, the responsibility of teaching them **ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life diligently, and it also means, that he is the one who will suffer the consequences of the failure to do so.

Verse 4 YHVH says to Mosheh, *With you shall be a man from every tribe every one head of the house of his fathers*. This tells me that the Torah represented by Mosheh, **IS FOR EVERY PERSON THAT CALLS HIMSELF YISRAEL**, or, that wants to be part of Yisrael, part of YHVH's one and only family, Yisrael, Part of the commitment that one has to make to be part of the family of Yisrael, **IS** having or developing the desire to choose to honour your father and your mother. Here YHVH says: **EVERYONE**, *who is the head of the house of their fathers*, in other words, this is a picture of the family structure, that YHVH wants to see; a father **WALKING IN THE WAYS OF YHVH AND DILIGENTLY TEACHING HIS CHILDREN, AND ALL OF HIS FAMILY TO DO THE SAME**, and when the **SONS** are old enough, they, are to emulate their father and walk in his footsteps and teach their wives and children to do the same. That, my friends, was Elohim's plan from the very beginning. The father is to diligently teach his wife, his sons and his daughters, the Words of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life, and in turn, the sons are to carry on that tradition. The commandment to teach their sons and daughters the **TRUTH**, the Words of the Torah that their father diligently taught them, and of course the **TRUTH** that the father is to teach them, **IS ALL** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. We have to understand that there **IS BUT ONE TRUTH**, and that my friends, **IS** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting Torah, His teaching and instructions for Life, which when followed and obeyed with a surrendered contrite obedient heart, leads every one who does so, unto life everlasting.

Next comes the counting of the children of Israel and there is a great story to be found in the meaning of the names of the children of Israel that will lead Israel to the Promised Land.

Names of Numbers 1

Reuben (see a son);

Elizur (El is our Rock)

Shedeur (spreader of light)

Simeon (heard, shemah)

Shelumiel (peace of YHVH)

Zurishaddai (the Rock of the Almighty)

Judah (praise);

Nahshon (enchanter)

Amminadab (people giving liberally)

Issachar (he will reward)

Nethaneel (given of El)

Zuar (small, be brought low)

Zebulun (residence)

Eliab (El is my Father)
Helon (strong)
Joseph (let him add)
Ephraim (doubly fruitful)
Elishama (my El listens)
Ammihud (people of splendour, majesty)
Manasseh (causes to forget)
Gamaliel (reward of El)
Pedahzur (a Rock has ransomed)
Benjamin (son of the right hand)
Abidan (my father judges)
Gideoni (warlike)

Dan (judge)
Ahiezer (brother of help)
Ammishaddai (people of the almighty)
Asher (happy)
Pagiel (meet with El)
Ocran (muddle)
Gad (overcome)
Eliasaph (El gathers)
Deuel (known of El)
Naphtali (wrestling)
Ahira (brother of wrong, evil)
Enan (having eyes).

I believe that this is one of the messages contained within the meaning of these names of the heads of the children of Yisrael, but, I would recommend that **YOU** take the time, and using the definition of these names, try and string together a story as you see it, and then, compare it to what I have done, and I believe, you will see that no matter how we come at it, it will always have a very similar message, Obey My Commandments and Live.

Our heavenly Father loved us so much that He **sent His only begotten Son**, the **Rock of our salvation**, to be the **Light** unto the world that is mired in darkness, so that His Son, the Light of the world, would **spread that Light** to **ALL** people who want to receive it, to **ALL** who willingly and lovingly chose to **shemah His Word**, to **ALL** who willingly and lovingly chose to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow, and obey the Words of His Torah of Life, the Living Word of the Father made flesh. YHVH offers **ALL** people His **Shalom, His peace**, through the sacrifice of the **Rock of the Almighty**, our Messiah, who came to earth to show us **HOW we CAN** live a Torah obedient Life as He did, and taught us to do, and that we actually **praise** our heavenly Father when we willingly obey His Words, His Torah. He teaches us through the Words of His Torah, that we were **NOT** to listen to satan the **enchanter**, but that we were to **give ourselves freely** to YHVH, and if and when we do that, then, the **reward, given to us by Elohim, IS** everlasting life at His side. The gift of our heavenly Father, which happens to be the Words of His Torah of Life that were made flesh, and manifested as our Messiah, was given to us, by our heavenly Father, and we have to understand that Messiah willingly came to earth, knowing full well, that He would be brought low, and become flesh and blood, so that He could reside or abide with us, in the flesh. Elohim is **our strong Father** and He wants to **add or insert** His love, His grace and mercy into our lives, and when we willingly choose to obey His Words, He makes **us doubly fruitful**, and promises **to listen to** and answer all of our prayers. Furthermore, Scripture tells us that when we choose to obey His Words of Life, we become **segulah to Him, we become a people set apart by His majesty** for His purposes, and He will **cause us to forget** all that the enemy has taken or stolen from us, and He will **reward** us with His countless blessings, when we willingly and lovingly choose to obey the Living Torah made flesh, our Messiah, the Rock of our salvation, who **IS** our **ransom, the Son of the Right Hand of Elohim**. And when our Father **judges us**, He will see our **righteousness**, because we have chosen to follow in Messiah's Righteous Torah obedient footsteps. We can also rest assured that Messiah will defend us, **as a warrior** defends his people, and He will lead us into rightful **judgments**, and because of it, we will all become heirs, **brothers** in the house of Elohim, and **we will be His people, filled with joy**. Because our heavenly Father wants us to **meet with Him**. He has sent His Son to us, to teach us how to overcome evil, which of course are the ways of the world, the ways

that Satan has deceived the people of the world into believing, the same Satan who tries to **muddle** our thoughts into believing his lies, his ways, rather than the Father's Ways. Messiah **IS** the **overcomer** that overcame death, and by His grace He has taught us to do the same. Elohim has sent Messiah **to gather up His people**, and **He knows who they are**. He has sent Messiah to teach us, that we no longer have to **wrestle** with the devil, but that we are to surrender our wills to the Father, resist the devil and he will flee from us. We are not to follow our brothers that do wrong but we are to have eyes to see and ears to hear the wonderful salvation message of our heavenly Father, who has admonished us to walk in obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, for He does **NOT** want any of His children to perish, and the only way to guarantee that, is to convince **ALL** of His children, to allow His Holy Spirit to **CAUSE** them to believe, follow and obey the Words of His Torah of Life, the very same Torah that He gave to Moses at Mount Sinai, the very same Torah that became flesh and dwelt among us, the very same Torah that is filled with Grace and Truth, our Messiah.

Next we have the actual counting of the children of Yisrael. We are told in *verse 47* that the Levites were **NOT** to be numbered among the children of Yisrael, for the Levites were to be numbered later and by themselves. This was necessary, because of the Golden Calf incident. Before that incident, Scripture tells us, that all of the first male children of the families of Yisrael were to be the Priest's of their families, and teach their families the Ways and the Words of the Torah of YHVH, **BUT** when the majority of corporate Yisrael **defiled themselves** with the Golden Calf incident, at Mount Sinai, YHVH appointed the Levites as the Priestly Tribe to teach Yisrael how to be holy as YHVH is Holy, so that **ALL** of Yisrael, including all that would willingly and lovingly choose to become part of Yisrael, YHVH's one and only Family, could eventually become Priests of the order of Melchizedek, and teach their families and the families of the world, how to be holy as YHVH **IS** Holy. The Levites were to be in charge of all that pertained to the Tabernacle, to minister unto it and to encamp around it.

Verse 51 And when the tabernacle sets forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that comes near **SHALL** be put to death.

When the tabernacle was to set forth or moved, the Levites were the ones that were to take the tabernacle down. Then they travelled to wherever they were going, and when they arrived, the Levites were to set up the tabernacle again. This constant taking down, moving, stopping and erecting the tabernacle, is a picture of the seed being planted in the Earth and dying, and coming back to life again. The words *take it down* are translated from the Hebrew **word**, יָרַד, *Yarad*, which means *to descend, to go down*, it is used in some instances to describe dying. The **words to be pitched** are translated from the Hebrew **word** *chanah*, חָנָה, Strong's number H2583, which means to pitch a tent. The **word** *Chanah* is from the root **word** *Chen*, חֵן, which means, grace, or favour. Jeff Benner describes this word as meaning, the qualities in a person or thing that gives pleasure to the senses or exalts the mind or spirit; as the beauty of the camp, to give, or show grace or mercy, to another. It is Strong's number H2580 חֵן *chên*, *Chen*, it is from H2603; *graciousness*, that is, subjectively, *kindness, favour* or objectively, **beauty**, favour, grace, gracious, pleasant, precious, well-favoured. Strong's number H2603, חָנַן *Chânan*, *khaw-nan'*, A primitive root (compare H2583); properly to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior; to favour, to bestow; causatively to implore, that

is, move to favour by petition, beseech, fair, show favour, be gracious, give, grant graciously, entreat, be merciful, have and or show) mercy, have pity upon, pray for, make supplication.

I have gone to this extent in defining this word, in order to show you, that **TRUE and everlasting beauty** is found in the **TENT** of YHVH, where the Words of His Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions are a Way of Life, and, as we have learned, the Words of the Torah, which are YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **ARE** only found in the **TENT** of YHVH, and the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, **ARE** synonymous or filled with YHVH's overwhelming Grace.

And finally the word used to translate **set it up**, is the Hebrew word *Qum*, קָוַם. In the Septuagint this word *Qum* is translated as *Anastasis* and from the Greek it is translated in our English Scriptures, as the word **Resurrection**. *Luke 20:36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of Elohim, being the children of the resurrection (Anastasis).*

The tabernacle, as we have discussed in Exodus and Vayiqra (Leviticus) is a picture of our Messiah. Therefore **every time** that the tabernacle was taken down, it was a shadow picture of the future event of Messiah sacrificing Himself on the cross, and dying for His people, and every time it was set up again or erected, it was a shadow picture of our Messiah's resurrection as the firstfruit, of many that would follow, which is exactly what our Messiah did. He died for our salvation, and was resurrected as the firstfruit of many to follow. That is the beautiful picture that our Father has painted, by taking down and erecting of the Mishkan, the Tabernacle, and this picture was painted for the benefit of the people of Yisrael so that every time that they moved their camp, **THEY WOULD BE EXPOSED TO THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL.**

It goes on to tell us that the Levites were to pitch around the Tabernacle of Testimony, and the children of Yisrael were to pitch around them. In the next two chapters we will find out who pitched where in the camp, the Levites and the children of Yisrael. However, I want you to see the picture that YHVH has painted here. In the centre of the camp is the Ark of the Covenant. Around the Ark and the Tabernacle are the Priests, the sons of Aaron and the Levites, and around them are the children of Yisrael. It is a picture of the Holy of Holies wherein resides the, Ark, which in turn is a picture of YHVH's Heart, then the Holy place, is represented by the camp of the Aaronic Priests and the Levites, and then the outer court, is where the children of Yisrael stood.

It is also a picture of our heart, our soul, and our body. YHVH works from the inside out. From the Holy of Holies, He teaches the Priests, how to walk out and obey the Words of His Torah of Life, and they, in turn are to teach the children of Yisrael how to walk out these wondrous words of His beautiful Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. So I hope that you can see this beautiful picture. For it is showing all of us, that from within us, within our hearts, is where YHVH makes His abode. And from there, from our hearts, YHVH teaches our soul, and in turn we instruct our flesh to walk in obedience to the instructions of our souls, which of course came from our heart. That works whether you are surrendered to Elohim or to anything, or anyone else for that matter. Let us therefore be diligent in guarding our hearts against the lies and deception of the enemy, by willingly and lovingly surrendering our hearts to our heavenly Father in total loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of life. Amein!

There are two stand-alone Aleph Tav in this *Numbers 1*.

*Numbers 1:17 Moses and Aaron took these **Aleph Tav** men whose names had been given, Numbers 1:18 and **Aleph Tav** they called the whole community together on the first day of the second month.*

There are also nine Aleph Tav attached to words with a Maqef and another forty five words that contain both the Aleph and Tav letters within them. The Number two in Scripture speaks of witness, the number nine speaks of the fruit of the Spirit, and the number forty and five are handled separately, the number forty refers to testing, and the number five, speaks of YHVH's Torah and His Grace for they are synonymous terms. I believe that YHVH is telling us through the number of times that He uses these Aleph Tav, that He is witnessing to us, through His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, His Gospel, that **IF** we will simply learn to believe, follow, obey and **DO** His Word, His Commandments, His Torah, **IF** we go through His Testing with surrendered contrite obedient hearts to His Word, then, He promises us that we will win the prize that Paul talks about when he advises us in *1Corinthians 9:24 To run the race in such a way that we obtain the prize*, and the prize is a metaphor for eternal salvation. *Know you **NOT** that they which run in a race, all run, **BUT only ONE** receives the prize? Therefore **RUN** in such a way that you may **OBTAIN THE PRIZE**. Amen.*

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Shalom Alechem, until we meet again.*