

Preparing to March

(Numbers 1-10)

Class 3:
Just how many
Israelites were there?

Tribe	Num. 1	Num. 26	Change		Ranking		
			#	%	Start	End	Diff.
Reuben	46,500	43,730	-2,770	-6.0%	7	9	-2
Simeon	59,300	22,200	-37,100	-62.6%	3	12	-9
Gad	45,650	40,500	-5,150	-11.3%	8	10	-2
Judah	74,600	76,500	+1,900	+2.5%	1	1	
Issachar	54,400	64,300	+9,900	+18.2%	5	3	+2
Zebulun	57,400	60,500	+3,100	+5.4%	4	4	
Ephraim	40,500	32,500	-8,000	-19.8%	10	11	-1
Manasseh	32,200	52,700	+20,500	+63.7%	12	6	+6
Benjamin	35,400	45,600	+10,200	+28.8%	11	7	+4
Dan	62,700	64,400	+1,700	+2.7%	2	2	
Asher	41,500	53,400	+11,900	+28.7%	9	5	+4
Naphtali	53,400	45,400	-8,000	-15.0%	6	8	-2
Total (excluding Levites)	603,550	601,730	-1,820	-0.3%			2

Case for Large Population

<p>Num. 1:45-46</p>	<p>So all the numbered men of the sons of Israel by their fathers' households, from twenty years old and upward, whoever was able to go out to war in Israel, even all the numbered men were 603,550.</p>
<p>Exod. 1:7-9</p>	<p>But the sons of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly, and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty, so that the land was filled with them. Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are more and mightier than we (or "too many and too mighty for us")).</p>
<p>Num. 26:51</p>	<p>These are those who were numbered of the sons of Israel, 601,730.</p>
<p>Exod. 12:37</p>	<p>Now the sons of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from children. A mixed multitude also went up with them, along with flocks and herds, a very large number of livestock. See also Num 11:21 – "about 600,000 on foot"</p>
<p>Exod. 38:25-26</p>	<p>Silver Collected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> = 301,775 shekels (603,550 X ½ shekel) = 300,000 + 1755 shekels = 100 talents (sockets) + 1755 shekels (hooks)

The Firstborn

Num. 3:42-43

So Moses numbered all the firstborn among the sons of Israel, just as the LORD had commanded him; **and all the firstborn males by the number of names from a month old and upward**, for their numbered men were **22,273**.

Number of males in Israel: **603,550**
Number of firstborn males: **22,273**
Average males per family: $603,550 / 22,273 = 27.1$
Average children per family: **54.2!**

Manila – 109,713/mi.²



Refugee Camp – 179,200/mi.²



Woodstock (1969) – 409,600/mi.²



Camp size

Assuming a camp of 2,500,000 people:

	Density (people/mi. ²)	Size (mi. ²)	Sides (mi.)	Centre to Edge (mi.)
Manila	109,714	22.8	4.8	3.4
Temporary Syrian Refugee Camp	179,200	13.9	3.8	2.7
Woodstock	409,600	6.1	2.5	1.8

Flocks and Herds

Exod. 12:38	A mixed multitude also went up with them, along with flocks and herds, a very large number of livestock.
Exod. 17:3	But the people thirsted there for water; and they grumbled against Moses and said, “Why, now, have you brought us up from Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst? ”
Num. 20:17-19	“Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or through vineyard; we will not even drink water from a well. We will go along the king’s highway, not turning to the right or left, until we pass through your territory.’ ” Edom, however, said to him, “You shall not pass through us, or I will come out with the sword against you.” Again, the sons of Israel said to him, “We will go up by the highway, and if I and my livestock do drink any of your water , then I will pay its price. Let me only pass through on my feet, nothing else.”
Num. 32:1	Now the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad had an exceedingly large number of livestock. So when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that it was indeed a place suitable for livestock ,
Deut. 3:19	‘But your wives and your little ones and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) shall remain in your cities which I have given you,

Pasture Needs

Assuming 1,000,000 sheep:

	Density (sheep/mi. ²)	Size (mi. ²)	Sides (mi.)
England	2,500	400	20
Montana	64	15,625	125



Flocks and Herds

Num. 20:17-19

“Please let us pass through your land. **We will not pass through field or through vineyard; we will not even drink water from a well. We will go along the king’s highway, not turning to the right or left, until we pass through your territory.’**” Edom, however, said to him, “You shall not pass through us, or I will come out with the sword against you.” Again, the sons of Israel said to him, “We will go up by the highway, **and if I and my livestock do drink any of your water**, then I will pay its price. Let me only pass through on my feet, nothing else.”

Two Midwives

Exod. 1:15-17

Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, **one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other was named Puah**; and he said, "When you are helping the Hebrew women to give birth and see them upon the birthstool, if it is a son, then you shall put him to death; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live." But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them, but let the boys live.

Flocks and Herds

Deut 7:1

When the LORD your God brings you into the land where you are entering to possess it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, **seven nations greater (more numerous) and stronger than you.**

Deut. 7:7-8

The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were **more in number** than any of the peoples, **for you were the fewest of all peoples**, but because the LORD loved you and kept the oath which He swore to **your forefathers**

Deut. 7:17-19

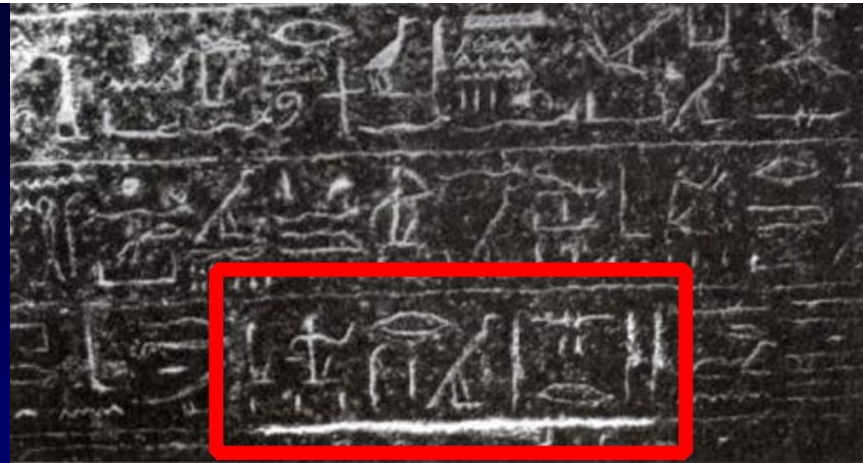
“If you should say in your heart, ‘**These nations are greater than I**; how can I dispossess them?’ you shall not be afraid of them...So shall the LORD your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid.

Exod. 23:29-30

I will not drive them out before you in a single year, that the land may not become desolate **and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you.** I will **drive them out before you little by little, until you become fruitful** and take possession of the land.

Num. 13:28-33

Nevertheless, the people who live in the land **are strong**, and the cities are fortified and **very large**; and moreover, we saw the descendants of Anak there. Amalek is living in the land of the Negev and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites are living in the hill country, and the Canaanites are living by the sea and by the side of the Jordan...**we became like grasshoppers in our own sight**, and so we were in their sight.”



The "Israel" Merneptah Stele (1205 BC)

"Israel is laid waste. His seed is no more"

-f his/its	pr.t seed/grain	bn [negative]	fk.t waste	ysrir Israel



Evidence from Archeology

		Late Bronze Age		Iron Age I	
Source	Area	Sites	Population	Sites	Population
Finkelstein	Hill Country	58	n/a	~350	50,000
Dever	Hill Country	29	12,000	254	30-42,000
Stager	Canaan	88	50,000	687	150,000
Noll	Canaan	n/a	70,000	n/a	>100,000

Errors in Transmission?

2Kings 24:8	Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king
2Chron. 36:9	Jehoiachin was eight years old when he became king
2Sam. 24:9	And there were in Israel 800,000 valiant men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were 500,000 men
1Chron. 21:5	And all Israel were 1,100,000 men who drew the sword; and Judah was 470,000 men who drew the sword.
2Sam. 24:13	Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land?
1Chron. 21:11-12	Take for yourself either three years of famine...

Gematria

Numbers 1:2

Sons of Israel = 603

Every head = 551

("take the sum")

= 603,551 = 603,550 + 1 (Moses)

Astronomic Time Periods

Num. 1:3	“Armies/Host” = “Sabbaoth” – see Gen 2:1 etc. – used of the stars
Gen. 15:5	Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars , if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”
Gen 22:17	...and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens
Gen. 37:9	“Lo, I have had still another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”
Judges 5:20	The stars fought from heaven , From their courses they fought against Sisera.

Tribe(s)	Size / 100	Significance
Benjamin	354	Short Lunar Year (354 days)
Issachar & Ephraim	544 + 405 = 949	Solar Year (365 days) + Period of Venus (584 days)
Manasseh & Dan	322 + 627 = 949	
Naphtali & Asher	534 + 415 = 949	

“Thousand” in the Old Testament

Eleph

Judges 6:15 Behold, my **family** is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house.

Micah 5:2 ...Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the **clans** of Judah

Num. 1:16 ...they were the heads of **divisions** of Israel

1 Sam. 10:19 Present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your **clans**.

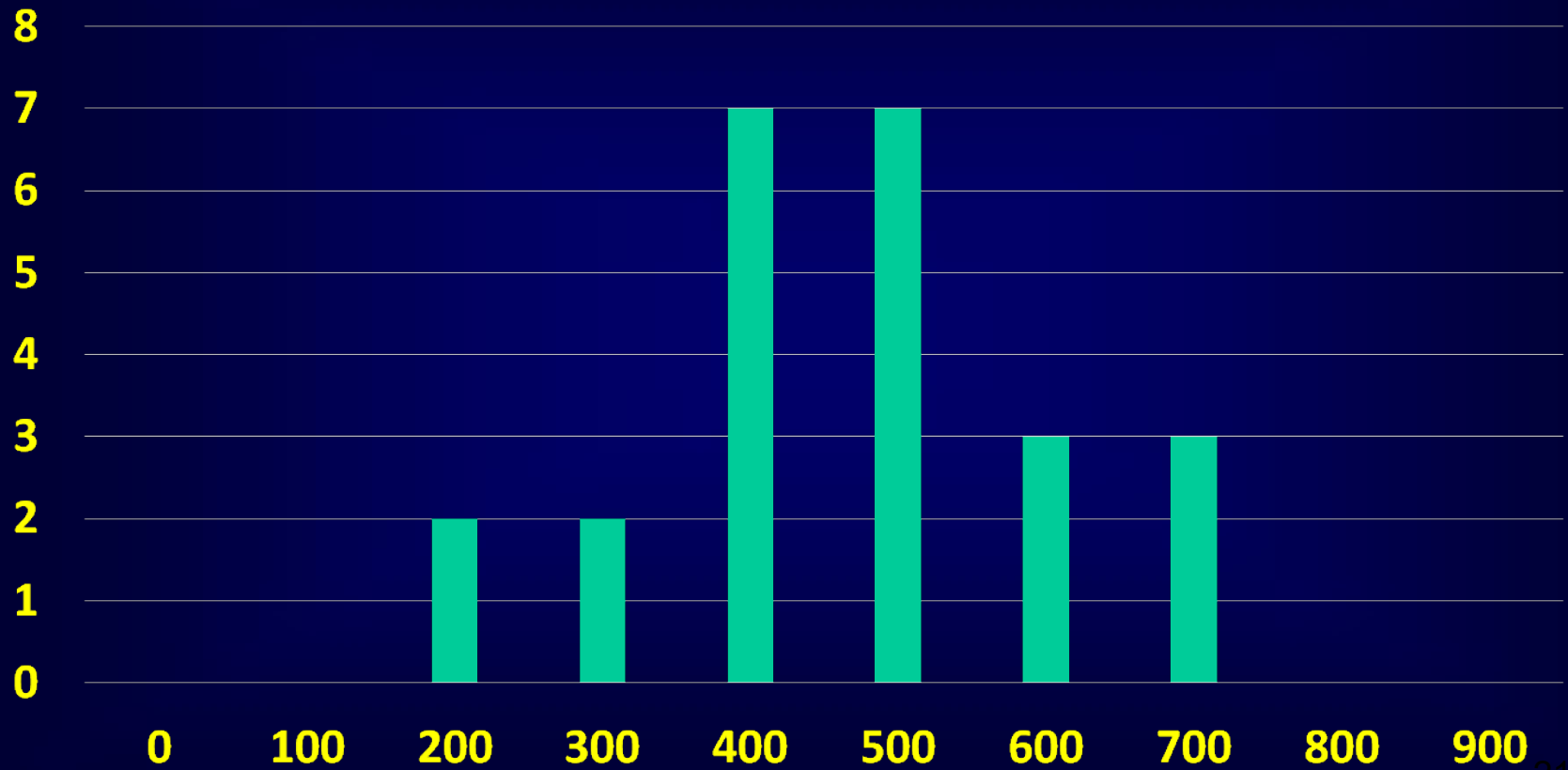
Alluph

Gen. 36:15-43 These are the **chiefs** of the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz, the first-born of Esau, are **chief** Teman, **chief** Omar, **chief** Zepho, **chief** Kenaz...

Zech. 12:5-6 Then the **clans** of Judah will say in their hearts...
I will make the **clans** of Judah like a firepot...

Tribe	Num. 1		Num. 26	
Reuben	46	500	43	730
Simeon	59	300	22	200
Gad	45	650	40	500
Judah	74	600	76	500
Issachar	54	400	64	300
Zebulun	57	400	60	500
Ephraim	40	500	32	500
Manasseh	32	200	52	700
Benjamin	35	400	45	600
Dan	62	700	64	400
Asher	41	500	53	400
Naphtali	53	400	45	400
Total (excluding Levites)	598	5,550	596	5,730

100s Distribution



An “Uncertain” Faith

Daniel 3:17-18	If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire ; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not , let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”
John 6:60-69	Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this said, “This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?” As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore . So Jesus said to the twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life . We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.”
Isaiah 55:8–9	“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.”

An “Uncertain” Faith

2 Pet. 3:15-16

...and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, **in which are some things hard to understand**, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

1 Cor. 13:12-13

For now we see in a mirror dimly (lit. “in a riddle” cp. Num. 12:8 (LXX)), but then face to face; **now I know in part**, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.