The city, seduction and Jesus

Dominic Steele, Numbers 1-10

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the Tent of Meeting in
the Desert of Sinai on the first day of the second month
of the second year after the Israelites came out of Egypt.
He said: 2 "Take a census of the whole Israelite commu-
nity by their clans and families, listing every man by name,
one by one. 3 You and Aaron are to number by their
divisions all the men in Israel twenty years old or more
who are able to serve in the army. 4 One man from
each tribe, each the head of his family, is to help you. 5
These are the names of the men who are to assist you:
from Reuben, Elizur son of Shedeur;
6 from Simeon, Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai;
7 from Judah, Nahshon son of Amminadab;
8 from Issachar, Nethanel son of Zuar;
9 from Zebulun, Eliab son of Helon;
10 from the sons of Joseph:
from Ephraim, Elishama son of Ammihud;
from Manasseh, Gamaliel son of Pedahzur;
11 from Benjamin, Abidan son of Gideoni;
12 from Dan, Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai;
13 from Asher, Pagiel son of Ocran;
14 from Gad, Eliasaph son of Deuel;
15 from Naphtali, Ahira son of Enan."
16 These were the men appointed from the community,
the leaders of their ancestral tribes. They were the heads
of the clans of Israel.

17 Moses and Aaron took these men whose names had
been given, 18 and they called the whole community to-
gether on the first day of the second month. The people
indicated their ancestry by their clans and families, and
the men twenty years old or more were listed by name,
one by one, 19 as the LORD commanded Moses. And
so he counted them in the Desert of Sinai:

20 From the descendants of Reuben the firstborn son
of Israel: All the men twenty years old or more who
were able to serve in the army were listed by name,
one by one, according to the records of their clans and
families. 21 The number from the tribe of Reuben was
46,500.

22 From the descendants of Simeon: All the men twenty years
old or more who were able to serve in the army were counted
and listed by name, one by one, according to the records of their
clans and families. 23 The number from the tribe of Simeon was
59,300.

24 From the descendants of Gad: All the men twenty years
old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by
name, according to the records of their clans and families. 25 The
number from the tribe of Gad was 45,650.

26 From the descendants of Judah: All the men twenty years
old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by
name, according to the records of their clans and families. 27 The
number from the tribe of Judah was 74,600.

28 From the descendants of Issachar: All the men twenty years
old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by
name, according to the records of their clans and families. 29 The
number from the tribe of Issachar was 54,400.

30 From the descendants of Zebulun: All the men twenty years
old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by
name, according to the records of their clans and families. 31 The
number from the tribe of Zebulun was 57,400.

32 From the sons of Joseph: From the descendants of Ephraim:
All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve
in the army were listed by name, according to the records of
their clans and families. 33 The number from the tribe of Ephraim
was 40,500.

...

44 These were the men counted by Moses and Aaron
and the twelve leaders of Israel, each one representing
his family. 45 All the Israelites twenty years old or more
who were able to serve in Israel's army were counted
according to their families. 46 The total number was
603,550.

47 The families of the tribe of Levi, however, were not
counted along with the others. 48 The LORD had said
to Moses: 49 "You must not count the tribe of Levi
or include them in the census of the other Israelites.
50 Instead, appoint the Levites to be in charge of the
tabernacle of the Testimony—over all its furnishings
and everything belonging to it. They are to carry the
tabernacle and all its furnishings; they are to take care of
it and encamp around it. 51 Whenever the tabernacle is
to move, the Levites are to take it down, and whenever
the tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall do it. Any-
one else who goes near it shall be put to death. 52 The
Israelites are to set up their tents by divisions, each man
in his own camp under his own standard. 53 The Levites,
however, are to set up their tents around the tabernacle
of the Testimony so that wrath will not fall on the Israel-
ite community. The Levites are to be responsible for the
care of the tabernacle of the Testimony."

54 The Israelites did all this just as the LORD com-
manded Moses.

1 Setting the scene

2 Structure

Israel at ...	1:1-10:10
Israel travelling ...	10:1-19:22
Israel at ...	22:2-36:13

3 God is ... 1:1-10:10

a Present (Numbers 1 esp 2:10, 1:46, 1:53)

b Faithful 1:46. (cf Deuteronomy 23:12-14)

c Central (Numbers 2)

d Holy (Numbers 5 & 6)

- Purity 5:1-5
- Debts 5:6-10
- Adultery 5:12-31
- Nazarites 6
- Sacrifices 7-9
- Blessing 6:22-27

e Guiding 9:16-10:36

4 Jesus

a Present John 1:14

b Faithful 2 Corinthians 1:18-20, Revelation 7:4-10

c Central Revelation 7:9-10, 1 Timothy 2:4; John 14:6, Eph 1:10

d Holy

e Guiding

5 Setting off

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