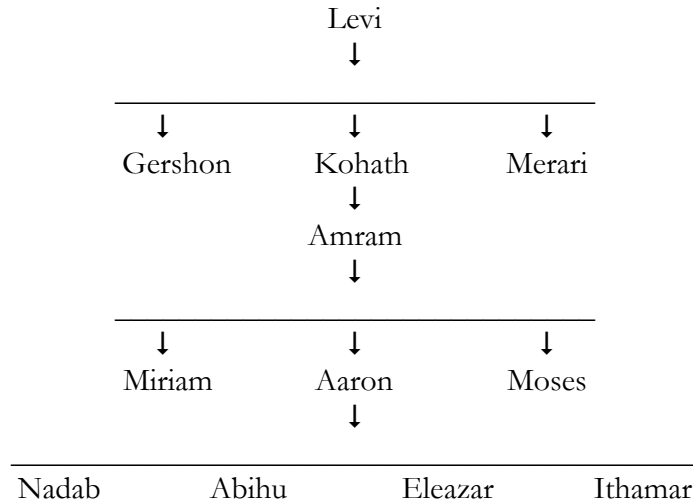


# The Book of Numbers

## The Numbering and Ordering of the Levites

Text: Numbers 3 – 4

### I. The Lineage of Moses and Aaron (Numbers 3:1-4)



### II. The Separation of the Levites (Numbers 3:5-10)

- A. The Levites were presented to Aaron as servants (assistants) of the priesthood.
- B. Of all the Israelites, only the descendants of Levi could help with the Tabernacle.
- C. Of all the Levites, only the descendants of Aaron could serve as priests.
- D. Anyone else who did these things was to be put to death.

### III. The Numbering of the Levites (Numbers 3:14-39)

- A. The tribe of Levi was counted by numbering every male that had reached the age of one month.
- B. The descendants of Gershon numbered 7,500.
  - 1. They were to camp on the west side of the Tabernacle.
  - 2. Their chief was Eliasaph.
  - 3. They were in charge of the curtains and coverings of the Tabernacle.
- C. The descendants of Kohath numbered 8,600.
  - 1. They were to camp on the south side of the Tabernacle.
  - 2. Their chief was Elizaphan.
  - 3. They were in charge of the furniture of the Tabernacle.
- D. The descendants of Merari numbered 6,200.
  - 1. They were to camp on the north side of the Tabernacle.
  - 2. Their chief was Zuriel.
  - 3. They were in charge of the boards and bars of the Tabernacle.
- E. Moses, Aaron, and their descendants camped on the east side of the Tabernacle.
- F. The total number for the tribe of Levi was 22,000.



# The Book of Numbers

- IV. The Numbering of the Firstborn (Numbers 3:11-13, 40-51)
- A. The Levites were consecrated to God in place of the firstborn of the rest of the children of Israel (cf. Exodus 13:11-16; Numbers 8:16-18; 18:6).
  - B. The number of the firstborn of the other tribes was greater than the number of the Levites.
  - C. To make up for the difference (273), a price of redemption had to be paid to the priests – 1,365 shekels (5 shekels per firstborn child).
- V. The Ordering of the Levites (Numbers 4)