

## NUMBERS

<input type="checkbox"/>	May 8	Num 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 9	Num 2:1–3:4
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 10	Num 3:5–5:1
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 11	Num 4:1–5:10
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 12	Num 5:11–6:21
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 15	Num 6:22–8:4
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 16	Num 8:5–26
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 17	Num 9:1–10:10
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 18	Num 10:11–11:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 19	Num 11:16–12:16
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 22	Num 13
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 23	Num 14:1–38
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 24	Num 14:39–15:21
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 25	Num 15:22–41
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 26	Num 16–17
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 29	Num 18:1–20:1
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 30	Num 20:2–13
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 31	Num 20:14–29
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 1	Num 21:1–9
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 2	Num 21:10–35
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 5	Num 22
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 6	Num 23:1–24:14
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 7	Num 24:15–25:9
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 8	Num 25:10–27:11
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 9	Num 27:12–28:8
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 12	Num 28:9–25
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 13	Num 28:26–29:6
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 14	Num 29:7–30:2
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 15	Num 30:3–31:54
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 16	Num 32–33
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 19	Num 34
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 20	Num 35–36

### Unique Feature

A striking feature of Numbers is that law and narrative alternate regularly, as follows (Milgrom, *Numbers*, xv):

- 1–10:10—**Law**
- 10:11–14:45—*Narrative*
- 15—**Law**
- 16–17—*Narrative*
- 18–19—**Law**
- 20–25—*Narrative*
- 26–27:11—**Law**
- 27:12–23—*Narrative*
- 28–30—**Law**
- 31–33:49—*Narrative*
- 33:50–56; 34–36—**Law**

### Summary

Numbers is the fourth book in the Hebrew Bible and is part of the Torah. It recounts the historic events of Israel's experience with her God, Yahweh, from her time at Mount Sinai until her arrival at the plains of Moab. The purpose of the book is both theological and practical.

**Theologically** it brings focus to *Yahweh's love* for Israel and *His patient* adherence to the Sinaitic covenant and *the promise* that His covenant people would indeed inherit the promised land. **Practically**, it sets many of the *patterns of worship* and *behavior* that would be necessary when they inhabited the promised land. More specifically, it provides historic *examples of the consequences for unfaithfulness and ungratefulness* for Yahweh's provision for them.

### Key Passage

**Numbers 14:18** 'The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.'

### Key Themes

Faith, obedience, rebellion, intercession  
God's: presence, holiness, graciousness, & constancy

### Outline

#### Part 1

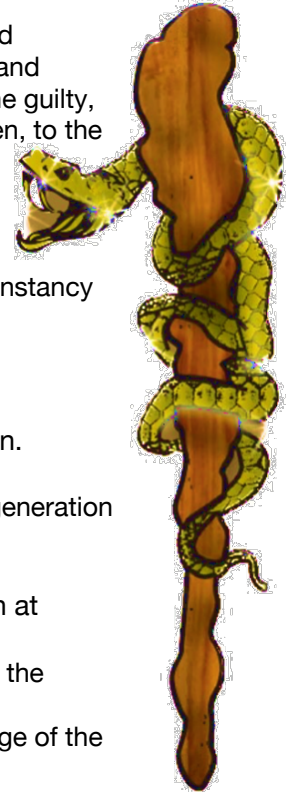
**1:1–25:19** The fate of the exodus generation.

- ◆ 1:1-10:10—The exodus generation at Sinai.
- ◆ 10:11-25:19—The rebellion of the exodus generation in the wilderness.

#### Part 2

**26:1–36:13** The hope of the new generation at Moab—the promised land.

- ◆ 26:1-30:16—The end of the old generation, the beginning of the new.
- ◆ 31:1-36:12—Military preparation on the verge of the promised land.



### Rebellion Accounts

The rebellion accounts in Numbers share a common structure with the occasions of murmuring in Exodus.

1. The people rebel or complain.
2. God replies to the rebellion or complaint.
3. Divine judgment follows.
4. Moses intercedes.
5. The judgment ends.
6. The people then name the site of the rebellion and judgment with a name that commemorates the event (Cole, Numbers, 47).

The most prominent are the eight rebellion narratives. The passages are as follows:

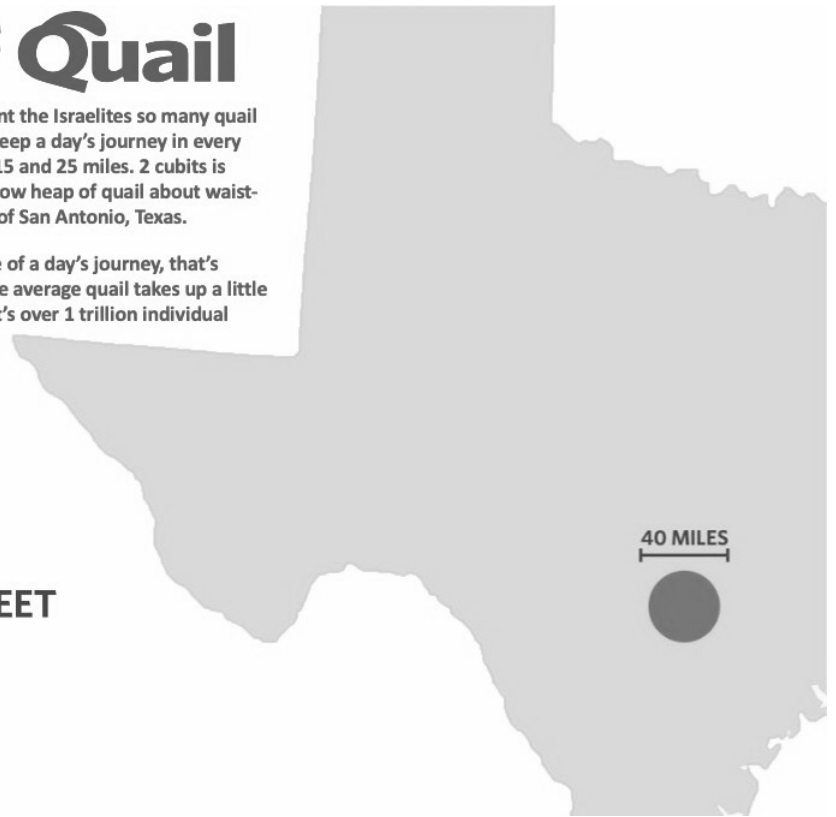
11:1–3; 11:4–35; 12:1–16; 13:1–14:45; 16:1–50; 20:2–13; 21:4–9; and 25:1–19.



# A Sea of Quail

In Numbers 11:31, the text says God sent the Israelites so many quail that they were measured as “2 cubits deep a day’s journey in every direction.” A day’s journey is between 15 and 25 miles. 2 cubits is about 3 feet, so we’re looking at a shallow heap of quail about waist-deep covering an area roughly the size of San Antonio, Texas.

Taking 20 miles as the average estimate of a day’s journey, that’s 33,454,080,000 cubic feet of quail. If the average quail takes up a little over a quarter of a cubic foot, then that’s over 1 trillion individual quail.



## Numbers in the N.T.

### Quotations (1)

Num. 16:5 cf. 2 Tim. 2:19

### Citations (2)

Num. 30:2 cf. Mt. 5:33

Num. 9:12 cf. Jn. 19:36

### Allusions (57)

Mt. 2:2 cf. Num. 24:17; Mt. 12:5 cf. Num. 28:9–10; Mk. 6:34 cf. Num. 27:17; Lk. 1:15 cf. Num. 6:3; Jn. 3:14 cf. Num. 21:5–9; Jn. 3:14 cf. Num. 21:9; Jn. 6:31 cf. Num. 11:7–9; Ac. 7:36 cf. Num. 14:33; Ac. 7:44 cf. Num. 1:50; Ac. 13:18 cf. Num. 14:34; Ac. 18:18 cf. Num. 6:18; Ac. 21:23 cf. Num. 6:2–5; Ac. 21:23 cf. Num. 6:13–18; Ac. 21:23 cf. Num. 6:21; Ac. 21:24 cf. Num. 6:2–5; Ac. 21:24 cf. Num. 6:13–18; Ac. 21:24 cf. Num. 6:21; Ac. 21:26 cf. Num. 6:2–5; Ac. 21:26 cf. Num. 6:13–18; Ac. 21:26 cf. Num. 6:21; Rom. 9:6 cf. Num. 23:19; Rom. 11:16 cf. Num. 15:17–21; 1 Cor. 9:13 cf. Num. 18:8; 1 Cor. 9:13 cf. Num. 18:31; 1 Cor. 10:4 cf. Num. 20:11; 1 Cor. 10:5 cf. Num. 14:16; 1 Cor. 10:5 cf. Num. 14:23; 1 Cor. 10:5 cf. Num. 14:29–30; 1 Cor. 10:8 cf. Num. 25:1; 1 Cor. 10:8 cf. Num. 25:9; 1 Cor. 10:9 cf. Num. 21:5–6; 1 Cor. 10:10 cf. Num. 14:2; 1 Cor. 10:10 cf. Num. 14:36–37; 1 Cor. 10:10 cf. Num. 16:41–49; 2 Tim. 2:13 cf. Num. 23:19; Heb. 3:2 cf. Num. 12:7; Heb. 3:5 cf. Num. 12:7; Heb. 3:17 cf. Num. 14:29; Heb. 3:17 cf. Num. 14:32; Heb. 6:18 cf. Num. 23:19; Heb. 7:5 cf. Num. 18:21; Heb. 8:2 cf. Num. 24:6; Heb. 9:4 cf. Num. 17:8–10; Heb. 9:6 cf. Num. 18:2–6; Heb. 9:10 cf. Num. 19:13; Heb. 9:13 cf. Num. 19:9; Heb. 9:13 cf. Num. 19:17–19; Heb. 9:19 cf. Num. 19:6; 2 Pt. 2:15 cf. Num. 22:7; Jd. 5 cf. Num. 14:29–30; Jd. 5 cf. Num. 14:35; Jd. 11 cf. Num. 16:19–35; Jd. 11 cf. Num. 31:16; Rev. 2:14 cf. Num. 25:1–2; Rev. 2:14 cf. Num. 31:16; Rev. 2:20 cf. Num. 25:1–2; Rev. 22:16 cf. Num. 24:17

