

Message One
**Being Formed into an Army
to Fight with God for His Interest on Earth**

RK Hymns: 124, 893

Scripture Reading: Num. 1:1-3, 18, 24, 45-46; 2:1-2, 17, 32; Exo. 12:41, 51; 13:18

- Num 1:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the Tent of Meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
- Num 1:2 Take the sum of all the assembly of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head.
- Num 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all who are able to go forth for military service in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their companies.
- Num 1:18 And on the first day of the second month they gathered all the assembly together; and they registered themselves by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names from twenty years old and upward, head by head.
- Num 1:24 From the children of Gad, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:45 So all who were numbered of the children of Israel by their fathers' households, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service in Israel,
- Num 1:46 Even all the numbered men were six hundred three thousand five hundred fifty.
- Num 2:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,
- Num 2:2 The children of Israel shall encamp each by his own standard with the ensigns of their fathers' households; they shall encamp facing the Tent of Meeting on every side.
- Num 2:17 Then the Tent of Meeting shall set out, with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camps; as they encamp, so shall they set out, every man in his place, by their standards.
- Num 2:32 These are those who were numbered of the children of Israel by their fathers' households. All who were numbered in the camps according to their companies were six hundred three thousand five hundred fifty.
- Exo 12:41 And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.
- Exo 12:51 And on that very day Jehovah brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.
- Exo 13:18 Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt.

I It is not accurate to say that Numbers is merely a book of wanderings and repeated failures; Numbers is a book of victory and glory—1:1-3, 18, 24, 45-46; 2:1-2, 17, 32; 33:52-53:

Num 1:1~2:32 be omitted.

Num 33:52 You shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and you shall destroy all their figured stones and destroy all their molten images and demolish all their high places;

Num 33:53 And you shall take possession of the land and dwell in it, for to you I have given the land to possess it.

A. The book of Numbers presents a glorious scene with standards and ensigns, with formations and order; it was glorious that on the earth God not only had a dwelling place but also had an army—2:17; Exo. 25:8; 6:26; 7:4; 12:41, 51; 13:18.

Num 2:17 Then the Tent of Meeting shall set out, with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camps; as they encamp, so shall they set out, every man in his place, by their standards.

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 6:26 It was this same Aaron and Moses to whom Jehovah said, Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies.

Exo 7:4 But Pharaoh will not listen to you, and I will lay My hand upon Egypt and bring forth My armies, My people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment.

Exo 12:41 And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.

- Exo 12:51 And on that very day Jehovah brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.
- Exo 13:18 Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt.
- B. From beginning to end the book of Numbers is a glorious book; in the beginning God formed the army, and at the end we have a record of the dividing of the land conquered by this army—1:1-3; 33:52-53.
- Num 1:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the Tent of Meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
- Num 1:2 Take the sum of all the assembly of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head.
- Num 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all who are able to go forth for military service in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their companies.
- Num 33:52 You shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and you shall destroy all their figured stones and destroy all their molten images and demolish all their high places;
- Num 33:53 And you shall take possession of the land and dwell in it, for to you I have given the land to possess it.
- C. The picture in Numbers shows the Triune God and His chosen people mingled together as one entity so that God may move on the earth and conquer His enemy in order to regain the earth for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose—10:33-36; Eph. 3:11.
- Num 10:33 So they set out from the mountain of Jehovah three days' journey, with the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah setting out before them three days' journey, to seek out a resting place for them.
- Num 10:34 And the cloud of Jehovah was over them by day when they set out from the camp.
- Num 10:35 And when the Ark set out, Moses said, Rise up, O Jehovah, and let Your enemies be scattered; / And let those who hate You flee before You.
- Num 10:36 And when it came to rest, he said, Return, O Jehovah, to the ten thousand thousands of Israel.
- Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

II. The central thought of Numbers is that Christ is the meaning of life, the testimony, the center of God's people, and the Leader, the way, and the goal of their journey and fighting—1:5-53; Col. 2:9:

- Num 1:5 And these are the names of the men who shall stand with you. From Reuben: Elizur the son of Shedeur.
- Num 1:6 From Simeon: Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.
- Num 1:7 From Judah: Nahshon the son of Amminadab.
- Num 1:8 From Issachar: Nethanel the son of Zuar.
- Num 1:9 From Zebulun: Eliab the son of Helon.
- Num 1:10 From the children of Joseph: from Ephraim: Elishama the son of Ammihud; from Manasseh: Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.
- Num 1:11 From Benjamin: Abidan the son of Gideoni.
- Num 1:12 From Dan: Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.
- Num 1:13 From Asher: Pagiel the son of Ocran.
- Num 1:14 From Gad: Eliasaph the son of Deuel.
- Num 1:15 From Naphtali: Ahira the son of Enan.
- Num 1:16 These are the ones who were called from the assembly, the leaders of the tribes of their fathers; they were the heads of the thousands of Israel.
- Num 1:17 And Moses and Aaron took these men who had been designated by name.
- Num 1:18 And on the first day of the second month they gathered all the assembly together; and they registered themselves by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names from twenty years old and upward, head by head.
- Num 1:19 As Jehovah commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.
- Num 1:20 And the children of Reuben, Israel's firstborn, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, head by head, every male from

- twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:21 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Reuben: forty-six thousand five hundred.
- Num 1:22 From the children of Simeon, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, those who were numbered of them, according to the number of names, head by head, every male from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:23 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Simeon: fifty-nine thousand three hundred.
- Num 1:24 From the children of Gad, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:25 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Gad: forty-five thousand six hundred fifty.
- Num 1:26 From the children of Judah, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:27 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Judah: seventy-four thousand six hundred.
- Num 1:28 From the children of Issachar, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:29 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Issachar: fifty-four thousand four hundred.
- Num 1:30 From the children of Zebulun, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:31 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Zebulun: fifty-seven thousand four hundred.
- Num 1:32 From the children of Joseph: from the children of Ephraim, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:33 Those who were numbered of them, from the tribe of Ephraim: forty thousand five hundred.
- Num 1:34 And from the children of Manasseh, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:35 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Manasseh: thirty-two thousand two hundred.
- Num 1:36 From the children of Benjamin, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:37 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Benjamin: thirty-five thousand four hundred.
- Num 1:38 From the children of Dan, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:39 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Dan: sixty-two thousand seven hundred.
- Num 1:40 From the children of Asher, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:41 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Asher: forty-one thousand five hundred.
- Num 1:42 From the children of Naphtali, their generations, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service,
- Num 1:43 Those who were numbered of them, of the tribe of Naphtali: fifty-three thousand four hundred.
- Num 1:44 These were the ones who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, with the leaders of Israel, twelve men, each one for his fathers' household.
- Num 1:45 So all who were numbered of the children of Israel by their fathers' households, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth for military service in Israel,

- Num 1:46 Even all the numbered men were six hundred three thousand five hundred fifty.
- Num 1:47 But the Levites were not numbered among them by their fathers' tribe.
- Num 1:48 For Jehovah had spoken to Moses, saying,
- Num 1:49 Only the tribe of Levi you shall not number, nor shall you take the sum of them among the children of Israel;
- Num 1:50 But you, appoint the Levites over the Tabernacle of the Testimony and over all its furnishings and over all that belongs to it. They shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; and they shall minister to it and shall encamp around the tabernacle.
- Num 1:51 And when the tabernacle sets out, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle encamps, the Levites shall set it up. But the stranger who comes near shall be put to death.
- Num 1:52 And the children of Israel shall encamp, each one by his own camp and each one by his own standard, according to their companies.
- Num 1:53 But the Levites shall encamp around the Tabernacle of the Testimony, that there be no wrath upon the assembly of the children of Israel. And the Levites shall keep the charge of the Tabernacle of the Testimony.
- Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,
- A. In Numbers Christ is revealed as the meaning of life for God's people:
1. The Ark of the Testimony was the center of the Tabernacle of the Testimony—1:50, 53.

Num 1:50 But you, appoint the Levites over the Tabernacle of the Testimony and over all its furnishings and over all that belongs to it. They shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; and they shall minister to it and shall encamp around the tabernacle.

Num 1:53 But the Levites shall encamp around the Tabernacle of the Testimony, that there be no wrath upon the assembly of the children of Israel. And the Levites shall keep the charge of the Tabernacle of the Testimony.
 2. The Ark with the tabernacle was the meaning of the Israelites' life.
 3. The meaning of our human life is for God in Christ to enter into us and be expressed through us—Col. 2:9; 1:27.

Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

Col 1:27 To whom God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,
 4. When we see the vision of Christ in God's economy, we begin to realize that Christ Himself is the purpose of the universe and also the meaning of our human life—vv. 15-20; 2:2, 9-10, 17; 3:4, 10-11.

Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.

Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;

Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Col 1:19 For in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell

Col 1:20 And through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross—through Him, whether the things on the earth or the things in the heavens.

Col 2:2 That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,

Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

Col 2:10 And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.

Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of the things to come, but the body is of Christ.

Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Col 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

- B. Christ, who is the meaning of the life of God's people, is God's testimony—Num. 1:53:
 Num 1:53 But the Levites shall encamp around the Tabernacle of the Testimony, that there be no wrath upon the assembly of the children of Israel. And the Levites shall keep the charge of the Tabernacle of the Testimony.
1. Since the Ark typifies Christ, the meaning of the Israelites' life was to take care of Christ as the testimony of God.
 2. In the Old Testament the Testimony refers to the law:
 - a. The two tablets on which the law was inscribed were called the Testimony (Exo. 25:21) and were placed in the Ark.
 Exo 25:21 And you shall put the expiation cover upon the Ark above it, and into the Ark you shall put the Testimony that I shall give you.
 - b. Because the Testimony was put into the Ark, the Ark was called the Ark of the Testimony.
 - c. The law of God is a testimony of what God is; it tells us what kind of God our God is.
 - d. The law, as a portrait of what God is, typifies Christ as the embodiment of God in all His divine attributes—Col. 2:9.
 Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,
- C. Christ is the center of God's people—1:15, 18:
 Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
 Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
1. This is portrayed by the way the children of Israel were encamped around the tabernacle—Num. 2:2.
 Num 2:2 The children of Israel shall encamp each by his own standard with the ensigns of their fathers' households; they shall encamp facing the Tent of Meeting on every side.
 2. In the church life today we should take Christ as our unique center—Heb. 2:12.
 Heb 2:12 Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."
- D. Christ is the Leader, the way, and the goal—Matt. 23:10; John 14:6; Phil. 3:12-14:
 Matt 23:10 Neither be called instructors, because One is your Instructor, the Christ.
 John 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.
 Phil 3:12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
 Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
 Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
1. Christ is the One who is moving, acting, and always proceeding onward:
 - a. In His proceeding onward, Christ is our Leader (Matt. 23:10), our way (John 14:6), and our goal (Phil. 3:12-14).
 Matt 23:10 Neither be called instructors, because One is your Instructor, the Christ.
 John 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.
 Phil 3:12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
 Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
 Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
 - b. The unique Leader in the church is Christ; He is leading us on the way and toward His goal, both of which are actually Himself.

2. Philippians 3:12-14 indicates that Christ should be our goal, our aim; Christ is the goal toward which we press.
 - Phil 3:12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
 - Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
 - Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
- E. If Christ were not all of this to us, there would not be a way for God to gain the ground on earth to build up His kingdom with His house—Matt. 16:16-19.
- Matt 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
 - Matt 16:17 And Jesus answered and said to him, Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in the heavens.
 - Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
 - Matt 16:19 I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

III. The book of Numbers records how God's chosen and redeemed people were formed into a priestly army to journey with God and to fight with God for His interest on earth—1:1-4:49; 9:15-10:36; 12:16; 20:1-21:35; 31:1-54; 33:1-49:

- Num 1:1~4:49 be omitted.
 - Num 9:15~10:36 be omitted.
 - Num 12:16 After that the people set out from Hazeroth and encamped in the wilderness of Paran.
 - Num 20:1~21:35 be omitted.
 - Num 31:1~54 be omitted.
 - Num 33:1~49 be omitted.
- A. The army is for God's people to fight so that God can gain the ground on earth to build up His kingdom with His habitation—Exo. 12:41, 51; 13:18.
- Exo 12:41 And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.
 - Exo 12:51 And on that very day Jehovah brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.
 - Exo 13:18 Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt.
- B. In Numbers we can see three things: the formation of an army, the journeys of that army, and the fighting of the army—10:33-36:
- Num 10:33 So they set out from the mountain of Jehovah three days' journey, with the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah setting out before them three days' journey, to seek out a resting place for them.
 - Num 10:34 And the cloud of Jehovah was over them by day when they set out from the camp.
 - Num 10:35 And when the Ark set out, Moses said, Rise up, O Jehovah, and let Your enemies be scattered; / And let those who hate You flee before You.
 - Num 10:36 And when it came to rest, he said, Return, O Jehovah, to the ten thousand thousands of Israel.
1. The formation of the army was for fighting, and the fighting required the army to journey, not to stay in one place.
 2. Always the children of Israel were going on from place to place to gain ground that God might have a people to be built up for His kingdom and His house—33:1-49.
 - Num 33:1~49 be omitted.
- C. Numbers 1 and 2 reveal that the children of Israel were formed into an army because they were surrounded by enemies:
- Num 1, 2 be omitted.

1. This army was necessary for the protection of God's testimony—1:1-3.
 - Num 1:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the Tent of Meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
 - Num 1:2 Take the sum of all the assembly of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head.
 - Num 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all who are able to go forth for military service in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their companies.
 2. The children of Israel were formed into an army able to fight for the protection of God's testimony:
 - a. According to the picture in Numbers, the army was encamped around the tabernacle to protect the sphere, the realm, in which the tabernacle was erected—2:2.
 - Num 2:2 The children of Israel shall encamp each by his own standard with the ensigns of their fathers' households; they shall encamp facing the Tent of Meeting on every side.
 - b. God viewed the children of Israel in the wilderness as an army fighting for His testimony—Exo. 12:41, 51; 13:18.
 - Exo 12:41 And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.
 - Exo 12:51 And on that very day Jehovah brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.
 - Exo 13:18 Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt.
 - c. Apparently, the children of Israel were fighting for themselves; actually, they were fighting for God's testimony on earth, for among them was the Tabernacle of the Testimony, God's dwelling place on earth.
 3. In this warfare there were two main functions: the function of fighting the enemies and the function of maintaining the tabernacle, which represented God's testimony in the universe—Num. 1:1-3; 21:1-3.
 - Num 1:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the Tent of Meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
 - Num 1:2 Take the sum of all the assembly of the children of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head.
 - Num 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all who are able to go forth for military service in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their companies.
 - Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
 - Num 21:2 And Israel made a vow to Jehovah and said, If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.
 - Num 21:3 And Jehovah listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. Thus the name of the place was called Hormah.
- D. In the forming of the house of Israel into a fighting army, we see the principle revealed in Genesis 1:26-28:
- Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
 - Gen 1:27 And God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
 - Gen 1:28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.

1. God desires a corporate man to represent Him in subduing and regaining the earth from the usurping hand of Satan—Eph. 4:24.
Eph 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.
 2. God had given Israel a good land called Canaan, but the Israelites had to take this land from the usurping hand of God’s enemy; they had to gain the land by fighting, defeating all the enemies—Num. 21:1-3.
Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
Num 21:2 And Israel made a vow to Jehovah and said, If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.
Num 21:3 And Jehovah listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. Thus the name of the place was called Hormah.
- E. The army of God defeated Sihon the king of the Amorites and Og the king of Bashan—vv. 1-3, 21-35:
- Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
- Num 21:2 And Israel made a vow to Jehovah and said, If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.
- Num 21:3 And Jehovah listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. Thus the name of the place was called Hormah.
- Num 21:21 And Israel sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorites, saying,
Num 21:22 Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into field or into vineyard; we will not drink water from any well. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory.
- Num 21:23 But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. And Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel into the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel.
- Num 21:24 And Israel struck him with the edge of the sword and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the children of Ammon; for the border of the children of Ammon was strong.
- Num 21:25 And Israel took all these cities, and Israel settled in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all her villages.
- Num 21:26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab and taken all his land out of his hand, as far as the Arnon.
- Num 21:27 Therefore those who speak in proverbs say, Come to Heshbon; let it be built, / And let the city of Sihon be established.
- Num 21:28 For fire has gone forth from Heshbon, / A flame from the city of Sihon; / It has consumed Ar of Moab / And swallowed up the high places of the Arnon.
- Num 21:29 Woe to you, O Moab! / You have perished, O people of Chemosh; / He has given his sons as fugitives, / And his daughters have gone into captivity, / To an Amorite king, Sihon.
- Num 21:30 We have shot at them; / Heshbon is ruined as far as Dibon, / And we have laid waste as far as Nophah, / Fire spreads as far as Medeba.
- Num 21:31 Thus Israel settled in the land of the Amorites.
- Num 21:32 And Moses sent some to spy out Jazer. And they captured its villages and dispossessed the Amorites who were there.
- Num 21:33 And they turned and went up on the way that leads to Bashan; and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, for battle at Edrei.
- Num 21:34 And Jehovah said to Moses, Do not fear him, for I have given him and all his people and his land into your hand; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon the king of the Amorites, who was dwelling at Heshbon.
- Num 21:35 So they struck him and his sons and all his people until there was no survivor left to him, and they possessed his land.

1. The kings of Arad (v. 1), of the Amorites (v. 21), and of Bashan (v. 33) were the “gate guards” on the east of the Jordan, guarding the land of Canaan, the kingdom of darkness, for Satan.
 - Num 21:1 And when the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.
 - Num 21:21 And Israel sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorites, saying,
 - Num 21:33 And they turned and went up on the way that leads to Bashan; and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, for battle at Edrei.
 2. In order for the children of Israel to enter into the good land, they had to pass through the territory controlled by these kings and had to fight against them, destroy them, and take over their territory.
 3. This signifies that in order to enjoy the unsearchably rich Christ, the church must defeat and take over the territory of the enemies signified by these kings—Eph. 3:8; 6:10-12.
 - Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
 - Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.
 - Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,
 - Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
- F. In the typology of the Old Testament, Canaan has two aspects:
1. On the positive side, Canaan, a land of riches (Deut. 8:7-10), typifies the all-inclusive Christ with His unsearchable riches (Col. 1:12; Eph. 3:8).
 - Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;
 - Deut 8:8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;
 - Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.
 - Deut 8:10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.
 - Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
 - Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
 2. On the negative side, Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the kingdom of Satan:
 - a. As the ruler of this world (John 12:31) and as the ruler of the authority of the air (Eph. 2:2), Satan has his authority (Acts 26:18) and his angels (Matt. 25:41), who are his subordinates as principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12); hence, Satan has his kingdom (Matt. 12:26), the authority of darkness (Col. 1:13).
 - John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.
 - Eph 2:2 In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;
 - Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.
 - Matt 25:41 Then He will say also to those on the left, Go away from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
- Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- b. The Canaanites typify the fallen angels, the rebellious angels who follow Satan (Rev. 12:4, 7), who have become the powers, rulers, and authorities in Satan’s kingdom (cf. Dan. 10:13, 20).
- Rev 12:4 And his tail drags away the third part of the stars of heaven, and he cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bring forth, so that when she brings forth he might devour her child.
- Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels.
- Dan 10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me for twenty-one days; but now Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I remained there alone with the kings of Persia.
- Dan 10:20 Then he said, Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; so I go forth, and the prince of Javan is now about to come.
- c. The fighting of the children of Israel against the Canaanites that they might possess and enjoy the good land typifies the spiritual warfare of the church as a whole, including all the members, against “the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies” (Eph. 6:12) so that the saints may enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive land.
- Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.
- d. The church must be such a corporate warrior, fighting against Satan’s aerial forces so that God’s people may gain more of Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ, establishing and spreading the kingdom of God so that Christ can come back to inherit the earth—Matt. 16:27-28; Rev. 11:15; 12:10.
- Matt 16:27 For the Son of Man is to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will repay each man according to his doings.
- Matt 16:28 Truly I say to you, There are some of those standing here who shall by no means taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.
- Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.
- Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
- G. The entire Bible shows us one thing—that God’s intention is to have a people formed into an army to take Christ as their meaning of life, testimony, center, Leader, way, and goal and to proceed on and fight for God so that He may have the ground on earth and have a people built up as His kingdom and His house, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem—Gen. 1:26-28; Exo. 12:41, 51; 13:18; Matt. 16:16-19; Eph. 6:10-12; Rev. 17:14; 19:11-16; 21:2, 10-11.
- Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

Gen 1:27 And God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.

Exo 12:41 And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:51 And on that very day Jehovah brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.

Exo 13:18 Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt.

Matt 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Matt 16:17 And Jesus answered and said to him, Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in the heavens.

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matt 16:19 I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

Rev 17:14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and they who are with Him, the called and chosen and faithful, will also overcome them.

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sits on it called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Rev 19:12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written which no one knows but Himself.

Rev 19:13 And He is clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is called the Word of God.

Rev 19:14 And the armies which are in heaven followed Him on white horses, dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

Rev 19:15 And out of His mouth proceeds a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He will shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

Rev 19:16 And He has on His garment and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.