

# Numbers 04 - Moving the Tabernacle

## I. Preparation of the first generation at Sinai to enter Canaan (Num 1:1—10:36)

- (1) Organization of Israel (Num 1:1—4:49)
  - (B) Organization of the priests (Num 3:1—4:49)
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## Numbers 4

- (b) Census and responsibilities (Num 4:1-49)
  - (i) Responsibilities (4:1-33)
    - (a) Kohathites (4:1-20)

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

1 The LORD told Moses and Aaron,

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

2 "Take a census of the descendants of Kohath from among the sons of Levi, by their families, by their fathers' households,

2 "Take a census of the descendants of Kohath from among the sons of Levi, by their families, by their fathers' households,

2 "Take a census of the descendants of Kohath from among the descendants of Levi according to their tribes and ancestral houses

2 Take the sum of the sons of Kohath from among the sons of Levi, after their families, by the house of their fathers,

3 from thirty years old and upward, even to fifty years old, everyone who can enter the service of *ministry* to do work in the tent of meeting.

3 from thirty years and upward, even to fifty years old, all who enter the service to do the work in the tent of meeting.

3 from 30 years and older through the age of 50 years, from everyone who can enter the service to perform work at the Tent of Meeting.

3 From thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all that enter into the host, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.

- For the Levitical ministry described here, a Levite was to be between 30 and 50 years of age. The purpose of counting Levite males from the age of one month and older (3:39-41), then, was purely for the sake of the redemption of the firstborn of Israel.

— The age of 30 for the minimum age of priestly service was still the custom centuries later. However, the Levites could and did serve in various capacities at younger ages (Num 8:24).

4 This is the work of the descendants of Kohath in the tent of meeting, *concerning* the most holy things.

4 This is the work of the descendants of Kohath in the tent of meeting, *concerning* the most holy things.

4 "Here's what the descendants of Kohath are to do regarding the Tent of Meeting and what's inside the Most Holy Place:

**4** This shall be the service of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation, about the most holy things:

**5** "When the camp sets out, Aaron and his sons shall go in and take down the veil of the curtain, and cover the ark of the testimony with it;

**5** "When the camp sets out, Aaron and his sons shall go in and they shall take down the veil of the screen and cover the ark of the testimony with it;

5 When the camp is about to travel, Aaron and his sons are to come and take down the veil of the curtain and cover the Ark of the Testimony with it.

5 And when the camp setteth forward, Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it:

6 and they shall place a covering of fine leather on it, and spread over it a cloth of pure violet, and insert its carrying poles.

6 and they shall lay a covering of porpoise skin on it, and shall spread over *it* a cloth of pure blue, and shall insert its poles.

6 They are to set a leather-dyed skin covering over it, cover it with a pure blue cloth, and then insert its poles.

6 And shall put thereon the covering of badgers' skins, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves thereof.

- First, the Kohathites were to be employed

- To Aaron and his sons fell the awesome task of lowering the veil (the shielding curtain, v5) and placing it over the ark along with hides and cloths (v5-6)

- The reasons were:

  - (1) To guard the holy ark from the gaze of human eyes (v20)

  - (2) To protect it from the elements

- The only ones who ever saw the articles that belonged in the Holy of Holies—the ark and the mercy seat—were Aaron and his sons

- Those articles were carefully covered by Aaron and his sons before the Kohathites came to carry them

7 Over the table of *the bread of the Presence* they shall also spread a cloth of violet and put on it the dishes, the pans, the sacrificial bowls, and the jugs for the drink offering; and the continual bread shall be on it.

7 Over the table of the bread of the Presence they shall also spread a cloth of blue and put on it the dishes and the pans and the sacrificial bowls and the jars for the drink offering, and the continual bread shall be on it.

7 "They are to spread a blue cloth over the table of the Presence and on top of it the dishes, pans, bowls, pitchers for drink offerings, and the bread of presence are to be on it continually.

7 And upon the table of shewbread they shall spread a cloth of blue, and put thereon the dishes, and the spoons, and the bowls, and covers to cover withal: and the continual bread shall be thereon:

8 And they shall spread over them a cloth of scarlet *material*, and cover the same with a covering of fine leather, and they shall insert its carrying poles.

8 They shall spread over them a cloth of scarlet *material*, and cover the same with a covering of porpoise skin, and they shall insert its poles.

8 They are to spread over them a scarlet cloth and a leather-dyed skin covering and then insert its poles.

8 And they shall spread upon them a cloth of scarlet, and cover the same with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put in the staves thereof.

- They were to do the same with the table of showbread (v7) with all its vessels, the lampstand (v9), and all the other articles used in tabernacle worship (v12)

- They were to clean the great bronze altar of burnt offering of its ashes and cover it and its utensils with a cloth and hides (v13-14)

- To all these heavy objects Aaron and his sons were to attach the appropriate carrying poles (v6,8,11,14) or frames (v10,12)

9 Then they shall take a violet cloth and cover the lampstand for the light, along with its lamps, its tongs, its trays, and all its oil containers, by which they attend to it;

9 Then they shall take a blue cloth and cover the lampstand for the light, along with its lamps and its snuffers, and its trays and all its oil vessels, by which they serve it;

9 "They are to take a blue cloth and cover the lamp stand for the light with its lamp, lamp-snuffers, censer, and all the utensils for its oil with which they minister.

9 And they shall take a cloth of blue, and cover the [lampstand] of the light, and his lamps, and his tongs, and his snuffdishes, and all the oil vessels thereof, wherewith they minister unto it:

10 and they shall put it and all its utensils in a covering of fine leather, and put it on the carrying bars.

10 and they shall put it and all its utensils in a covering of porpoise skin, and shall put it on the carrying bars.

10 Then they are to put them with all the other utensils on the leather-dyed skin covering and set them on the beams for transport.

10 And they shall put it and all the vessels thereof within a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put it upon a bar.

11 Over the golden altar they shall spread a violet cloth, and cover it with a covering of fine leather, and they shall insert its carrying poles;

11 Over the golden altar they shall spread a blue cloth and cover it with a covering of porpoise skin, and shall insert its poles;

11 "On the golden altar, they are to spread a blue cloth, cover it with a leather-dyed skin covering, and then insert its poles.

**11** And upon the golden altar they shall spread a cloth of blue, and cover it with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put to the staves thereof:

12 and they shall take all the utensils of service, with which they serve in the sanctuary, and put *them* in a violet cloth and cover them with a covering of fine leather, and put them on the carrying bars.

12 and they shall take all the utensils of service, with which they serve in the sanctuary, and put them in a blue cloth and cover them with a covering of porpoise skin, and put them on the carrying bars.

12 Then they are to take all the utensils for service with which they minister at the sanctuary, set them on the blue cloth, cover them with the leather-dyed skin covering, and then set them on the beams for transport.

12 And they shall take all the instruments of ministry, wherewith they minister in the sanctuary, and put them in a cloth of blue, and cover them with a covering of badgers' skins, and shall put them on a bar:

13 Then they shall clean away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth over it.

13 Then they shall take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth over it.

13 They are also to remove the ashes on the altar and spread a purple cloth over it.

13 And they shall take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple cloth thereon:

14 They shall also put on it all its utensils by which they serve in connection with it: the firepans, the forks, shovels, and the basins, all the utensils of the altar; and they shall spread a cover of fine leather over it and insert its carrying poles.

14 They shall also put on it all its utensils by which they serve in connection with it: the firepans, the forks and shovels and the basins, all the utensils of the altar; and they shall spread a cover of porpoise skin over it and insert its poles.

14 Then they are to put all the instruments with which they minister there—trays, forks, shovels, bowls, and all the utensils of the altar. They are to spread over it a leather-dyed skin covering and then insert its poles.

14 And they shall put upon it all the vessels thereof, wherewith they minister about it, even the censers, the fleshhooks, and the shovels, and the basons, all the vessels of the altar; and they shall spread upon it a covering of badgers' skins, and put to the staves of it.

15 When Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy *objects* and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is to set out, after that the sons of Kohath shall come to carry *them by the poles*, so that they will not touch the holy *objects* and die. These are the things in the tent of meeting that the sons of Kohath are to carry.

15 When Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy *objects* and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is to set out, after that the sons of Kohath shall come to carry *them*, so that they will not touch the holy *objects* and die. These are the things in the tent of meeting which the sons of Kohath are to carry.

15 "When Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the utensils of the sanctuary, and the camp is about to travel, then the descendants of Kohath are to come and carry them, but they are not to touch the most sacred objects, so they won't die. These are the duties of the descendants of Kohath at the Tent of Meeting."

15 And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die. These things are the burden of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation.

**16** "Now the responsibility of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is the oil for the light, the fragrant incense, the continual grain offering, and the anointing oil—the responsibility of all the tabernacle and everything that is in it, with the sanctuary and its furnishings."

**16** "The responsibility of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is the oil for the light and the fragrant incense and the continual grain offering and the anointing oil—the responsibility of all the tabernacle and of all that is in it, with the sanctuary and its furnishings."

**16** "Now the duty of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest is to maintain the oil for the light, the spiced incense, the daily offerings, and the oil for anointing, to carry out all the duties of the tent and the sanctuary, and to maintain its utensils."

**16** And to the office of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest pertaineth the oil for the light, and the sweet incense, and the daily meat offering, and the anointing oil, and the oversight of all the tabernacle, and of all that therein is, in the sanctuary, and in the vessels thereof.

- Eleazar was to supervise the entire procedure and to see that the oils, incense, and grains were properly handled

**17** Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

**17** Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

**17** Then the LORD told Moses and Aaron,

**17** And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

18 "Do not let the tribe of the families of the Kohathites be eliminated from among the Levites.

18 "Do not let the tribe of the families of the Kohathites be cut off from among the Levites.

18 "You are not to eliminate the tribe of the families of the descendants of Kohath from the descendants of Levi.

18 Cut ye not off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites from among the Levites:

19 Rather, do this for them so that they will live and not die when they approach the most holy *objects*: Aaron and his sons shall go in and assign each of them to his work and to his load;

19 But do this to them that they may live and not die when they approach the most holy *objects*: Aaron and his sons shall go in and assign each of them to his work and to his load;

19 But do this for them so that they may live and not die when they approach the Most Holy Place: Aaron and his sons are to go in and set specific responsibilities for each of

them to carry out.

19 But thus do unto them, that they may live, and not die, when they approach unto the most holy things: Aaron and his sons shall go in, and appoint them every one to his service and to his burden:

20 but they shall not come in to see the holy *objects* even for a moment, or they will die."

20 but they shall not go in to see the holy *objects* even for a moment, or they will die."

20 But they are not to go in to see the sanctuary as it is being covered, so they won't die."

20 But they shall not go in to see when the holy things are covered, lest they die.

(b) Gershonites (4:21-28)

21 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

21 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

21 Then the LORD told Moses,

21 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

22 "Take a census of the sons of Gershon also, by their fathers' households, by their families;

22 "Take a census of the sons of Gershon also, by their fathers' households, by their families;

22 "Take a census of the descendants of Gershon according to their ancestral house and tribes.

22 Take also the sum of the sons of Gershon, throughout the houses of their fathers, by their families;

23 from thirty years old and upward to fifty years old you shall count them: all who can enter to perform service, to do the work in the tent of meeting.

23 from thirty years and upward to fifty years old, you shall number them; all who enter to perform the service to do the work in the tent of meeting.

23 Count their number from between 30 to 50 years old, including everyone who can enter the service to perform work at the Tent of Meeting."

23 From thirty years old and upward until fifty years old shalt thou number them; all that enter in to perform the service, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.

24 This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, in serving and in carrying:

24 This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, in serving and in carrying:

24 "These are the responsibilities that the descendants of Gershon are to have:

24 This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, to serve, and for burdens:

25 they shall carry the curtains of the tabernacle and the tent of meeting *with* its covering and the covering of fine leather that is on top of it, and the curtain for the entrance of the tent of meeting,

25 they shall carry the curtains of the tabernacle and the tent of meeting *with* its covering and the covering of porpoise skin that is on top of it, and the screen for the doorway of the tent of meeting,

25 They are to carry the curtain of the tent, the covering of the Tent of Meeting, the dyed leather covering that goes over it, the curtain for the entrance to the Tent of Meeting,

25 And they shall bear the curtains of the tabernacle, and the tabernacle of the congregation, his covering, and the covering of the badgers' skins that is above upon it, and the hanging for the door of the tabernacle of the congregation,

- The Gershonites were charged with transporting the non wooden parts of the tabernacle and outer court, including coverings, curtains, ropes, and other related equipment

- This was under the supervision of Ithamar the priest (v28)

26 and the curtains of the courtyard, the curtain for the entrance of the gate of the courtyard that is around the tabernacle and the altar, and their ropes and all the equipment for their service; and everything that is to be done by them, they shall perform.

26 and the hangings of the court, and the screen for the doorway of the gate of the court which is around the tabernacle and the altar, and their cords and all the equipment for their service; and all that is to be done, they shall perform.

26 the hangings for the courtyard, the curtain for the entrance to the gate of the courtyard that surrounds the tent, the altar, the ropes, all the service utensils, and everything made for them. This is to be their service area.

26 And the hangings of the court, and the hanging for the door of the gate of the court, which is by the tabernacle and by the altar round about, and their cords, and all the instruments of their service, and all that is made for them: so shall they serve.

27 All the service of the sons of the Gershonites, that is, all their loads and all their work, shall be *performed* at the command of Aaron and his sons; and you shall assign to them as a duty all their loads.

27 All the service of the sons of the Gershonites, in all their loads and in all their work, shall be *performed* at the command of Aaron and his sons; and you shall assign to them as a duty all their loads.

27 The descendants of Gershon are to carry out the instructions of Aaron and his sons. You are to assign them their responsibilities to carry out.

**27** At the appointment of Aaron and his sons shall be all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, in all their burdens, and in all their service: and ye shall appoint unto them in

charge all their burdens.

28 This is the service of the families of the sons of the Gershonites in the tent of meeting; and their duties *shall be* under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

28 This is the service of the families of the sons of the Gershonites in the tent of meeting, and their duties *shall be* under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

28 This is the work of the tribes of Gershon at the Tent of Meeting—their duties under the supervision of Ithamar, the son of Aaron the priest.

28 This is the service of the families of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the congregation: and their charge shall be under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

(c) Meriarites (4:29-33)

**29** "As for the sons of Merari, you shall count them by their families, by their fathers' households;

**29** "As for the sons of Merari, you shall number them by their families, by their fathers' households;

**29** "For the descendants of Merari, number them according to their tribes and ancestral houses

**29** As for the sons of Merari, thou shalt number them after their families, by the house of their fathers;

30 from thirty years old and upward, even to fifty years old, you shall count them, everyone who can enter the service to do the work of the tent of meeting.

30 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, you shall number them, everyone who enters the service to do the work of the tent of meeting.

30 from 30 to 50 years old as you count them, including everyone who can enter service and perform work at the Tent of Meeting.

30 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old shalt thou number them, every one that entereth into the service, to do the work of the tabernacle of the congregation.

- The wood and metal parts of the tabernacle complex were delegated to the Merarites

- Ithamar was supervisor of this part of tabernacle transportation as well as the nonwooden parts (v33)

31 Now this is the duty of their loads, for all their service in the tent of meeting: the boards of the tabernacle, its bars, its pillars, and its bases,

31 Now this is the duty of their loads, for all their service in the tent of meeting: the boards of the tabernacle and its bars and its pillars and its sockets,

31 This is to be their area of responsibility to carry out with respect to their service at the Tent of Meeting: the board of the tent, its bars, its crossbars, its sockets,

31 And this is the charge of their burden, according to all their service in the tabernacle of the congregation; the boards of the tabernacle, and the bars thereof, and the pillars thereof, and sockets thereof,

32 and the pillars around the courtyard and their bases, their pegs, and their ropes, with all their equipment and with all their service; and you shall assign by names *of the men* the items that each is to carry.

32 and the pillars around the court and their sockets and their pegs and their cords, with all their equipment and with all their service; and you shall assign *each man* by name the items he is to carry.

32 the pillars around the courtyard, their sockets, their pegs, their ropes, and all the utensils for all their services. Assign the utensils by name to each person whose responsibility it will be to carry them.

32 And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords, with all their instruments, and with all their service: and by name ye shall reckon the instruments of the charge of their burden.

33 This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, according to all their service in the tent of meeting, under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest."

33 This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, according to all their service in the tent of meeting, under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest."

33 This is the work of the tribes of the descendants of Merari with reference to their service at the Tent of Meeting under the supervision of Aaron the priest's son Ithamar."

33 This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, according to all their service, in the tabernacle of the congregation, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

(ii) Census (4:34-49)

(a) Kohathites (4:34-37)

**34** So Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of the congregation counted the sons of the Kohathites by their families and by their fathers' households,

**34** So Moses and Aaron and the leaders of the congregation numbered the sons of the Kohathites by their families and by their fathers' households,

**34** Moses, Aaron, and the congregational leaders numbered the descendants of Kohath according to their tribes and ancestral houses

**34** And Moses and Aaron and the chief of the congregation numbered the sons of the Kohathites after their families, and after the house of their fathers,

35 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who could enter the service for work in the tent of meeting.

35 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tent of meeting.

35 from 30 to 50 years old—that is, everyone who entered the service to perform work at the Tent of Meeting.

35 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation:

36 Their numbered men by their families were 2,750.

36 Their numbered men by their families were 2,750.

36 The total according to their tribe numbered 2,750

36 And those that were numbered of them by their families were two thousand seven hundred and fifty.

37 These were the numbered men of the Kohathite families, everyone who was serving in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron counted according to the commandment of the LORD through Moses.

37 These are the numbered men of the Kohathite families, everyone who was serving in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD through Moses.

37 from the tribe of the descendants of Kohath, everyone who would be serving at the Tent of Meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to what the LORD had said, under the supervision of Moses.

37 These were they that were numbered of the families of the Kohathites, all that might do service in the tabernacle of the congregation, which Moses and Aaron did number according to the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

*(b) Gershonites (4:38-41)*

**38** And the numbered men of the sons of Gershon by their families and by their fathers' households,

**38** The numbered men of the sons of Gershon by their families and by their fathers' households,

**38** The tribes and the ancestral houses of the descendants of Gershon were numbered

**38** And those that were numbered of the sons of Gershon, throughout their families, and by the house of their fathers,

39 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who could enter the service for work in the tent of meeting—

39 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tent of meeting.

39 from 30 to 50 years old; that is, everyone who entered the service to perform work at the Tent of Meeting.

39 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation,

40 their numbered men by their families, by their fathers' households, were 2,630.

40 Their numbered men by their families, by their fathers' households, were 2,630.

40 The total according to their tribes and ancestral house numbered 2,630

40 Even those that were numbered of them, throughout their families, by the house of their fathers, were two thousand and six hundred and thirty.

41 These were the numbered men of the families of the sons of Gershon, everyone who was serving in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron counted according to the commandment of the LORD.

41 These are the numbered men of the families of the sons of Gershon, everyone who was serving in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD.

41 from the tribes of the descendants of Gershon, everyone who would be serving at the Tent of Meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to what the LORD had said.

41 These are they that were numbered of the families of the sons of Gershon, of all that might do service in the tabernacle of the congregation, whom Moses and Aaron did number according to the commandment of the LORD.

(c) Meriarites (4:42-45)

**42** And the numbered men of the families of the sons of Merari by their families, by their fathers' households,

**42** The numbered men of the families of the sons of Merari by their families, by their fathers' households,

**42** The tribes and ancestral house of Merari were numbered

**42** And those that were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, throughout their families, by the house of their fathers,

43 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who could enter the service for work in the tent of meeting—

43 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tent of meeting.

43 from 30 to 50 years old; that is, everyone who entered the service to perform work at the Tent of Meeting.

43 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that entereth into the service, for the work in the tabernacle of the congregation,

44 their numbered men by their families were 3,200.

44 Their numbered men by their families were 3,200.

44 The total according to their tribes numbered 3,200

44 Even those that were numbered of them after their families, were three thousand and two hundred.

45 These were the numbered men of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron counted according to the commandment of the LORD through Moses.

45 These are the numbered men of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD through Moses.

45 from the tribes of the descendants of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to what the LORD had said, under the supervision of Moses.

45 These be those that were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

*(d) Levites (4:46-49)*

**46** All the numbered men of the Levites, whom Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of Israel counted, by their families and by their fathers' households,

**46** All the numbered men of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron and the leaders of Israel numbered, by their families and by their fathers' households,

**46** The total of those who were numbered from the descendants of Levi by Moses and Aaron; that is, from the leaders of Israel counted according to their tribes and ancestral houses

**46** All those that were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron and the chief of Israel numbered, after their families, and after the house of their fathers,

47 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who could enter to do the work of service and the work of carrying in the tent of meeting—

47 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who could enter to do the work of service and the work of carrying in the tent of meeting.

47 from 30 to 50 years old, who entered the service for work at the Tent of Meeting

47 From thirty years old and upward even unto fifty years old, every one that came to do the service of the ministry, and the service of the burden in the tabernacle of the congregation,

48 their numbered men were 8,580.

48 Their numbered men were 8,580.

48 was 8,580.

48 Even those that were numbered of them, were eight thousand and five hundred and fourscore.

49 According to the commandment of the LORD through Moses, they were counted, everyone by his serving or carrying; so *these were* his numbered men, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

49 According to the commandment of the LORD through Moses, they were numbered, everyone by his serving or carrying; thus *these were* his numbered men, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

49 They were numbered under the supervision of Moses according to what the LORD had said. Each person was assigned a responsibility to carry out, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

**49** According to the commandment of the LORD they were numbered by the hand of Moses, every one according to his service, and according to his burden: thus were they numbered of him, as the LORD commanded Moses.

- The wood and metal parts of the tabernacle complex were delegated to the Merarites  
- Ithamar was supervisor of this part of tabernacle transportation as well as the non-wooden parts (v33)

- The total number of Levites involved in this work was 8,580; 2,750 Kohathites, 2,630 Gershonites, and 3,200 Merarites (v44)

### **Levites**

Gershonites: 7,500    2,630

Kohathites: 8,600    2,750

Merarites: 6,200    3,200

**Total            22,300    8,580**