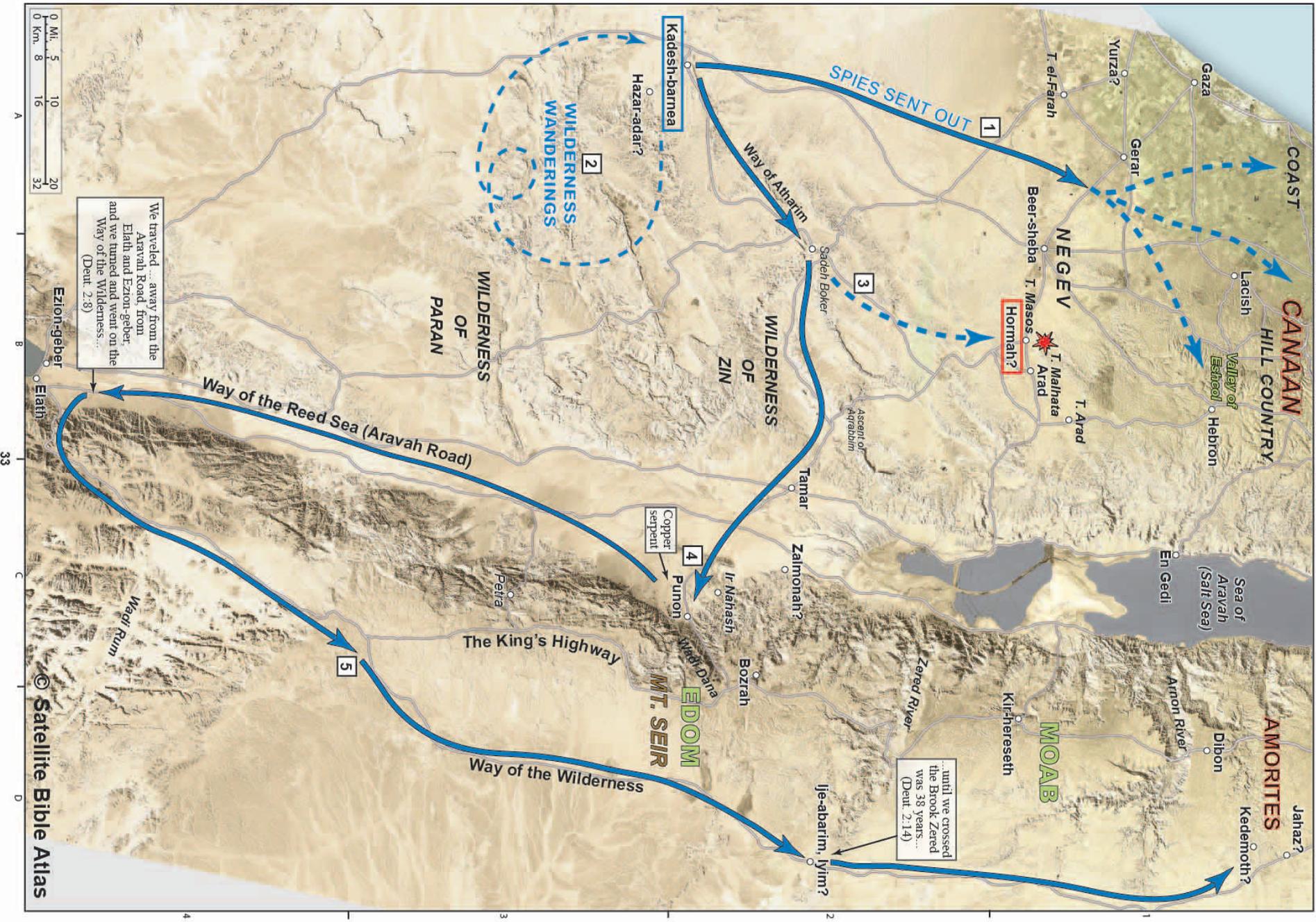


The Ecclesia in the Wilderness

Journey to the Promised Land

Ben O'Grady - Christchurch North Ecclesia - 2020

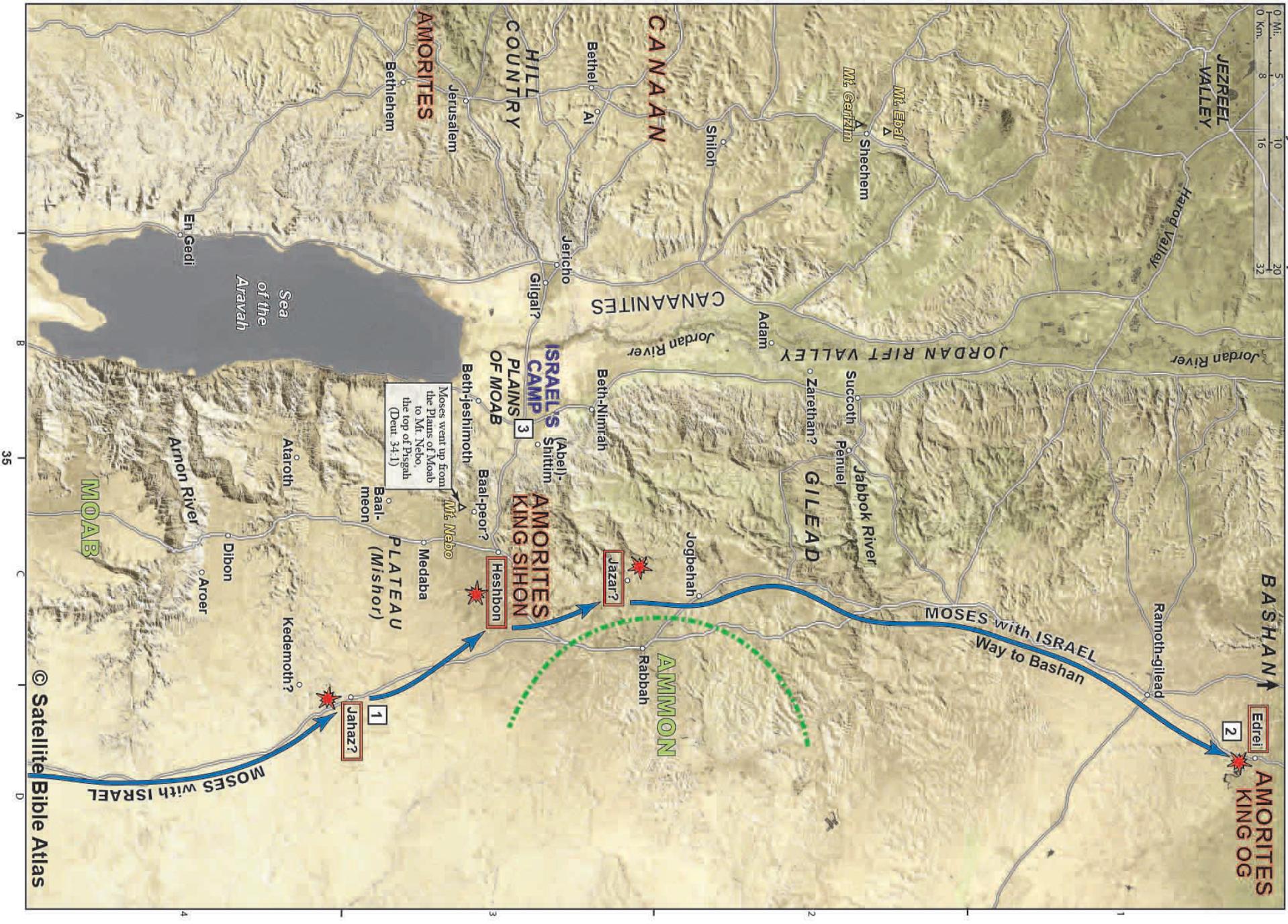




We traveled... away from the Aravah Road, from Elath and Ezion-geber, and we turned and went on the Way of the Wilderness. (Deut. 2:8)

...until we crossed the Brook Zered was 38 years. (Deut. 2:14)

Copper serpent



TIMELINE – THE ECCLESIA IN THE WILDERNESS – JOURNEY TO THE PROMISED LAND

| | Date in Wilderness | Event | Place | Reference | Details |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|---|---|
| Egypt to Sinai – Two Months | 14th day, 1st M, 1st Year | Passover | Egypt | Exodus 12 | Introduction to the Passover – formation of the Qahal and Edah, first born of Egypt slain, driven out of Egypt |
| | 15th/1/01 | Leave Egypt | Ramses | Num 33:3 | |
| | | Red Sea | Red Sea | Exodus 14-15 | Trapped at the Red Sea, protected by the cloud, saved by Moses right arm, baptised into Moses, Pharaoh and his army destroyed |
| | 3 days journey | Bitter waters healed | Marah | Ex 15:23-26 | Bitter waters healed by a tree |
| | | Oasis of hope | Elim | Ex 15:27 | Sanctuary at Elim – 12 wells, 70 palm trees |
| | 15/2/01 | Manna | Wilderness of Sin | Ex 16:1- | Wilderness of Sin, manna provided, plus quail that evening, but manna that sustained them |
| | | Water from the struck rock | Rephidim | Ex 17:1-7 | First time water from the rock – struck and brought water. Called Massah and Meribah |
| | | Battle with Amalek | Rephidim | Ex 17:8-16 | Amalek attack, chose men, tomorrow fight with Amalek, Moses with rod of God in my hand, Moses hands held up by two others |
| Mt Sinai – 11 Months | 14/3/01 | Arrive at Sinai | Sinai | Ex 19:1-2 | Arrive at Sinai – same day gone forth out of Egypt v1 (suggest the 14th) |
| | | Jethro and Zipporah to Israel | Mount of God | Ex 18:1-27 | |
| | | 11 Months at Sinai | Sinai | Deut 5:1-33 | Substantial movement from Moses up and down the mountain in the first few months (Note separate detailed breakdown.) |
| | | Fellowship Meal – Moses, Aaron, Elders and the Elohim | Sinai | Ex 24:1-18 | Fellowship – Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and the 70 with the Elohim |
| | | Golden Calf | Sinai | Ex 32:1-35 Deut 9:8-21 | Golden Calf |
| | | Glory Revealed | Sinai | Ex 33 -34 | Yahweh revealed – the Glory |
| | | 2nd table of stone provided | Sinai | Deut 10:1-5 | |
| | | Tabernacle Formed | Sinai | Ex 35:20-ch36:8, ch 38:21-31, ch 39:32-43 | The gifts for the Tabernacle, the work of making– many contributions, under divine guidance |
| | 1/1/02 | Tabernacle set up and Ark brought in | Sinai | Ex 40:2, 17-38 | Rearing up of the Tabernacle – First day of the 2nd year. Yahweh's glory fills the Tabernacle (cp parallels to Solomon's temple) |
| | 1/1/02 | Princes offering | Sinai | Num 7:1-89 | 12 days of offerings – on the day tabernacle reared up – at the end of – a voice from the mercy seat – Num 8:3 Lampstand lit |
| | After tabernacle set up | Consecration of Aaron and Sons | Sinai | Lev 8:1-9:24 | Consecration of Aaron and His Sons as Priests -Lev 8:33 – consecrated 7 days, fire of Yahweh consumes the offering |
| | | Nadab and Abihu – Slain | Sinai | Lev 10:1-20 Num 3:4-6 | Nadab and Abihu – strange incense – in the Wilderness of Sinai (no children – this event only noted in Numbers) - From privilege (Ch 8.) to destruction. (Ch 10.) |
| | | Day of Atonement Instituted | Sinai | Lev 16:1,29 | Day of Atonement instituted after the death of Aaron's two sons |
| | 14/1/02 | Passover kept | Sinai | Num 9:1-14 | First Passover in the wilderness |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| | 1/2/02 | Israel numbered | Sinai | Num 1-2:34 | Israel numbered at Sinai – those over 20 years old. But not the Levites – they are appointed over the tabernacle – and pitch around the tabernacle |
| | | Levi numbered | Sinai | Num 3:1-51 | Levi separately numbered and used to redeem the first born |
| | | Levites offered as an offering | Sinai | Num 8:21-26 | In place of first born – Num 3:43 |
| From Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea – 11 months | 20/2/02 | Leave Sinai | To Paran | Num 10:11-36 Deut 1:6-8, v19-45 | Cloud taken up off the tabernacle of the testimony |
| | At that time | Structure in the nation | As leave Sinai | Deut 1:9-18 | Order of rulers established to carry the load, as Moses unable to by himself |
| | | Jethro leaves | As leave Sinai | Num 10:29-32 Ex 18:27 | Appears to leave from reviewing all references, although stays to assist for a while |
| | | | | Deut 1:19 | Through great and terrible wilderness to Kadesh-Barnea |
| | | Complainers burnt by Yahweh's fire | Taberah | Num 11:1-3 Deut 9:22 | |
| | | Mixt multitude lust for meat – given quails | Kibroth-Hattaavah | Num 11:4-35 Deut 9:22 | 2nd giving of quail – but in judgement |
| | | 70 anointed with the spirit | Kibroth-Hattaavah | Num 11:11-17, v25-30 Deut 1:9-18 | |
| | | Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses | Hazereth | Num 12:1-16 | Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses. Yahweh intervenes, Cloud lifted off the Tabernacle, Miriam leperous, Moses interceeds, healed, the congregation could not journey until she was restored after 7 days v15 |
| | | Only 11 days journey | | | 11 Days Journey from Sinai to Kadesh - But pitched camp 21 times between Sinai and Kadesh – Num 33:16-36 |
| | End of 2nd Year | 10 spies evil report consigns Israel to a further 38 years in the wilderness | Wilderness of Paran Kadesh Barnea | Num 13:1-ch14 Deut 1:19-46 Deut 9:23-25 | Ten unfaithful spies consign Israel to 38 years more wandering - Deut 2:14, 2 faithful spies overridden – note Hebrews 3 - lack of faith, generation consigned to not enter the land, offenders slain, 10 spies die of plague, try to move forward without God and smitten unto Hormath |
| Kadesh-Barnea and the Wilderness of Zin – 37 Years | | Abode in Kadesh many days | | Deut 1:46 | Likely based around Kadesh Barnea (a large Oasis) with need to head to neighbouring oasis to feed their flocks and herds. |
| | | Korah, Dathan and Abiram | | Num 16 | Korah, Dathan and Abiram plus 250 princes of the assembly, famous, men of renown. Gathered against Moses and Aaron V21 – God threatens to consume this congregation – Moses and Aaron interceed. Earth swallows them and those who stayed, fire consumes the 250 who offered strange incense. Congregation blame Moses and Aaron – ye have Killed the People of Yahweh – 14000 dead in the plague |
| | | Aarons rod buds | | Num 17: | Aarons rod buds – Yahweh – I will cause to cease from me the murmurings of the Children of Israel whereby they murmur against you... Into the Ark of the Testimony |
| | | Blasphemer stoned | | Lev 24:10-23 | Late in Leviticus – but no time period. Have suggested the 37 year period based on positioning in Leviticus. |

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| 1st month/40 | Miriam dies | Kadesh | Num 20:1 | In the first month is the 1st month of the 40th Year – TSK refers – Cp Num 20:28, Num 33:38, Deut 1:3 |
| 40th year | Moses smites the Rock the 2nd time | Kadesh | Num 20:2-13 | Speak unto – the rock – Moses and Aaron strike the rock Water of Meribah – In Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin... (not the Meribah of Ex 17 – but connected via titles) |
| | Request to King of Edom denied – to Mt Hor | Kadesh | Num 20:14-22; Deut 2:1-13 | Denied by the King of Edom results in Israel going back through the Wilderness including the Baal Peor temptation. As a result, take East of the Jordan as an extension of the inheritance. Judges 11:15-23 |
| 01/05/40 | Death of Aaron | Mt Hor | Num 20:23-29; Num 33:38 | Aaron stripped of his garments, passed to Eleazar. All Israel mourn for 30 days. |
| | Arad of Caanan destroyed | Hormah | Num 21:1-3 | Avenges the battle lost at the time of the ten spies |
| | Fiery Serpents and the Brazen Serpent lifted up | By way of Red Sea – towards Ezion-Geber | Num 21:4-9 | Have to head back into the harsh and barren wilderness to compass Eden – soul of the people much discouraged because of the way. Complain – to die in the wilderness, soul loathes the light bread - fiery serpents Brazen serpent lifted up -looked on in faith delivers |
| | Journey from Ezion-Geber to borders of the land | Wilderness | Num 21:10-20; Deut 2:13-23 | |
| 38 years from Kadesh | Crossing brook Zared | Ammon | Deut 2:14 | All the previous generation had died |
| | Smiting of Sihon and Og | Ammon | Num 21:21-35; Deut 1:4; Deut 2:24-ch 3:11 Deut 29:7-8 | Starts conquest of the land – already in what became the extension of the land of Israel, although not yet crossed over Jordan. Note poetry/song – sense of poetry – joy... Num 21:17-18, v27-30 |
| | Balak, Balaam | Baal Peor | Num 22-24 | |
| | The Disaster of Baal Peor and Phinehas | Shittim – Baal Peor | Num 25 | Baal Peor – on the edge of the promised land – 24000 dead from the generation who could go in – Deut 2:14 Phinehas intervenes and receives the everlasting covenant |
| | Israel numbered | Plains of Moab, By Jordan near Jericho | Num 26: | V4 – compared to the number of those who left Egypt. Inheritance in the land for each tribe based on numbers of those who survived the wilderness. V63-65 – Not a man numbered by Moses and Aaron at Sinai left - save Caleb and Joshua. Simeon decimated – Num 25:14 – Zimri, Chief of Simeon, Manasseh growth |
| | Daughters of Zelophehad | | Num 27:1-11 | |
| | Joshua to succeed Moses | | Num 27:12-23 | But Moses death not noted in Numbers. |
| | Midianites spoiled and Balaam slain | | Num 31: | V16-through the counsel of Balaam.... V50 – In addition to Yahweh's portion – a voluntary offering brought V54 – became a memorial before Yahweh |
| | Reuben and Gad given inheritance on East side of Jordan | | Num 32 Deut 3:12-22 Deut 4:45-49 | |
| | Borders of Israel given | | Num 34 | |
| | Daughters of Zelophahad -inheritance | | Num 36 | Given a confirmation of their inheritance |

| | | | | |
|---------|--|----------------|--------------|--|
| 1/11/40 | Moses words in Deuteronomy | | Deut 1:1-4 | After slew Sihon and Og |
| | Blessing of the Tribes | | Deut 33 | |
| | Death of Moses | | Deut 34 | Shown all the land but cannot go in. Israel mourn for 30 days. |
| | Joshua appointed to succeed Moses | | Deut 34:9 | |
| | The Nation crosses over Jordan | | Josh 3-4 | |
| 14/1/41 | Kept the Passover in the Land | Gilgal | Josh 5:10-12 | Kept the Passover in the promised land as encamped at Gilgal, ate of the old fruit of the land, manna ceased |
| 14/1/41 | 40 Year Wilderness Journey Ceases | | Josh 5:10-12 | At exactly 40 years... |
| | Summary of Israel's full journeys through the wilderness | The Wilderness | Num 33 | Num 33:1- The Journeys – Breaking up camp Num 33:50-56 – So they could inherit the land. |

THE FOUR WILDERNESS JOURNEY BOOKS PLUS JOSHUA

- Exodus – (Egypt to Sinai - Escape from Egypt). Giving of the law, with a particular focus on the Tabernacle (Priests as related to the Tabernacle)
- Leviticus – (Not time or place specific - Only one event – Nadab and Abihu is in relation to the offerings). Theme of the Offerings (Priests as related to the Offerings)
- Numbers – (2nd year at Sinai to the end of the Wilderness) - The Numbering of Israel – Beginning and End. Numbers focuses on the events which impacted the numbers in Israel – because that impacted the inheritance received
- Deuteronomy – Given in the final month of the Wilderness Journey - Lessons learnt from the Wilderness – standing at the edge of the Kingdom – Key themes - the 2nd Covenant and Yahweh's ability to save – conquest of the land and Moses as the intercessor
- Joshua -Taking the Inheritance

TIMELINE OF EVENTS AT SINAI

1. 14/3/01 – Ex 19:1 – Arrive in Sinai
2. **1st ascent** into the Mount by Moses – unto God - Ex 19:3
3. Moses back to the people – speaks God’s words – confirms agreement – Ex 19:7-8
4. **2nd ascent** by Moses – v8 (returns the words of the people to God – cp v10 go unto the people, v14 – Moses went down from the Mount).
5. Three days of sanctification of the people, bounds set on the mount – v10-15
6. Yahweh’s presence on the Mount and the trumpet - His voice calls Moses up – v16-20
7. **3rd ascent** by Moses – v20
8. Sent back down lest the people broke onto the mount – v21-25. Moses back with the people
9. Yahweh’s voice gives the 10 commandments – Ex 20:1
 - a. Sends the people afar off in fear. V18-19
 - b. Called the day of assembly – Deut 9:10
 - c. Ex 20:22 – so Israel could see God talked with Moses
10. **4th ascent** - Draws nigh unto God – in the thick darkness Ex 20:21-22 (ascended but not fully up the mount – cp Ex 24:1). Moses draws near to God – into the thick darkness and God provides the detailed law. Ex 21-23
11. Moses - returns to the People and provides God’s words and covenant to them, an altar and 12 pillars (for the tribes of Israel) at the base of the hill. Make offerings and commit to the covenant. Ex 24:4-8
12. **5th ascent** – Moses, with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and 70 elders...Ex 24:9-11 - A meal of fellowship – typifying the Kingdom
13. Moses ascends higher into the Mount, with Joshua – appears to be two levels of the Mount.



14. Cloud covers the mountain for six days – on the 7th day calls to Moses out of the cloud. V17 Fire of Yahweh’s presence visible to Israel – as devouring fire.
15. Moses ascends into the mount (part of the 5th ascent from points 12-14 – away for 40 days).
16. The plan and details of the Tabernacle – including consecration of the priests - given during the 40 days. Ex 25:1-17
17. Ten commandments written in stone provided to Moses at the end of the 40 days – Ex 31:18
18. The Golden Calf – based on Moses delay for 40 days – how could they!!! Ex 32:1-6
19. Moses told to get down the mount because Israel have corrupted themselves – God threatens to destroy Israel and Moses intercedes the 1st time. Ex 32:7-14
20. Moses returns down the mountain – Breaks stone tables, grinds calf to straw and Israel drink it, Levi slays 3000 people- Ex 32:15-29
21. **6th ascent** – On Moses initiation – to intercede for Israel – Ex 32:30-35 – accepted but people plagued. An intercession of 40 days including for Aaron. Deut 9:18-20, v25-29.
22. Ex 33:1- Yahweh would send an angel before them, but would no longer be in their midst. (Ex 33:2-3).
23. Tabernacle – reared up – Ex 35-40, cp Ex 33:4-23 – but away from the congregation – afar off. Moses intercedes to have Yahweh’s presence go with them (not just an angel) and is accepted.
24. **7th ascent** – Deut 10:5, 8-10 – Moses hews two new tables of stone, and makes an ark of shittim wood and God replaces the broken 10 commandments on them. Another 40 day period. The Yahweh name is declared and Moses responds to that with a request for Yahweh to go among them, not afar off. Is accepted by Yahweh. Ex 34.
25. Moses face shines when he returns from the presence of Yahweh – Ex 34:29-35

Numberings of Israel - Start and End of the Wilderness - The Impact on the Inheritance

| Start Numbers 1: | | End Numbers 26: | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| | | 1st day/2 month/2 year | After Baal Peor - 40th year | Notes | Movement during wildernes wanderings | % Change |
| Num 1: | | | Num 26: | | | |
| v21 | Reuben | 46,500 | v7 | 43,730 | - | 2,770 -6% |
| v23 | Simeon | 59,300 | v14 | 22,200 | Impact of Baal Peor. | - 37,100 -63% |
| v25 | Gad | 45,650 | v18 | 40,500 | | - 5,150 -11% |
| v27 | Judah | 74,600 | v22 | 76,500 | | 1,900 3% |
| v29 | Issachar | 54,400 | v25 | 64,300 | | 9,900 18% |
| v31 | Zebulon | 57,400 | v27 | 60,500 | | 3,100 5% |
| v33 | Joseph - Ephraim | 40,500 | v37 | 32,500 | Manasseh reversed order and # on Ephraim | - 8,000 -20% |
| v35 | Manasseh | 32,200 | v34 | 52,700 | Note reversed order and number. Num 34:23-24 | 20,500 64% |
| v37 | Benjamin | 35,400 | v41 | 45,600 | | 10,200 29% |
| v39 | Dan | 62,700 | v42 | 64,400 | Dan -not in Rev 7 list. Family of the Shuhamites | 1,700 3% |
| v41 | Asher | 41,500 | v47 | 53,400 | | 11,900 29% |
| v43 | Naphtali | 53,400 | v50 | 45,400 | | - 8,000 -15% |
| | Total | 603,550 | | 601,730 | | - 1,820 0% |
| | | | v51 | 601,730 | v53 | NB - Inheritance divided by the last numbers - those who made it to the land... v53-56 |
| | | | | - | | |
| Levi - Numbered separately to Israel | | Everyone from a month old and upwards | | | | |
| Num 3:39 | Levi (separately) | 22,000 | | 23,000 | Every male from a month old upward - both times | 1,000 5% |
| | # of Firstborn of Israel | 22,273 | Num 3:43 | Every male from a month old upward | | |
| | Redemption money of firstborn | 1365 | Extra payment made | | | |
| Num 4: | Levi - 30-50 years old | 8580 | Being the age of service. Cp Num 8: Levi from 25-50 | | | |

Impact of Incidents and Controversy in the Wilderness Journey

| Reference | Event | Caused by | Intercessor | Judged | Assisted | I Cor 10: | God's Response | Consequence | # of dead |
|-----------|---|--|---|---|----------|-----------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Ex 14-15 | Trapped at Red Sea | Fear of Egypt, lack of belief | Moses | | | | God opens the Red Sea | Egypt destroyed, Israel into the wilderness | Nil |
| Ex 15 | Marah - Bitter waters | Bitter thirst | Moses | | | | God shews a tree to cast into the water | Saved with water | Nil |
| Ex 16 | Whole congregation murmur | No food | Moses | | | | God provides manna and quail | Manna feeds for next 40 years | Nil |
| Ex 17 | Rephidim - chide and murmur | Bitter thirst | Moses | | | | The Rock struck - Water provided | Water in the desert | Nil |
| Ex 17 | Battle with Amalek | Amalek - smote the feeble - Deut 25:17-18 | Moses, Aaron, Hur and Joshua Moses on multiple occasions | | | | Israel won - when Moses arms held high | Amalek - war from generation to generation | None noted |
| Ex 32 | Golden Calf | Lack of faith in Moses, | including for Aaron | Idolatry - I Cor 10:7 | | | Threat to destroy Israel, Levi slew many | Moses an intercessor, Yahweh's glory and character revealed | 3000, plus a plague |
| Lev 10 | Nadab and Aihu | Offering strange fire | Direct intervention | Individuals | | | Fire from Yahweh destroyed them | I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me | 2 |
| Num 11 | Taberah - complainers | People complained/murmured | Moses | Murmur - I Cor 10:10 | | | Fire from Yahweh burnt among them | Moses interceeds, fire quenched | Consumed in uttermost part of camp |
| Num 11 | Kibroth-Hattavah | Mixed multitude lusting after flesh | Moses | Lusted - I Cor 10:6 | | | Fed from until it came out their nostrils - wrath - a very great plague | Buried the lusters | |
| Num 12 | Miriam and Aaron - against Moses | Used Moses marriage as excuse, but motive was to be great like Moses | Moses | Individuals | | | Leprosy on Miriam | Congregation could not journey | Nil |
| Num 13-14 | Ten Spies - not into land | Lack of faith, reliance on human spies above God | God Himself | Lack of Faith | | | Threat to destroy all Israel, Rejected from entering land, not with them in the battle | All generation would die, 38 more years in the wilderness, wrong attempt to go to land rebuffed | Amalek smote them |
| Num 16 | Korah, Dathan and Abiram | Pride - envy at Moses - the Gainsaying of Korah | God, Eleazar, Aaron - Incense | Pride and Envy - Individuals, to a group, to the nation | | | God proves who are his - earth swallows and fire, plague begun - Aaron's rod buds, threat to destroy all Israel | Yahweh proves who are his. Incredible that congregation blame Moses, Aaron and Moses interceed | Korah and Co 250 by fire 14000 plague |
| Num 20 | Moses wrongly smites the rock | People thirst and chode, Moses reacts in temper | Moses and Aaron | | | | Water brought forth, Moses forbidden from entering land | Loss of Moses | Nil |
| Num 21 | Fiery Serpents | Soul of people discouraged because of the way, lack of faith | Moses | Tempted Christ - I Cor 10:9 | | | Fiery serpents sent, the way of salvation on a pole | Brazen serpent created | Much people |
| Num 21 | Conquer kings of eastern side | In faith | God | | | | Eastern side freed up | | Nil |
| Num 24-25 | Baal Peor and the humbling of the nation to idols | Integration with the nations, manipulated by individuals | Phinehas | Fornication - I Cor 10:8 | | | Plague upon Israel | Baal Peor - plague, some of the 2nd generation destroyed on the edge of the land | 24000 |

