

# Numbers 1:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the children of Asher, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

## Analysis

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Asher's census demonstrates God's inclusion of even the less prominent tribes in His covenant administration. The tribe descended from Leah's handmaid Zilpah received the same careful enumeration and organization as tribes descended from Rachel or Leah directly. This equal treatment across varying family status prefigures the gospel's erasure of ethnic and social distinctions—in Christ there is 'neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free' (Galatians 3:28), as God's electing grace operates independently of human hierarchies.

## Historical Context

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Asher received fertile coastal territory in northwest Canaan, including access to Mediterranean trade. Jacob's blessing promised that Asher's 'bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties' (Genesis 49:20), prophesying agricultural abundance that the tribe's territory provided.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the equal treatment of tribes regardless of maternal lineage illustrate that spiritual standing comes from God's grace, not human pedigree?
2. What does this teach us about the radical equality of all believers in Christ, regardless of background?

## Interlinear Text

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לְבִנֵּי	לְמִשְׁפְּחָתָם	תּוֹלְדָתָם	אֲשֶׁר	מִבָּן
Of the children	of Asher	by their generations	after their families	by the house
H1121	H836	H8435	H4940	H1004
אֲבָתָם	בְּמִסְפֵּת	שְׁמָתָם	לְבִנֵּי	מִשְׁרָם
of their fathers	according to the number	of the names	Of the children	from twenty
H1	H4557	H8034	H1121	H6242
שָׁנָה	כִּלְיָם	עַלְהָה	יְצָא:	אֲבָא:
years	and upward	all that were able to go forth		to war
H8141	H4605	H3605	H3318	H6635

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