

Numbers 1:45

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So were all those that were numbered of the children of Israel, by the house of their fathers, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war in Israel;

Analysis

The summary of 'all those numbered of the children of Israel' emphasizes comprehensiveness in God's knowledge and care. Not one Israelite escaped God's notice or fell outside His providential ordering. This exhaustive documentation prefigures God's intimate knowledge of His people under the New Covenant, where He knows His sheep by name (John 10:3) and numbers even the hairs on their heads (Matthew 10:30). The census thus becomes a physical demonstration of God's omniscient care.

Historical Context

The census counted males twenty years and older, capable of military service (Numbers 1:3). This excluded women, children, and elderly men, meaning Israel's total population was likely 2-2.5 million people—a massive undertaking to organize and sustain in the wilderness.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's exhaustive knowledge of Israel encourage confidence in His personal knowledge of each believer today?
2. What does the census's focus on military-age men teach us about the connection between covenant privilege and covenant responsibility?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	לְכִי	וְ	פָּקָדָה	וְ	מִתְּבָנָה	בִּשְׂרָאֵל:
H1961	H3605		So were all those that were numbered		of the children	in Israel
			H6485		H1121	H3478
לְבִתְּהַ	אַבְתָּה	מִ	מִתְּבָנָה	שָׁנָה	וְ	
by the house	of their fathers	of the children	from twenty	years	and upward	
H1004	H1	H1121	H6242	H8141	H4605	
כָּל	וְ	אַבְתָּה	בִּשְׂרָאֵל:			
H3605		all that were able to go forth	to war	in Israel		
		H3318	H6635	H3478		

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