

# Numbers 26:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These are the families of Manasseh, and those that were numbered of them, fifty and two thousand and seven hundred.

## Analysis

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**These are the families of Manasseh, and those that were numbered of them, fifty and two thousand and seven hundred** — (כִּמְשִׁים וְשָׁנִים אֶלֶף וְשָׁבָע מֵאוֹת) Manasseh's census total of 52,700 represented a dramatic 64% increase from the first census (32,200 in Numbers 1:35), the largest growth of any tribe. This explosion vindicated Jacob's prophecy that Joseph's descendants would become 'a multitude' (Genesis 48:19).

The increase occurred despite 38 years of wilderness judgment, showing God's blessing transcends circumstances. While Ephraim decreased from 40,500 to 32,500, Manasseh surged—the younger remained greater in numbers but the elder grew in percentage terms. This growth prepared them for inheriting the largest territorial allotment, spanning both Transjordan and Cisjordan (Joshua 17:1-13). Frunderfulness proves calling; their numbers matched their geographical destiny.

## Historical Context

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Manasseh's growth from smallest of Joseph's tribes to largest reflects God's sovereignty in population dynamics. Their dual inheritance—Transjordan under Moses, western territory under Joshua—required larger numbers. The eastern half-tribe served as buffer against Aramean and Ammonite threats, while the western half controlled strategic valleys.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does Manasseh's extraordinary growth despite wilderness wandering demonstrate that God's blessing operates even in seasons of corporate discipline?
2. What does the reversal between Ephraim and Manasseh's relative sizes teach about not presuming that early advantage guarantees continued prominence?
3. How might we discern God's calling for our ministries by observing where He grants 'increase' despite difficult circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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שָׁנֶה יְמִין וּפְקֻדָּה דִּיבָּר מִנְשָׁחָה תְּהִלָּה אֵלֶּה  
H428      These are the families      of Manasseh      and those that were numbered      and two  
H4940      H4519      H6485      H8147

מֵאֹתָה: שְׁבָעׁ אַלְפַּיִם יְמִינָה וְלֹהֵם מֵאַלְפַּיִם  
of them fifty      thousand      and seven      hundred  
H2572      H505      H7651      H3967

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