

Numbers 3:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying,

Analysis

God's command to 'Number the children of Levi after the house of their fathers, by their families' establishes that even those consecrated for special service must be carefully organized and counted. The Levitical census differed from the military census (it included all males from one month old, not just those 20+), but it shared the same principle: God knows His servants individually and organizes them systematically for effective service. This careful organization demonstrates that spiritual devotion doesn't negate the need for administrative order.

Historical Context

The Levitical census (Numbers 3:14-39) counted 22,000 males from one month and upward, significantly fewer than the military-age men from other tribes. This smaller number meant the firstborn exceeded the Levites by 273, requiring monetary redemption (Numbers 3:44-51).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the Levitical census demonstrate that spiritual service requires both devotion and administrative organization?
2. What does this teach us about the importance of careful record-keeping and organization in church ministry?

Interlinear Text

לֵאמֹר: סִיגּוּ בְּמִדְבָּר מֵשֶׁה אֶל יִהְיָה וַיֹּאמֶר יְהֹוָה וְיֹאמֶר לְאַדְמָן
spake And the LORD H413 unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai saying
H1696 H3068 H4872 H4057 H5514 H559

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