

# Numbers 3:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses numbered, as the LORD commanded him, all the firstborn among the children of Israel.

## Analysis

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The census of Merarite males from one month old parallels the Kohathite and Gershonite counts, emphasizing that every Levite was numbered and known to God from infancy. The specificity of 6,200 demonstrates God's precise knowledge of His servants. This meticulous accounting reflects the doctrine of divine omniscience—God knows each of His elect by name (John 10:3). The Merarites, though handling the less glorious structural components, were equally essential to tabernacle function, teaching that all spiritual service matters to God.

## Historical Context

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The Merarites were descended from Merari, Levi's youngest son (Genesis 46:11). Though assigned to transport the tabernacle's boards, bars, pillars, and sockets—the structural framework—their work was indispensable. Without them, the beautiful curtains and sacred furniture would have no support.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

1. How does knowing God numbers His servants from infancy encourage your sense of purpose?
2. What 'structural' ministries in the church are often undervalued but essential?
3. How can we cultivate gratitude for unglamorous but necessary service?

## Interlinear Text

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