

# Numbers 31:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(Now the half that pertained unto the congregation was three hundred thousand and thirty thousand and seven thousand and five hundred sheep,

## Analysis

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**(Now the half that pertained unto the congregation was three hundred thousand and thirty thousand and seven thousand and five hundred sheep**—The parenthetical structure marks this as explanatory detail, listing the congregation's exact share: 337,500 **בָּנָה** (tzon, "sheep/small livestock"). The precision demonstrates covenantal accountability—every animal was counted, nothing hidden or misappropriated.

This massive number (half of 675,000 sheep) reveals the extraordinary scale of Midianite wealth and God's judgment upon them. The **בָּנָה** provided wool, milk, meat, and sacrificial animals—sustaining Israel's entire economy. That the non-combatant community received such abundance shows God's provision extends beyond those who directly engage in His battles.

## Historical Context

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The Midianites were prosperous pastoralists controlling trade routes through Transjordan. Their vast flocks represented generational wealth. This single distribution gave each Israelite household multiple sheep, transforming the economic landscape as Israel prepared to settle Canaan. The accounting occurred under Eleazar the priest's supervision, ensuring religious legitimacy.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does the meticulous counting of spoils teach about financial integrity and transparency in God's kingdom?
2. How does the congregation receiving spoils without fighting reflect the doctrine of grace through Christ's victory?
3. What responsibilities come with receiving unearned abundance from God's provision?

## Interlinear Text

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וְתָהָרָה	תְּמִצְצָת	הַנִּעַד	מִן	הַצָּאָת
H1961	Now the half	that pertained unto the congregation	sheep	H6629
	H4275		H4480	
שָׁלַשׁ	מֵאוֹת:	אֶלָף	שְׁבֻעָת	אֶלָף
was three	hundred	thousand	and seven	thousand
H7969	H3967	H505	H7651	H505
מֵאוֹת:	תִּצְמַשׁ			
and five	hundred			
H2568	H3967			

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