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The Rebellion of the Exodus Generation 1:1 to 25:18



The first half of **Numbers** recounts the fate of the old generation of **Israelites** who have been eyewitnesses to **the exodus** out of Egypt and the covenant with **God** made on Mount Sinai. The birth of this first wilderness generation had been marked by a census list already back in the book of **Exodus**. The members of **Jacob's family** who had come down from Egypt were recorded (see the commentary on **Exodus**, [to see link click Ae - The Descendants of Jacob Numbered Seventy in All](#)). The new census lists of **the twelve tribes** of **Isra'el** that appears in **Numbers** marks a major transition in the people's wandering (see [Ai - The First Census: The Old Generation of Rebellion](#)). **They** had been liberated from the bondage of slavery; **they** had received the mitzvot of **YHWH** and entered into a covenant with **Him** at Sinai (see **Exodus Dd - The Mosaic Covenant**). Now, the **exodus** generation was ready to organize and begin its march in earnest toward the promised land of Canaan.⁹