

Simply teaching the Word simply

THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

# 2 Peter OF PETER.



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## Chapter 2

### VS. 10-22

YEAR OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA, CIV. 60.—YEAR OF THE WORLD, CIV. 4064.

#### CHAPTER I.

Confirming them in hope of the increase of God's graces, 1—4, he exhorteth them, by faith and good works, to make their calling sure, 5—11; whereof he is careful to remember them, knowing that his death is at hand, 12—16; and warneth them to be constant in the faith of Christ, who is the true Son of God, by the eye-witness of the apostle beholding his majesty, and by the testimony of the Father, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, 16—21.

**S**IMON Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us, through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of

A.M.4064. A.D.60.	A.M.4064. A.D.60.
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2 Ma. 4.18; John 1.43; 21.15-17; 1Pe. 1.1.	3 1Co. 13. 4-8; Ga. 6.10; Co. 3.14; 1John 4.31.
3 John 12.26; Ro. 1.1.	4 John 5.42; 1Co. 3.14.
4 Ma. 11.49; John 20.21; 21.4-11.	5 Phil. 1.5; Co. 3.7.
5 Ro. 1.15; 1Pe. 1.12.	6 John 15.7; 1Co. 3.15.
6 Ro. 3.17.	7 1Pe. 1.18; 1Th. 2.19.
7 Or, by God and Saviour, Lu. 1.47.	8 ver. 5-7; Mar. 10. 21; Lu. 18.27; Ga. 5.6.
8 Nu. 6.24; Ro. 1.7.	9 John 9.45; 41; 1Co. 4.
9 1s. 63.11; John 17.3.	10 1John 9-11.
10 Ps. 110.2; Mal. 3.18;	11 ch. 3.18-20; 1Pe. 3.21.
1Co. 15.2; Co. 1.16.	A ver. 5.
11 Ps. 94.11; Ro. 8.23.	12 1Th. 3.10; He. 6.11,19; 4 Ro. 8. 28-31; 2 Th. 2.
A ver. 2.	13 14; 1Pe. 1.2.
12 Ro. 8.28-29; 1 Co. 1.9;	14 Since the difference between real and nominal Christians is so great, and since so many take up with a
13 Ep. 4.1; 1Th. 2.13.	
14 Or, by.	
15 Ro. 3.11; Phil. 4.3.	
16 According to, in his almighty power and	

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8 For if these things be in you, and ye shall not make you thereby barren, nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

A verse by verse study...

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>1</sup>But there were false prophets, too, in those days, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly tell their lies about God, turning against even their Master who bought them; but theirs will be a swift and terrible end.*

*<sup>2</sup> Many will follow their evil teaching that there is nothing wrong with sexual sin. And because of them Christ and his way will be scoffed at.*

*<sup>3</sup> These teachers in their greed will tell you anything to get hold of your money. But God condemned them long ago and their destruction is on the way.*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>4</sup> For God did not spare even the angels who sinned, but threw them into hell, chained in gloomy caves and darkness until the judgment day.*

*<sup>5</sup> And he did not spare any of the people who lived in ancient times before the flood except Noah, the one man who spoke up for God, and his family of seven. At that time God completely destroyed the whole world of ungodly men with the vast flood.*

*<sup>6</sup> Later, he turned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into heaps of ashes and blotted them off the face of the earth, making them an example for all the ungodly in the future to look back upon and fear.*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*7-8 But at the same time the Lord rescued Lot out of Sodom because he was a good man, sick of the terrible wickedness he saw everywhere around him day after day.*

*9 So also the Lord can rescue you and me from the temptations that surround us, and continue to punish the ungodly until the day of final judgment comes.*

*10 He is especially hard on those who follow their own evil, lustful thoughts, and those who are proud and willful, daring even to scoff at the Glorious Ones<sup>[a]</sup> without so much as trembling,*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>11</sup> although the angels in heaven who stand in the very presence of the Lord, and are far greater in power and strength than these false teachers, never speak out disrespectfully against these evil Mighty Ones.*

*<sup>12</sup> But false teachers are fools—no better than animals. They do whatever they feel like; born only to be caught and killed, they laugh at the terrifying powers of the underworld which they know so little about; and they will be destroyed along with all the demons and powers of hell.*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>13</sup> That is the pay these teachers will have for their sin. For they live in evil pleasures day after day. They are a disgrace and a stain among you, deceiving you by living in foul sin on the side while they join your love feasts as though they were honest men.*

*<sup>14</sup> No woman can escape their sinful stare, and of adultery they never have enough. They make a game of luring unstable women. They train themselves to be greedy; and are doomed and cursed.*

*<sup>15</sup> They have gone off the road and become lost like Balaam, the son of Beor, who fell in love with the money he could make by doing wrong;*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>16</sup> but Balaam was stopped from his mad course when his donkey spoke to him with a human voice, scolding and rebuking him.*

*<sup>17</sup> These men are as useless as dried-up springs of water, promising much and delivering nothing; they are as unstable as clouds driven by the storm winds. They are doomed to the eternal pits of darkness.*

*<sup>18</sup> They proudly boast about their sins and conquests, and, using lust as their bait, they lure back into sin those who have just escaped from such wicked living.*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>19</sup> “You aren’t saved by being good,” they say, “so you might as well be bad. Do what you like; be free.”*

*But these very teachers who offer this “freedom” from law are themselves slaves to sin and destruction. For a man is a slave to whatever controls him. <sup>20</sup> And when a person has escaped from the wicked ways of the world by learning about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and then gets tangled up with sin and becomes its slave again, he is worse off than he was before. <sup>21</sup> It would be better if he had never known about Christ at all than to learn of him and then afterwards turn his back on the holy commandments that were given to him.*

# 2 Peter :1-22 – The Living Bible

*<sup>22</sup> There is an old saying that “A dog comes back to what he has vomited, and a pig is washed only to come back and wallow in the mud again.” That is the way it is with those who turn again to their sin.*

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

## 2 Peter

- We have obtained 'like precious faith'
- We are to grow in knowledge (x5 in ch1)
- We have precious promises
- ...so that we can become like God in character
  - Faith > Virtue > Knowledge > Temperance > Patience > Godliness > Brotherly Kindness > Love
- Be diligent to let your life demonstrate that you have changed!
- Peter writes to stir up our minds, to make us think about where we came from and where we are going to

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

## 2 Peter

- Peter then reminds us of the certainty of our faith
- He was an eyewitness
- In addition we have prophecy

• **But beware!**

– There will be false prophets who will try to lead you astray!

– Many will get fooled by them!

– They will seem sincere but will undermine the truth of the Word – and those who hold to it!

• **But God will bring judgment upon them!**

– Just as He did the angels that sinned

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

## 2 Peter

- Peter now draws a parallel between the fallen angels (Rev 12 / Gen 6) and these false prophets

### P E T E R .

"It has been urged that the style of this epistle differs from that of St Peter's first epistle; but this is by no means true, except in respect to a part of the second which in fact seems to have been taken, in a measure at least, from some writing which described in very strong language the false prophets of that age, or of earlier which was then extant, and well known, but is now lost. St Jude seems also to have taken some things from it; for part of his epistle greatly coincides with the chapter of this. In all other respects, the internal characters of authenticity are very strong. Some doubts, however, in this respect were entertained in the primitive which Jerome ascribes to the supposed dissimilarity of style. But it is probable that it was written only a short time before the apostle's martyrdom; and, not having been publicly avowed by him, and clearly known to be his during his lifetime, the scrupulous caution of the church hesitated about admitting it into the sacred canon, till evidence fully convinced the most competent judges, that it was entitled to that high distinction. It is generally supposed to have been written at least three or four after the former epistle; and it is evident that primarily it was intended for the same persons, though not expressly addressed to them. It appears that the apostle, epistle, especially designed to put Christians on their guard against the false apostles and teachers who perverted the gospel; and the profane scoffers who started objections to the truth of it; but it is replete with the most important instructions on a variety of subjects."—Scott.

YEAR OF THE CHRISTIAN ÆRA, CCL. 60.—YEAR OF THE ROMAN, CCL. 102.

### CHAPTER I.

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**SIMON**<sup>1</sup> Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us, through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of

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7 And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly-kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

<sup>10</sup> But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. **2 Peter 2:10**

- Uncleaness – morally contaminated
  - With little no moral values
  - Headstrong, self serving
- Despise governments!
  - An alarming trend amongst Christians!
- Presumptuous!
  - Daring, audacious, unconcerned of the consequences

10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. **2 Peter 2:10**

- Self-willed
  - Self-pleasing, arrogant
- They don't just despise government...
- They openly speak against authority
- Remember that Peter says these people shall be 'among you!'

<sup>11</sup> Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

**2 Peter 2:11**

- Jude makes the same point, but gives an incredible example to make his point!

- 8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.
- 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.
- 10a But these speak evil of those things which they know not:

**Jude v8-10**

- 12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;
- 13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you

**2 Peter 2:12-13**

14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

**2 Peter 2:14**

- *“They lust after every girl they see; they view every female as a potential adulteress.” (Green)*
- Notice: it is the unstable souls (those without an anchor) who are deceived
- They are the offspring of previous liberal generations who have undermined the Word of God and it's godly values

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following **the way of Balaam** the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

**2 Peter 2:15-16**

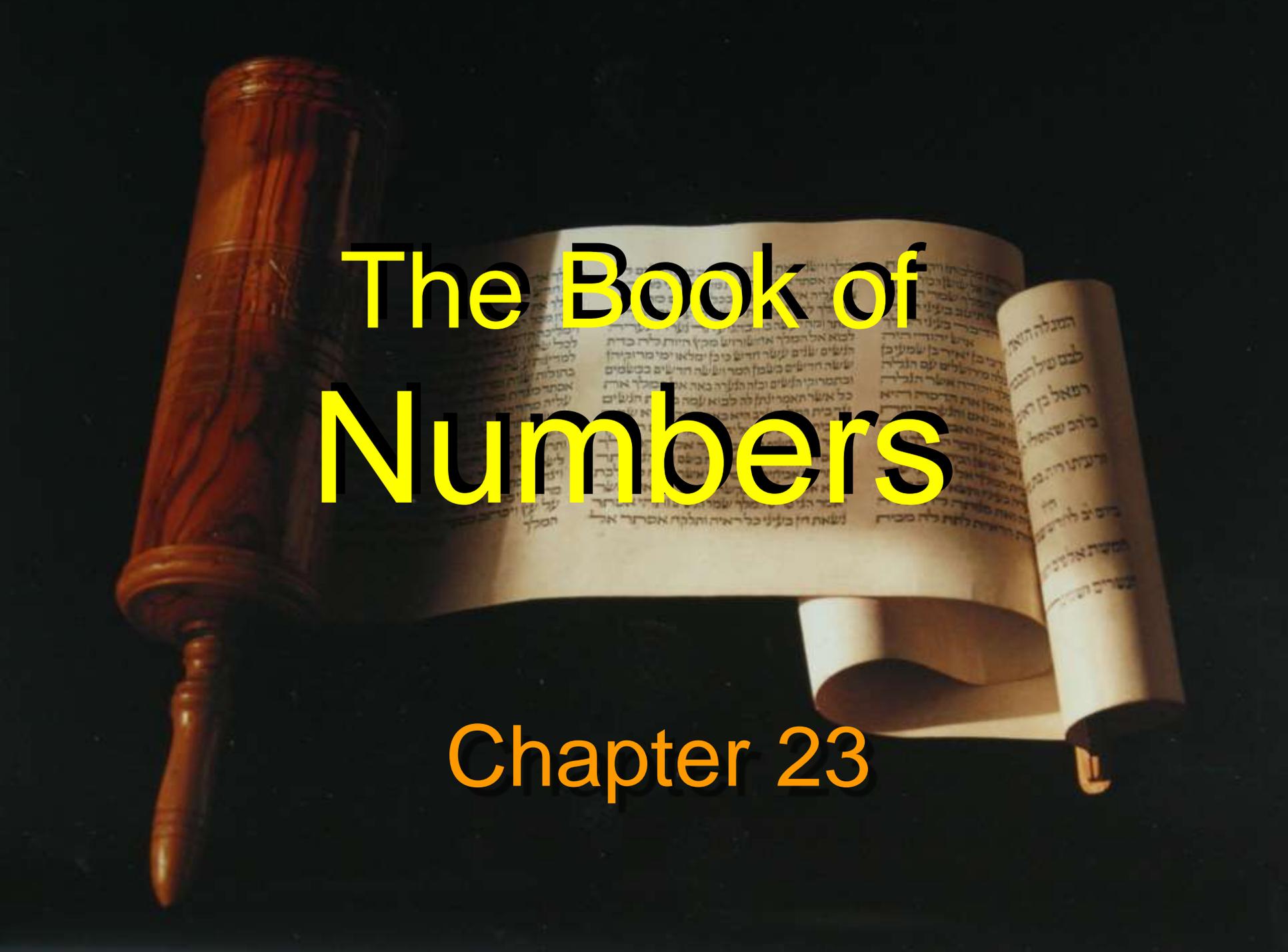
# Balaam – The Enigma

*Did you know that there is more said in Scripture about Balaam than there is about Mary, the mother of Jesus? There is more said about Balaam than about any of the apostles. The New Testament mentions him three times, and each time it is in connection with apostasy. In 2 Peter we are told about the way of Balaam. In Jude we are told about the error of Balaam. In Revelation we are told about the doctrine of Balaam. - J Vernon McGee*

# “The Way of Balaam”

*“The doctrine of Balaam” (Rev 2:14) is different from the error of Balaam (see Jude 11), which revealed that Balaam thought that God would curse Israel because they were sinners. It is also different from the way of Balaam (see 2 Pet. 2:15), which was covetousness”.*

- J Vernon McGee



# The Book of Numbers

## Chapter 23

<sup>1</sup> And Balaam said unto Balak, Build me here seven altars, and prepare me here seven oxen and seven rams.

<sup>2</sup> And Balak did as Balaam had spoken; and Balak and Balaam offered on every altar a bullock and a ram.

<sup>3</sup> And Balaam said unto Balak, Stand by thy burnt offering, and I will go: peradventure the LORD will come to meet me: and whatsoever he sheweth me I will tell thee. And he went to an high place.

**Numbers 23:1-3**

- 'High place'
  - Shrine for pagan worship

4 And God met Balaam: and he said unto him, I have prepared seven altars, and I have offered upon every altar a bullock and a ram.

**Numbers 23:4**

5 And the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak.

6 And he returned unto him, and, lo, he stood by his burnt sacrifice, he, and all the princes of Moab.

**Numbers 23:5-6**

7 And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, saying, Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel.

8 How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, whom the LORD hath not defied?

9 For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.

**Numbers 23:7-9**

- Prophecy #1
  - Dwell alone & not reckoned among the nations

# Dwell Alone

- *The people shall dwell alone* -

“They shall ever be preserved as a distinct nation. This prophecy has been literally fulfilled through a period of 3300 years to the present day. This is truly astonishing”

- Adam Clarke

# Not Reckoned

- Israel only member nation of UN that are not permitted to chair security council
  - Only democracy in the Middle East
- Not recognised by any 'Arab' map

<sup>10</sup> Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

**Numbers 23:10**

- Prophecy #2
  - Israel will be without number (Gen 12)
- Prophecy #3
  - Israel's end will be in blessing

# The Camp of Israel

## Numbers 2

- Every Detail by *Design*?
- What might be hidden behind the details of the Camp of Israel?
- “*The volume of the Book is written of Me*”

*Psalm 40:7; Hebrews 10:7*

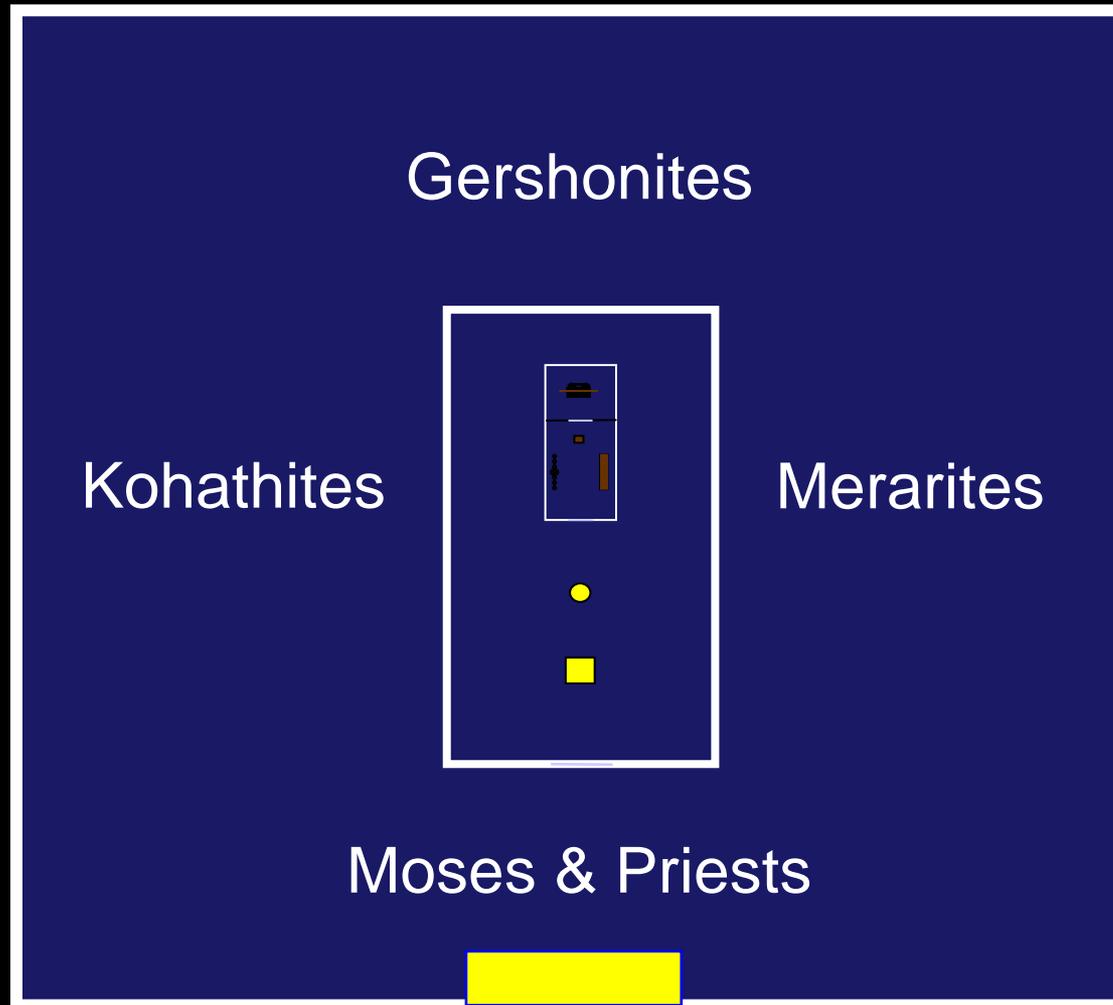
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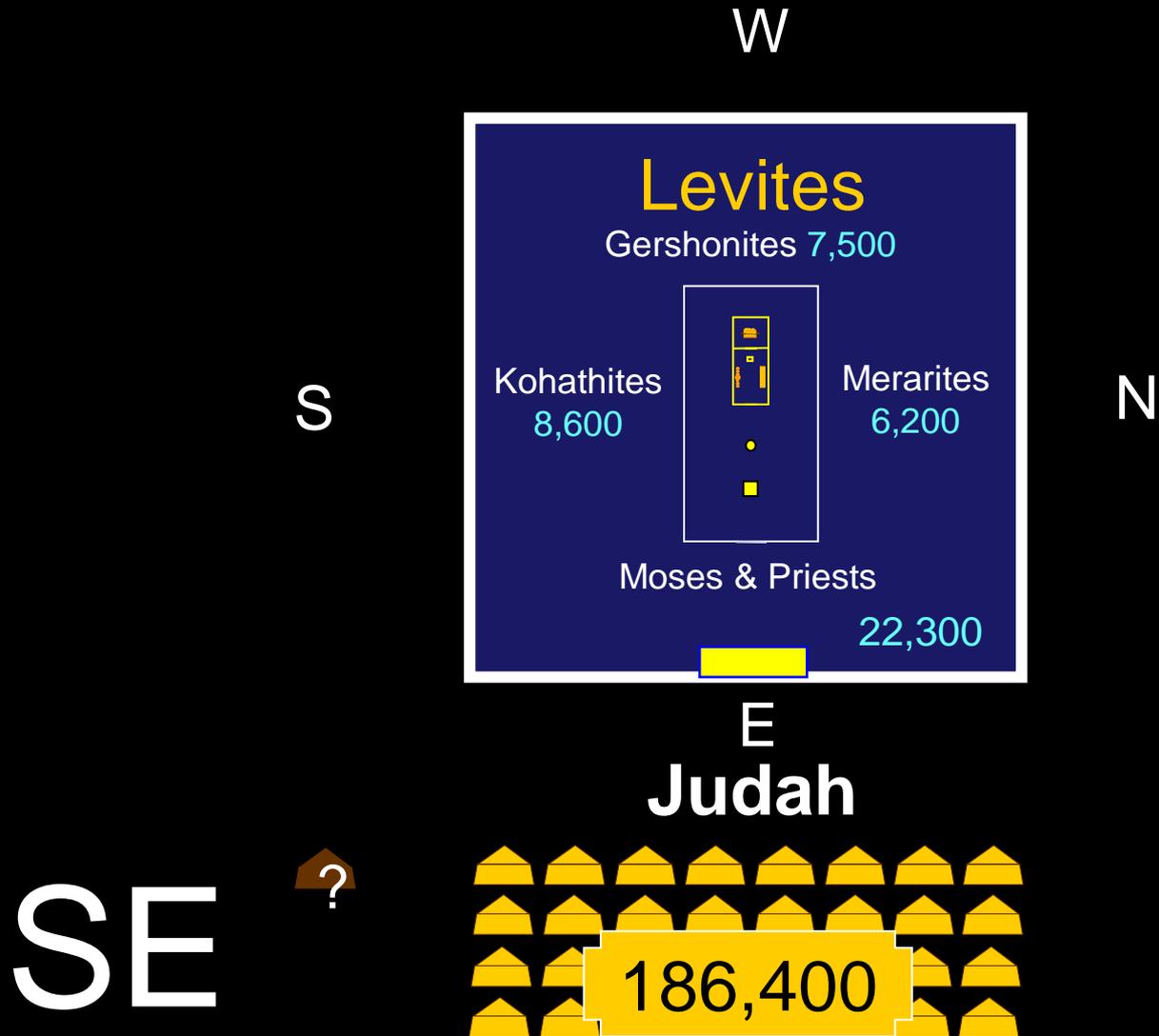
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**Numbers 23:7-9**

# Arrangement of the Camp



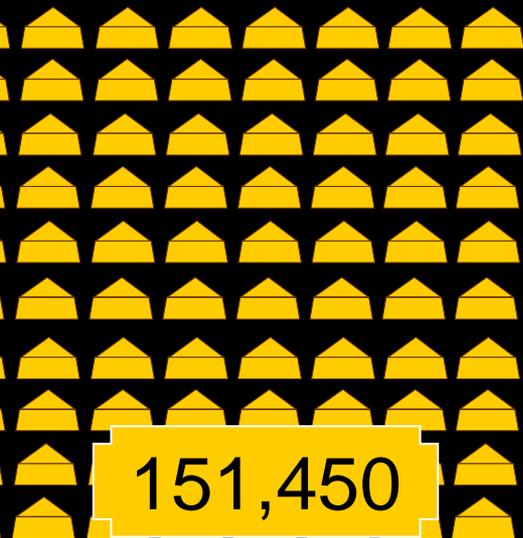
# The Camp of Judah



# Rabbinical Precision

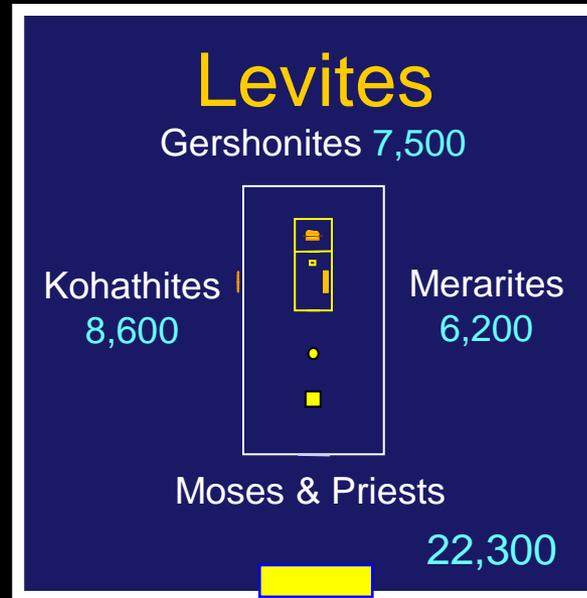
- The Camp of Judah: **East** of Levites
- The Camp of Reuben: **South** of Levites
- Strict obedience denies area **Southeast**
- Thus, only **cardinal directions** ordained
- Only **width** of Levite's camp allowed
- Length **proportional** to population

# The Camp of Reuben



Reuben

151,450



Judah

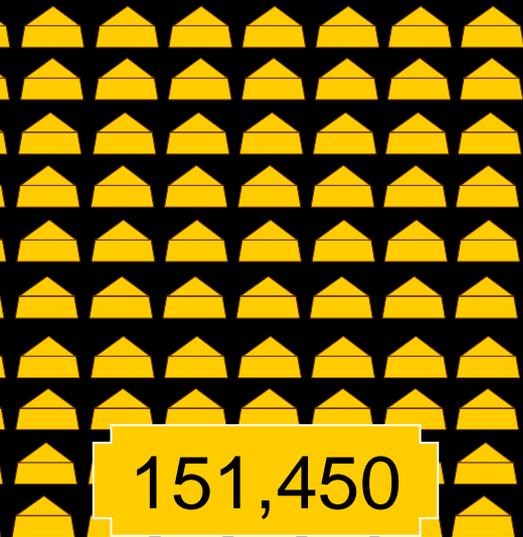


186,400

# The Camp of Ephraim

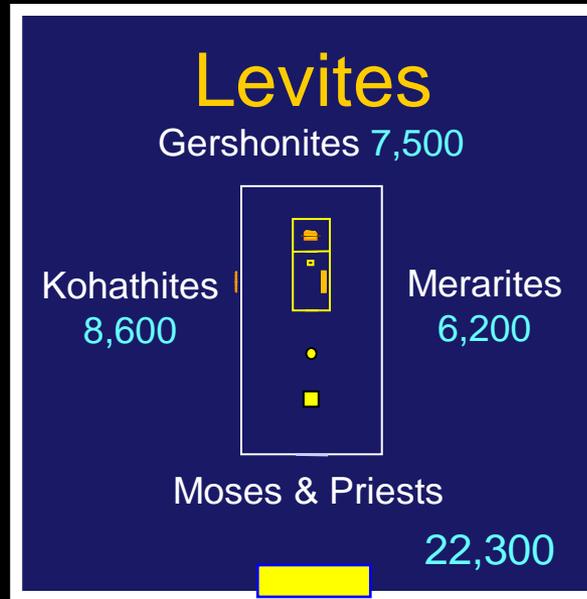


**Ephraim**



**Reuben**

**151,450**



**Judah**

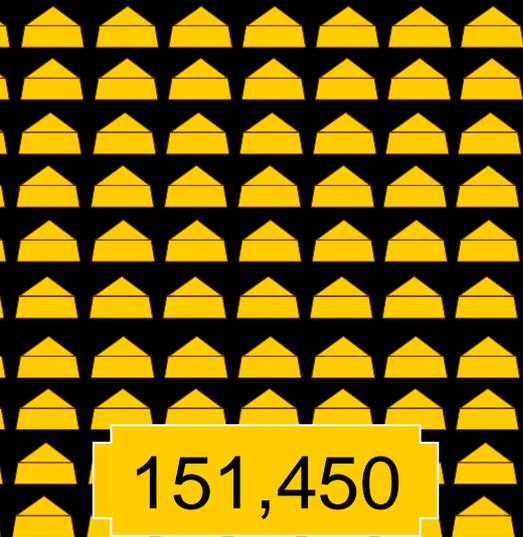


**186,400**

# The Camp of Dan

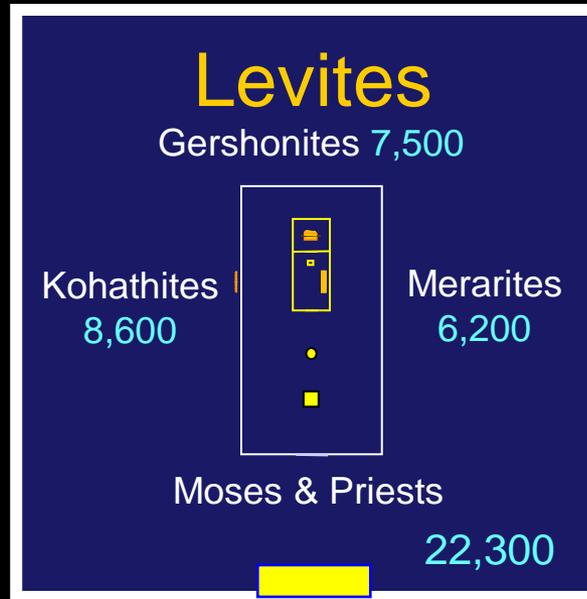


**Ephraim**



**Reuben**

151,450



**Levites**

Gershonites 7,500

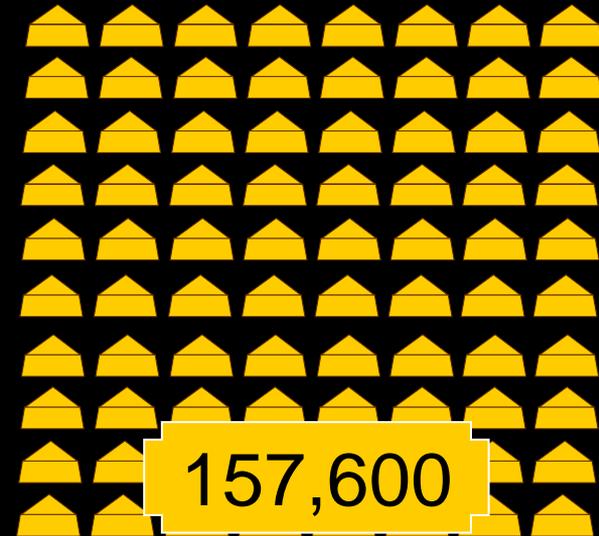
Kohathites  
8,600

Merarites  
6,200

Moses & Priests

22,300

**Dan**



157,600

**Judah**



186,400

# The Camp of Israel

## Numbers 2

<b>Judah</b>	74,600
Issachar	54,400
Zebulun	<u>57,400</u>
	<b>186,400</b>

<b>Ephraim</b>	40,500
Manasseh	32,200
Benjamin	<u>35,400</u>
	<b>108,100</b>

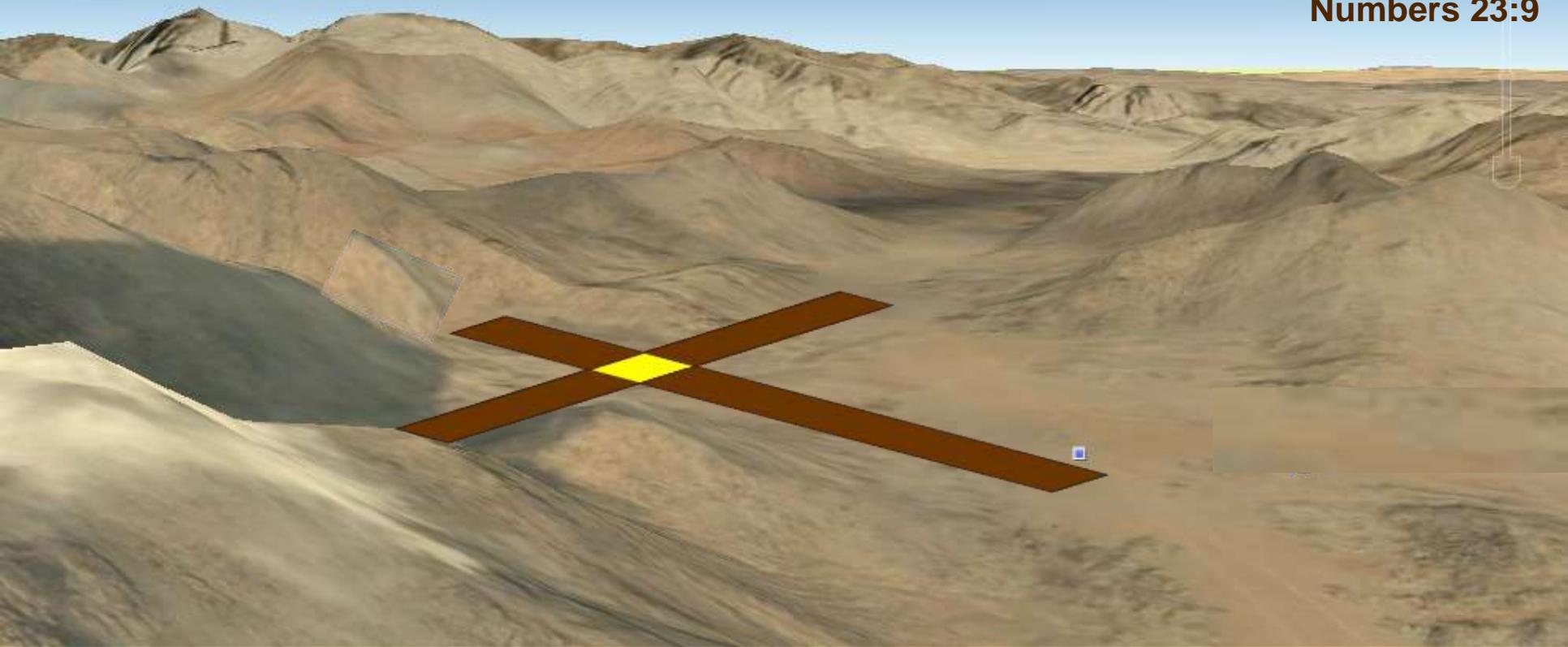
<b>Reuben</b>	46,500
Simeon	59,300
Gad	<u>45,650</u>
	<b>151,450</b>

<b>Dan</b>	62,700
Asher	41,500
Naphtali	<u>53,400</u>
	<b>157,600</b>

# The Camp of Israel – Aerial View

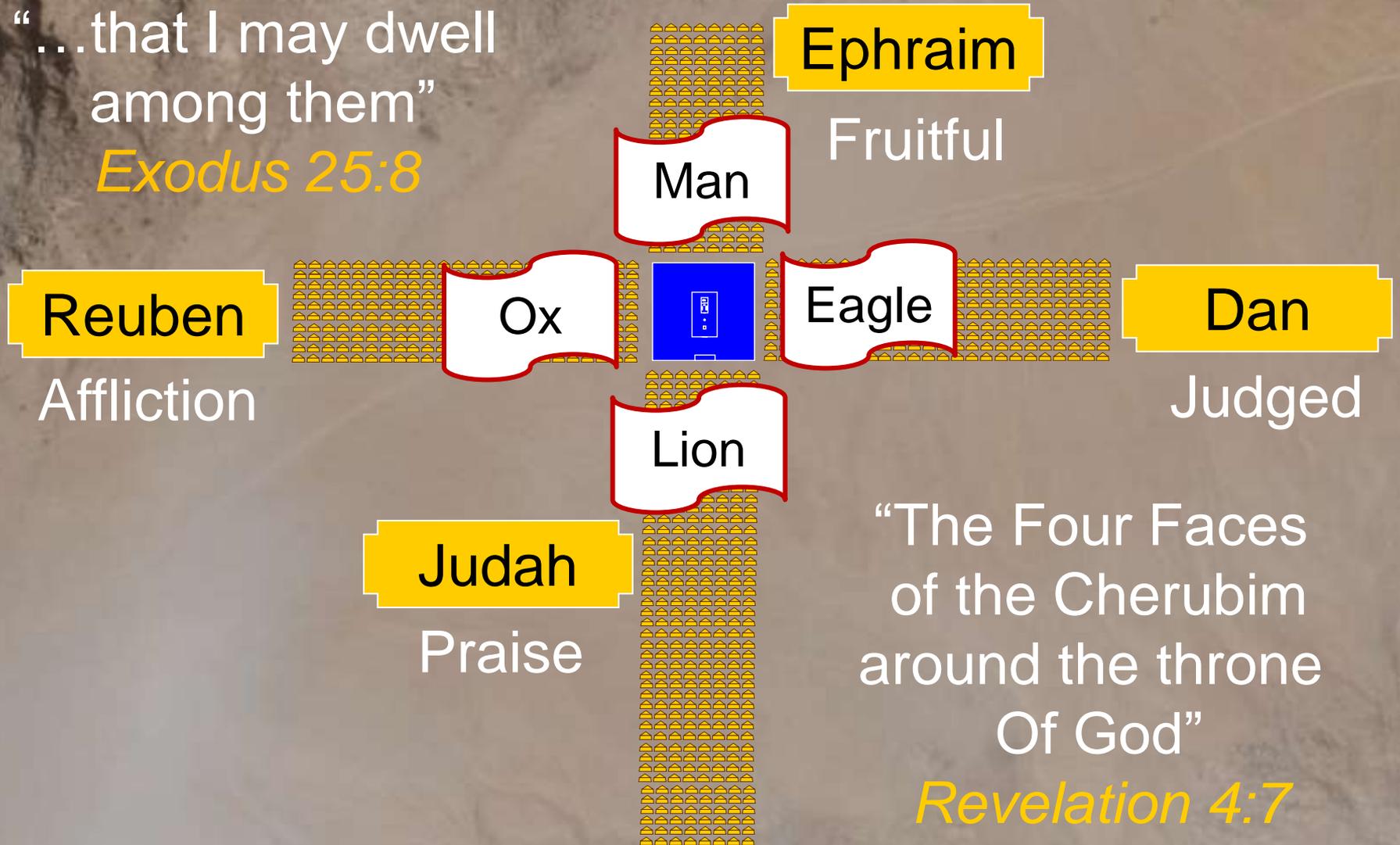
“For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him”

**Numbers 23:9**



# The Camp of Israel

“...that I may dwell  
among them”  
*Exodus 25:8*



# The Design of the Gospels

	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Luke</b>	<b>John</b>
Presents as:	Messiah	Servant	Son of Man	Son of God
Camp Side:	East	West	South	North
Ensign:	Judah	Ephraim	Reuben	Dan
Face:	<b>Lion</b>	<b>Ox</b>	<b>Man</b>	<b>Eagle</b>

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever

**2 Peter 2:17**

- This is the same analogy used by Jeremiah in his warning's to Jerusalem before the Babylonian captivity

# Broken Cisterns

<sup>12</sup> Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD. <sup>13</sup> For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

Jeremiah 2:12-13

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever

**2 Peter 2:17**

- The Eternal Jerusalem will be full of light
- In contrast, eternity apart from God will be dark physically and spiritually

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage

**2 Peter 2:18-19**

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning

**2 Peter 2:20**

- To *know of* Jesus can bring about a temporary change in lifestyle...
- To *know* Jesus brings about an eternal change
  - See Matthew 13:19-22

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them

**2 Peter 2:21**

- To whom much is given...
- *“It is better for a person to have never known a thing about Jesus than to hear some truth, hold to it for a season, and then later reject it. Greater revelation has a greater accountability”.* (Guzik)

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

2 Peter 2:22

- Proverbs 26:11
- *thing about Jesus than to hear some truth, hold to it for a season, and then later reject it. Greater revelation has a greater accountability". (Guzik)*

# THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PETER GENERAL

## Conclusion

- We should be a changed people
  - A chosen generation, a royal priesthood, called out of darkness to proclaim His marvelous light!
- Our attitudes and character should be different from those in the world
- The world - and 'false prophets' within the Church – despise and reject authority and are given over to covetousness
  - “If it makes you happy” / “if it feels good do it”
- Many sincere believers get caught up in ‘the way of the world’ through these religious deceivers
- Remember where you have come from!
- Remember what God has done for you!





calvary  
chapel  
portsmouth

[www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk](http://www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk)