

**THE THIRTY-EIGHT ENCAMPMENTS MADE BY ISRAEL BETWEEN THE RED SEA AND THE JORDAN
(ACCORDING TO NUMBERS CHAPTER 33)**

#	NAME	MEANING OF NAME	other references	SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY
1.	Marah	“Bitter”	Ex. 15:23	
2.	Elim	“Oaks”	Ex. 15:27	12 Springs, 70 Palms
3.	Red Sea	“Reed Sea”		
4.	Wilderness of Sin		Ex. 16:1	Manna given. 2nd Month, 15th day Possible smelting operation
5.	Dophkah	“A Knock”		
6.	Alush	?		
7.	Rephidim also called : Massah & Meri bah	“Expanses, stretches”	Ex. 17:1 & 19:2	Water from the rock in Horeb Moses, Aaron, Hur & Joshua fight the Amalekites
8.	Sinai (Mt.) Also Mt. Horeb		Ex. 19:1 Ex. 40:2 & 17 Num. 1:1, 9:15	Arrive in third month, 10 Commandments & Law (Poss. 50th Jubilee from Creation) Golden Calf & Sin among the people Tabernacle pattern given and complete 1st day, 1st Month, 2nd year
	Also Taberah	“Fire or Burning”	Num. 11:13 Num. 9:5	Second Passover kept (Not kept again until by Joshua after crossing the Jordan.
9.	Kibroth-hattaavah	“Graves of Lust”	Num. 11:31-34 Dt. 9:22, Ps. 78: 27-31	Quails and death plague
10.	Hazereth	“Enclosures, courts”	Num. 11:35	Miriam and Aaron speak against Moses, Miriam leperous, delays journey for 7 days. (12:15)
a)	Kadesh-Barnea	It appears that the first visit to this place could have occurred at this point. God apparently did not want to list it in Num. 33 until the second visit (#29). Dt. 1:2 clearly states that this stop was 11 days journey from Horeb or Sinai. Num. 13 records the rebellion of unbelief and God’s sentence of 40 years of wilderness wandering. According to Dt. 2:14 it took 38 more years until the men of war had died off from this point. So it appears that it was well into the second year when they were here. The Rebellion of Korah may have also occurred at this place or at any of the next 18 camps.		
11.	Ritmah	“Broom plant”		
12.	Rimmon-Perez	“Pomegranate or the Breach”		Overcoming and breaking forth.
13.	Libnah	“Whiteness”		
14.	Rissah	“A ruin; dew or rain”		
15.	Khelatah	“An assembly”		
16.	Mt. Shepher	“Beauty, elegance”		
17.	Haradah	“Trembling, fear”		
18.	Makheleth	“Assemblies”		
19.	Tahath	“That which is beneath”		
20.	Terah	?		
21.	Mithkah	“Sweetness”		

22. Hashmonah	“Fertile”	
23. Moseroth	“Bond, fetter” (chastisement)	Dt. 10:6
24. Benejaakan	“ Sons of ...?”	Dt. 10:6
25. Horhagidad (also called Gudgodah)	“Hole of the cleft”	
26. Jotbathah	“Incision”	Dt. 10:7
27. Abronah	“Goodness, pleasantness”	Dt. 10:7
28. Ezion-geber	“ A passage, a place opposite”	
29. Kadesh - Barnea	“At the north end of the Gulf of Aquba”	I Kings 9:26
	“Wilderness of Wandering”	
	Also Wilderness of Zin. also “Desert of a Fugitive” This is the 2nd visit: a.) Miriam dies here., b.) A second “Meribah” where Moses sins in smiting the rock., c.) There may have been several camps at this site. Aaron dies here in the 40th year, 5th month, 1st day. Mourning for 30 days. Num. 33:38, 20:23 & Dt. 10:6	
30. Mt. Hor		
31. Zalmonah	“Dark, shady”	
32. Punon	“Perplexity”	Fiery serpents, Moses made brazen serpent.
33. Oboth	“Water skins”	Num. 21:10
34. Iyeabarim	“Ruins of and region beyond”	Num. 21:10
35. Dibon-gad	(Valley of Zared)	Dt. 2:14, Num. 21:12
	-The crossing of the Brook Zered was a significant event. At this point it was noted that 38 years of time was completed form the first camp at Kadesh-Barnea. From here they move quite rapidly toward the final camp in the wilderness. This brook flows from the East into the lower (southern) end of the dead sea. It may mark the boundary between Midiam and Moab.	
36. Almon- diblathaim	“Well of beer”	Num. 21:16
37. Mts. of Abarim	“Region beyond”	Num. 21: 15.
	Before Mt. Nebo and also mentions camps at Mattanah, Nahaliel & Bamoth.	
38. Plains of Moab	Near to and opposite Jerico but separated by the Jordan River.	
a.) Battle with and victory over Amorite Kings; Sihon and Og.		Num. 21.
b.) Encounter with Baalam and Midianites. Plague in the camp.		Num. 22-24.
c.) Moses dies on Mt. Nebo, age 120		Dt. 32:50

Observations:

According to an ancient Hebrew book known as The Book of Jubilees, the time when Moses received the 10 commandments on Mount Sinai marked the 50th Jubilee from the creation (2,500 years). That would mean that all of this 40 years of wilderness tribulation plus the first of the conquest of Canaan happened during this 50th jubilee period.

Moses died at the last encampment at the age of 120. This is a significant number first of all in that it represents three periods of 40 years. Three speaks of divine perfection and 40 of tribulation. So tribulation worketh perfection (see Romans 5:3-5 and James 1:2-4). When the Lord spoke to Noah about the building of the ark prior to His coming judgement on all flesh, it would take him 120 years to complete the task. God said to Noah (Gen.:6:3; that man’s “days shall be an hundred and twenty years”. In this year of 2000 we are well into the early part of Gods’ 120th jubilee from creation. We could also note that the flood of rain lasted for 40 days while Noah was in the ark. Jesus said (Matt. 24:37) “as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”. One could also remember from Acts 1:15 that there were 120 gathered in the upper room waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, a type of first fruits people.

Now what about thirty-eight? It seems that God sentenced Israel to 40 years of wandering because of their unbelief at Kadesh-Barnea. Yet it seems that God gave them credit for the 2 years time served at Mt. Sinai and it was actually 38 years from Kadesh - Barnea to the crossing of the Brook Zered (Dt. 2:14). As the outline above shows, there were recorded 38 encampments between the crossing of the Red Sea into the wilderness and the crossing of the Jordan out of the wilderness. There should be yet another witness of the number 38 before we make any significance of it. That would be found in the New Testament in John 5:5 where Jesus met an impotent man at the

pool of Bethesda who had been in this condition of personal tribulation in the flesh for 38 years. He was healed and delivered from sin on the sabbath day. Praise God! From the word we see that 40 is the number that actually represents tribulation and yet God has the ability to shorten it to 38. And then we remember the verse in Matt. 24:22, "And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."