

Numbers 10:11-36 **Departure from Mount Sinai (Horeb)**

11 Now it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle of the Testimony. 12 And the children of Israel set out from the Wilderness of Sinai on their journeys; then the cloud settled down in the Wilderness of Paran. 13 So they started out for the first time according to the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

14 The standard of the camp of the children of Judah set out first according to their armies; over their army was Nahshon the son of Amminadab. 15 Over the army of the tribe of the children of Issachar was Nethanel the son of Zuar. 16 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Zebulun was Eliab the son of Helon. 17 Then the tabernacle was taken down; and the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari set out, carrying the tabernacle.

18 And the standard of the camp of Reuben set out according to their armies; over their army was Elizur the son of Shedeur. 19 Over the army of the tribe of the children of Simeon was Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai. 20 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Gad was Eliasaph the son of Deuel. 21 Then the Kohathites set out, carrying the holy things. (The tabernacle would be prepared for their arrival.)

22 And the standard of the camp of the children of Ephraim set out according to their armies; over their army was Elishama the son of Ammihud. 23 Over the army of the tribe of the children of Manasseh was Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur. 24 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Benjamin was Abidan the son of Gideoni.

25 Then the standard of the camp of the children of Dan (the rear guard of all the camps) set out according to their armies; over their army was Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai. 26 Over the army of the tribe of the children of Asher was Pagiel the son of Ocran. 27 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Naphtali was Ahira the son of Enan. 28 Thus was the order of march of the children of Israel, according to their armies, when they began their journey.

29 Now Moses said to Hobab the son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, "We are setting out for the place of which the LORD said, 'I will give it to you.' Come with us, and we will treat you well; for the LORD has promised good things to Israel." 30 And he said to him, "I will not go, but I will depart to my own land and to my relatives." 31 So Moses said, "Please do not leave, inasmuch as you know how we are to camp in the wilderness, and you can be our eyes. 32 And it shall be, if you go with us--indeed it shall be--that whatever good the LORD will do to us, the same we will do to you."

33 So they departed from the mountain of the LORD on a journey of three days; and the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them for the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them. 34 And the cloud of the LORD was above them by day when they went out from the camp.

35 So it was, whenever the ark set out, that Moses said:

"Rise up, O LORD!

Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You."

36 And when it rested, he said:

"Return, O LORD, To the many thousands of Israel." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ They had arrived at Mount Sinai on the 3rd month of the first year after they left Egypt. [\[Exodus 19:1\]](#)
- ✧ The 20th day of the 2nd month of the 2nd year after they left Egypt they are ready to set out from Mount Sinai. [\[Numbers 10:11\]](#)
- ✧ So their stay at Mount Sinai was just over 11 months during which time they had received all the laws, commandments, and instructions from God and built the Tabernacle of Witness according to the pattern Moses was shown on the mountain. They had numbered their armies and consecrated the priests and the Tabernacle.
- ✧ The cloud was taken up from above the Tabernacle of Testimony. [\[Numbers 10:11\]](#)
- ✧ The Children of Israel set out at the command of God from the Wilderness of Sinai on their journey toward the Promised Land, and the cloud settled down in the Wilderness of Paran.
- ✧ The order of journeying is the same as given in [\[Numbers 2:3-31, 10:5-6, 10:14-28\]](#)
 - ◇ The first to **advance**, were the camps of **Judah – Issachar – Zebulun** on the East began their journey. [\[Numbers 2:3-9, 10:5, 10:13-16\]](#)
 - ◇ Followed by the Levitical tribes of **Gershon** and **Merari** with the Tabernacle structure. [\[Numbers 10:17\]](#)
 - ◇ The second to **advance**, were the camps of **Reuben – Simeon – Gad** on the South began their journey. [\[Numbers 2:10-16, 10:6, 10:18-20\]](#)
 - ◇ Followed by the Levitical tribe of **Kohath** carrying the Holy Things, of the Tabernacle which travel in the midst of the tribes. [\[Numbers 10:21\]](#)
 - ◇ Then the camp of **Ephraim – Manasseh – Benjamin** on the West began their journey. [\[Numbers 2:18-24, 10:22-24\]](#)
 - ◇ Then the camp of **Dan – Asher – Naphtali** on the North began their journey. [\[Numbers 2:25-31, 10:25-28\]](#)
- ✧ Moses invited his brother-in-law Hobab, son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, to go with them to the Promised Land, with the assurance that the blessings Yehowah bestows on the Children of Israel will be shared with him.
- ✧ They journeyed for three days with the cloud of Yehowah above them to lead the way.
- ✧ When the Ark of the Covenant set out, Moses said, "Rise up O Yehowah! Let Your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate You flee before You."
- ✧ When the Ark of the Covenant rested, Moses said, "Return O Yehowah, to the many thousands of Israel.