Census, Inheritance Laws, & Yahushua Commissioned

Numbers 25:3-27:23

Reading Questions

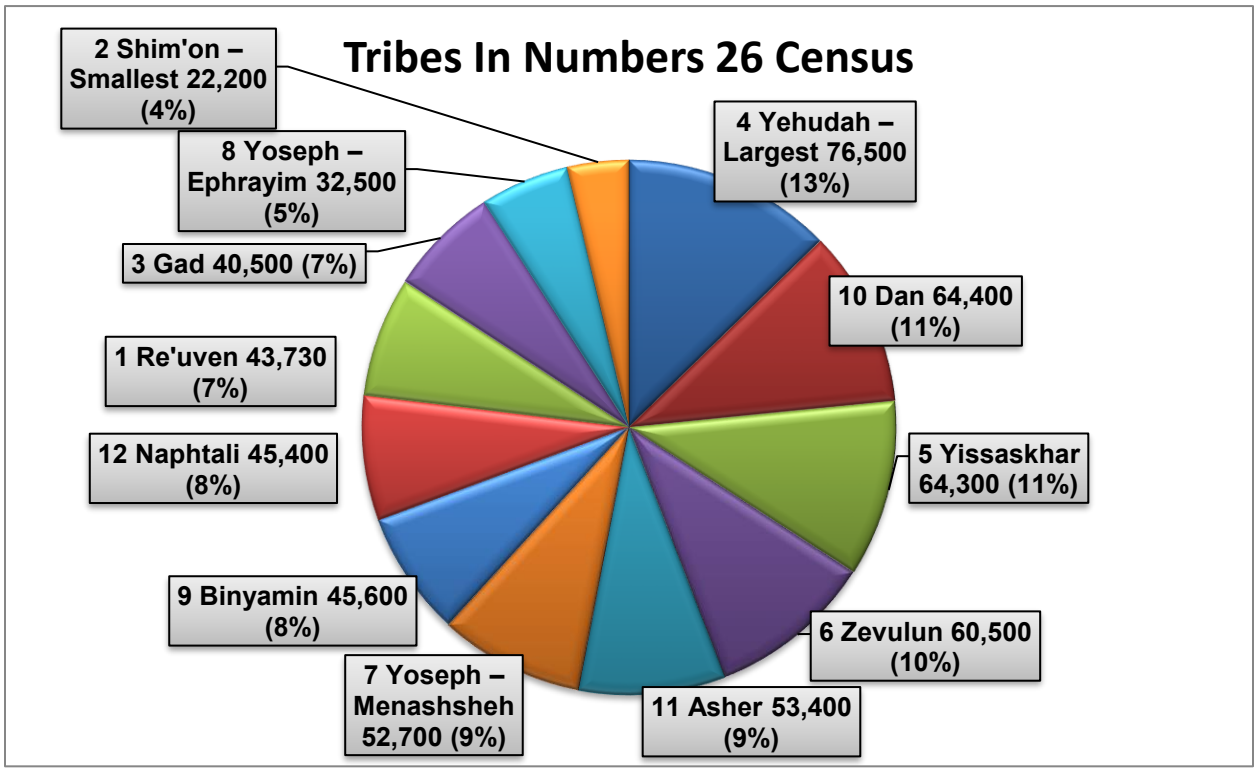
1. How is the land divided?
2. What was the largest tribe at that time, the smallest tribe, and what tribe was not registered with the rest and why?
3. Did the population since the census in the wilderness of Sinai go up or down?
4. What became a sign?
5. Whose sons did not die?
6. What was the relationship between Mosheh, Aharon, and Miryam?
7. What was the relationship between Mosheh's father and mother?
8. How many of those registered by Mosheh and Aharon were in the previous census taken in the wilderness of Sinai?
9. What is the law for inheritances of fathers when there is no son in the family?
10. Who is appointed to go out and come in before the sons of Yisra'el?
11. What is Mosheh commanded to do to him and why?

Reading Answers

1. According to the number of names of the tribes of their fathers – the larger tribes get more land, smaller tribes less land (Numbers 26:53-56).

2. See the below table and chart created with data from Numbers 26:

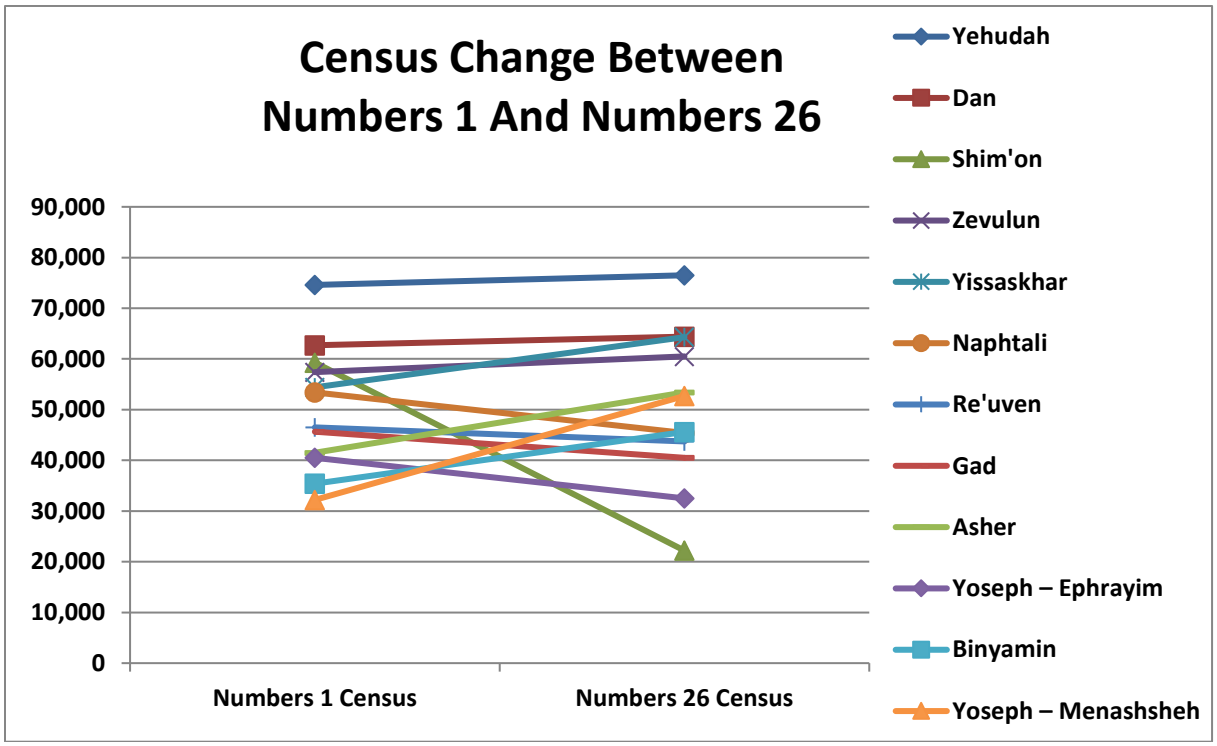
Order Listed	Tribe	Number	% of Total
4	**Yehudah – Largest**	76,500	13%
10	Dan	64,400	11%
5	Yissaskhar	64,300	11%
6	Zevulun	60,500	10%
11	Asher	53,400	9%
7	Yoseph – Menashsheh	52,700	9%
9	Binyamin	45,600	8%
12	Naphtali	45,400	8%
1	Re'uven	43,730	7%
3	Gad	40,500	7%
8	Yoseph – Ephrayim	32,500	5%
2	**Shim'on – Smallest**	22,200	4%
	ALL REGISTERED ONES	601,730	100%
	Lewi - Not Registered	23,000	



The Lewites were not registered among the other children of Yisra'el because there was no inheritance given to them. However, the number of males from a month old and above was given (Numbers 26:4-63).

3. Down (Compare Numbers 1:46 to Numbers 26:51). The total decrease was from 603,550 in Numbers 1 down to 601,730; a change of -1,820. See the below table and chart created with data from Numbers 1 and Numbers 26:

Tribe	Numbers 1 Census	Numbers 26 Census	Change
Yehudah	74,600	76,500	+1,900
Dan	62,700	64,400	+1,700
Shim'on	59,300	22,200	-37,100
Zevulun	57,400	60,500	+3,100
Yissaskhar	54,400	64,300	+9,900
Naphtali	53,400	45,400	-8,000
Re'uven	46,500	43,730	-2,770
Gad	45,650	40,500	-5,150
Asher	41,500	53,400	+11,900
Yoseph – Ephrayim	40,500	32,500	-8,000
Binyamin	35,400	45,600	+10,200
Yoseph – Menashsheh	32,200	52,700	+20,500
ALL REGISTERED ONES	603,550	601,730	-1,820



4. The 250 men who were consumed after contending with Mosheh and Aharon in the company of Qorach, Dathan, and Aviram (Numbers 26:10).

5. The sons of Qorach (Numbers 26:11).

6. They are siblings (Numbers 26:59).

7. His mother was his father's aunt (Numbers 26:57-59).

8. Two - Kalev son of Yephunneh, and יהושע son of Nun (Numbers 26:64-65)

9. The inheritance passes to the daughter. If there is no daughter, the brothers get the inheritance. If he has no brothers, then it passes to his father's brothers. If his father has no brothers, it passes to the nearest relative in his clan. (Numbers 27:8-11) You might be thinking, *"What about the wife?"*. A brother once pointed out just how superior these laws are as compared to inheritance laws of some countries today that give the inheritance first to the wife. Why? Because if a man were to divorce his first wife whom he had children with and remarry, and then die, it could be possible that his children from his first wife would have no inheritance. If the inheritance does not pass first to the children, then the children are not protected. In addition, think about what happens when a man dies: his wife becomes available for marriage. What if a man were to die in battle and a woman were to remarry into a different tribe? If the inheritance were to go to her after her husbands' death, then land inheritances would switch tribes because her tribe and the tribe of any future children is determined by the Father. יהוה's laws put the little ones first and protect them, and ensure that they get the inheritances they should get. He knows best.

10. יהושע son of Nun (Numbers 27:18)

11. Lay hand on him, set him before El'azar the priest and the congregation and give him charge, and put some of Mosheh's esteem on him so that all the congregation of the children of Yisra'el obey him (Numbers 27:18-20).

Reading Notes

- See the reading notes for Week 31 of the Annual Reading Schedule for related information about censuses.

Related Verses

Registration in the Wilderness of Sinai: Numbers 1
None Enter But יהושע & Kalev: Numbers 14:28-30
The 250 Men Consumed: Numbers 16
Nadav & Avihu Brought Strange Incense: Leviticus 10
Relationships Prohibited: Leviticus 18 & 20
First-born Double Portion Law: Deuteronomy 21:17
Avraham Gives Gifts (Inheritance?) To Sons: Genesis 25:5-6