

Israelites. So Moses, I want you to count up how many firstborn sons there are in all Israel."

- I. Moses counts them and there are 22,273 firstborn sons from one month old and up (3:42-43).
 - 1) There were 22,000 Levites. *310 months old are up to 43*
 - 2) That means the Israelites are going to give 22,000 Levites to the Lord in place of their firstborn son. So there is an exchange and the 22,000 Levites would redeem the firstborn son.
 - 3) But there are 273 extras.
 - i) How are they going to be redeemed?
 - ii) With 5 shekels of silver.
 - iii) So the tribes had to fork over 5 shekels of silver a piece for each of the 273 and that way they could be redeemed and the firstborn males would no longer belong to the Lord, but would belong to the people.
 - iv) The money taken from that would be given to Aaron and his sons to carry on the work of the tabernacle.

iii. Chapter 4

- a. The Lord wants to take these Levites and number them again.
- b. Why does he want to number the Levites a second time?
 - 1) He wants all the Levites numbered from 30 to 50 years of age.
 - 2) They would be the Levites who would do the actual work of transporting the tabernacle.
 - 3) Good, strong men were needed for the job.
- c. There were 8,580 men.
- d. The interesting thing is that they were assigned exactly what they were to do.
 - 1) If anyone went into that tabernacle and looked on any of the things in there, the person would die.
 - 2) When they get ready to move the tabernacle, Aaron and his sons are going to cover everything up.
 - 3) The Lord says, "You Levites, you 8,580 who are going to carry the tabernacle, here's what you are to do."
 - i) First with the Kohathites. The Lord says, "You are to take the furnishings and you are to carry them" and each person knew precisely what he was to do. They didn't have to wonder about how he was going to do it. Each one knew precisely what he was to do so when the signal was given for them to move, those Kohathites after Aaron and his sons went in and covered everything would go in and take those furnishings and each one