

**The Great March to the Promised Land Finally Begins:
A Picture of Believers' March to the Promised Land of Heaven
Numbers 10: 11–36**

1. *The great day to begin the march arrived: A picture of great hope for the promised land*

- a. The date: The 20th day of the 2nd month (spent about 11 months at Mt. Sinai)
- b. The first part of the journey: Travelled from place to place and reached the Desert of Paran

2. *The great army of God's people marched forth division by division — as commanded: A picture of obeying God as one marches to the promised land*

- a. First, the divisions of Judah led the march under their standard: Commanded by Nahshon
 - 1) The division of Issachar marched with Judah: Commanded by Nethanel
 - 2) The division of Zebulun marched with Judah: Commanded by Eliab
- b. Second, the Gershonites and the Merarites followed transporting the Tabernacle
- c. Third, the divisions of Reuben marched under their standard: Commanded by Elizur
 - 1) The division of Simeon marched with Reuben: Commanded by Shelumiel

11 On the twentieth day of the second month of the second year, the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle of the covenant law.

12 Then the Israelites set out from the Desert of Sinai and travelled from place to place until the cloud came to rest in the Desert of Paran.

13 They set out, this first time, at the LORD's command through Moses.

14 The divisions of the camp of Judah went first, under their standard. Nahshon son of Amminadab was in command.

15 Nethanel son of Zuar was over the division of the tribe of Issachar,

16 and Eliab son of Helon was over the division of the tribe of Zebulun.

17 Then the tabernacle was taken down, and the Gershonites and Merarites, who carried it, set out.

18 The divisions of the camp of Reuben went next, under their standard. Elizur son of Shedeur was in command.

19 Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai was over the division of the tribe of Simeon,

<p>2) The division of Gad marched with Reuben: Commanded by Eliasaph</p> <p>d. Fourth, the Kohathites followed carrying the holy things of the Tabernacle</p> <p>e. Fifth, the divisions of Ephraim marched under their standard: Commanded by Elishama</p> <p>1) The division of Manasseh marched with Ephraim: Commanded by Gamaliel</p> <p>2) The division of Benjamin marched with Ephraim: Commanded by Abidan</p> <p>f. Finally, the divisions of Dan marched as the rear guard, under its standard: Commanded by Ahiezer</p> <p>1) The division of Asher marched with Dan: Commanded by Pagiel</p> <p>2) The division of Naphtali marched with Dan: Commanded by Ahira</p> <p>3. <i>The appeal of Moses to his brother-in-law to join the march to the promised land: A picture of reaching out to family members to follow after the promised land of God, the promise of heaven</i></p> <p>a. The brother-in-law rejected the appeal: His old life appealed to him</p>	<p>20 and Eliasaph son of Deuel was over the division of the tribe of Gad.</p> <p>21 Then the Kohathites set out, carrying the holy things. The tabernacle was to be set up before they arrived.</p> <p>22 The divisions of the camp of Ephraim went next, under their standard. Elishama son of Ammihud was in command.</p> <p>23 Gamaliel son of Pedahzur was over the division of the tribe of Manasseh,</p> <p>24 and Abidan son of Gideoni was over the division of the tribe of Benjamin.</p> <p>25 Finally, as the rear guard for all the units, the divisions of the camp of Dan set out under their standard. Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai was in command.</p> <p>26 Pagiel son of Okran was over the division of the tribe of Asher,</p> <p>27 and Ahira son of Enan was over the division of the tribe of Naphtali.</p> <p>28 This was the order of march for the Israelite divisions as they set out.</p> <p>29 Now Moses said to Hobab son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, "We are setting out for the place about 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."</p> <p>30 He answered, "No, I will not go; I am going back to my own land and my own people."</p>
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- b. The second appeal of Moses
 - 1) Challenged his brother-in-law to serve as a guide to the people of God
 - 2) Promised to share the good things of the LORD with him

4. *The faithfulness of God in leading His people*

- a. The first part of the journey lasted three days
- b. The ark of the covenant was carried ahead of all the tribes: A symbol of the LORD's leadership step by step
- c. The fiery cloud of the LORD led them

5. *The battle cry — the great expectation and cry of Moses: Victory and rest*

- a. When the ark set out: That God would give a victorious march
- b. When the ark was set down: That God would come among His people and give them rest — both physical and spiritual rest

31 But Moses said,
“Please do not leave us.
You know where we should camp
in the wilderness, and you can be our eyes.

32 If you come with us,
we will share with you
whatever good things the LORD gives us.”

33 So they set out from the mountain of the LORD
and travelled for three days.
The ark of the covenant of the LORD
went before them
during those three days
to find them a place to rest.

34 The cloud of the LORD was over them by day
when they set out from the camp.

35 Whenever the ark set out,
Moses said, “Rise up, LORD!
May your enemies be scattered;
may your foes flee before you.”

36 Whenever it came to rest,
he said, “Return, LORD,
to the countless thousands of Israel.”