

In **Num 33:2**, God commanded Moses to record the stages of Israel's journey to preserve an account of their experiences and God's faithfulness throughout their travels. This record served as a reminder of God's power (v4) guidance, provision (v14), deliverance (3), and judgement (v38).

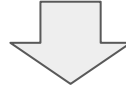
**Main Idea** of Num 33: The new generation of Israelites must remember God's **faithfulness** and they are to remain **faithful** to Him when they enter Canaan.

### **Outline**

Num 33:1-49 (to remember God's faithfulness)  
Num 33:50-55 (to remain faithful to God)

## Numbers 33

Purpose: To preserve an account of  
God's faithfulness



Power - Provision - Promise keeper



People faithful to God

Some of them **triumphant** and some of them **tragic**,  
teaches Israel about  
their own **sins** and about God's **providence**

1. What significant event took place?
2. What do you think God wanted Israel to remember about Him?

Group	Today's passage	Place	Reference
Group 1	Numbers 33:3-4	Rameses	Exodus 12:1-37
Group 2	Numbers 33:7	Etham, Pi Hahiroth, Baal Zephon, Migdol	Exodus 14:1-28
Group 3	Numbers 33:8-14	Marah, Elim, Rephidim	Exodus 15:22-25, 17:1-7
Group 4	Numbers 33:14	Rephidim	Exodus 17:8-16
Group 5	Numbers 33:16	Kibroth Hattaavah.	Numbers 11:1-34

## Numbers 33:3-4

**3** The Israelites **set out** from Rameses on the fifteenth day of the first month, the day after the **Passover**. They **marched out** defiantly in full view of all the Egyptians,

**4** who were burying all their firstborn, whom the LORD had struck down among them; for the LORD had brought judgment on their gods.

1. The travelog reminds us of God's supreme **power** to **deliver**

This event marks the start of Israel's journey out of Egypt reminding Israel of

- God's intervention to free His people from slavery
- As Israel responds in faith & obedience to Passover instructions

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2. The travelog reminds us of God's supreme **power** to **judge**

This event marks reminded Egyptians' failure to obey God's warning resulted

- in the loss of their firstborns
- powerless against the true God
- Inabilities of false idols

## Numbers 33:7

7 They left Etham, turned back to Pi Hahiroth, to the east of Baal Zephon, and camped near Migdol.

The travel log remind Israel of God's **guidance and deliverance**

The location of both **Baal-zephon & Migdol** reminds them of crossing the Red Sea. Trapped between Egypt's army and the sea, God intervened by guiding them with a pillar of cloud and parting the sea for their escape. When the Egyptians pursued, they drowned as the waters returned, securing Israel's safety.

## Numbers 33:8-14

**8** They left Pi Hahiroth and passed through the sea into the desert, and when they had traveled for three days in the Desert of Etham, they camped at Marah.

**9** They left Marah and went to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there.

**10** They left Elim and camped by the Red Sea.

**11** They left the Red Sea and camped in the Desert of Sin.

**12** They left the Desert of Sin and camped at Dophkah.

**13** They left Dophkah and camped at Alush.

**14** They left Alush and camped at Rephidim, where there was no water for the people to drink.

The travel log remind Israel of God's **provision**

1. **At Marah (v.8):** The water was bitter & undrinkable, but God made it drinkable, showing His care.
2. **At Elim (v.9):** There were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, symbolizing God's abundant provision.
3. **At Rephidim (v.14):** God graciously provided for His people in spite of Israel's grumbling against Moses and doubted God.



## Numbers 33:14

**14** They left Alush and camped at **Rephidim**, where there was no water for the people to drink.

The travel log reminded Israel of their dependence on God's **protection**

**Rephidim** also reminded Israel then the Amalekites attacked the Israelites and Moses instructed Joshua to lead the battle while Moses stood on a hill with the staff of God in his hands. As long as Moses kept his hands raised, the Israelites prevailed, but when he lowered them, the Amalekites gained the upper hand. Aaron and Hur supported Moses by holding up his hands, leading to Israel's victory.

(Exodus 17:11-12)

## Numbers 33:16, 36, 49

**16** They left the Desert of Sinai and camped at Kibroth Hattaavah.

**36** They left Ezion Geber and camped at Kadesh, in the Desert of Zin.

**49** There on the plains of Moab they camped along the Jordan from Beth Jeshimoth to Abel Shittim.

The travelog again reminded Israel of God's **discipline** against **sin** - ingratitude, grumbling and unbelief.

1. **Kibroth-hattaavah (v.16):** The Israelites grumbled against God, as recounted in Numbers 11, and faced His judgment. *"If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt"*
2. **Kadesh (v.36):** In Numbers 13-14, the people doubted God's promise. At Kadesh, Moses sends twelve spies, one from each tribe, to scout the land of Canaan. The negative report from the ten spies causes widespread panic and rebellion among the Israelites. They faced God's judgment for their unbelief.
3. **Abel-shittim (v.49):** In Numbers 25, While Israel camped at Shittim, some men indulged in sexual immorality with Moabite women, who invited them to their gods' sacrifices. The people then ate the sacrificial meals and bowed down to these gods, which led to God's judgment.

## Numbers 33:50-55

**50** On the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho the LORD said to Moses, **51** "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you cross the Jordan into Canaan, **52** drive out all the inhabitants of the land before you. Destroy all their carved images and their cast idols, and demolish all their high places. **53** Take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess. **54** Distribute the land by lot, according to your clans. To a larger group give a larger inheritance, and to a smaller group a smaller one. Whatever falls to them by lot will be theirs. Distribute it according to your ancestral tribes.

**55** "'But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land, those you allow to remain will become barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides. They will give you trouble in the land where you will live. **56** And then I will do to you what I plan to do to them.'"

## God the promise-keeper

**Now that the new generation of Israelites remember God's faithfulness, they are to remain faithful to Him when they enter Canaan.**

1. Drive out the inhabitants.
2. Destroy idols and places of worship
3. Take possession of the land.
4. Distribute the land among the tribes.
5. Warning of future trouble if the inhabitants are not fully removed.

Numbers 33:1-49 authenticates God's faithfulness

Numbers 33:50-56 articulates God's demand for faithfulness from Israel

## Reflections

What's your travel log?

1. How can reflecting on past events **from scriptures** help you in your walk with God today?
  - God's faithfulness through guidance, protection, provision, discipline
  
2. How can reflecting on your **personal** past events help you in your walk with God today?
  - God's faithfulness through guidance, protection, provision, discipline
  
3. What are the "**idols**" we need to remove from our lives or ministry?