

LEVITE RESPONSIBILITIES

Numbers 3:16

**God used 22,000 Levites (3:39) to assist over 2,000,000 people
in their worship of God**

I. DEFINITION

A. THEIR SERVICE (3:6-9, 4:3)

1. To Whom: Aaron (3:6, 9)
2. Where: Before the tent of meeting in the tabernacle (3:7-8, 4:3)
3. How: Entering the service (4:3)
4. What: Serving and carrying (4:24, 32)

B. THEIR SELECTION (3:11-13)

1. Chosen by God
 - a. The tribe of Levi replaces the individual firstborn being given to God
 - b. See Ex. 13:2 for the original order
 - c. Perhaps they are chosen because of their commitment to God and Moses demonstrated during the Golden Calf incident in Ex. 32:26-29
2. Sanctified to God (12) > They shall be Mine
3. Useful to the godly
 - This would allow for a more orderly performance of the tabernacle duties

C. THEIR DUTIES

1. Fabric Handlers: Gershonites (3:25-26 & 4:24-26)
2. Furniture Handlers: Kohathites
 - a. Generally: 3:29-31
 - b. Specifically: Carrying the most holy things (4:4-20)
3. Framing Handlers: Merrarites (3:36-37 & 4:31-32)
 - These deal with the tabernacle's superstructure
4. Fixing Handlers: All (3:26, 31, 36)
 - They had to keep the fabric, furnishings and framework in good working condition

II. ORGANIZATION

A. LEADERSHIP

1. Family Leaders (3:24, 30, 35)
2. Priestly Leaders (4:19, 28, 33)
3. Chief Leaders (3:32, 38)

Over please >

B. PLACEMENT

- When camped each family had a particular spot (see 3:23, 29, 35)

C. INVOLVEMENT

1. Age limits (4:3, 35, 46-49)
2. Internships? (8:23-24) > From age 25-30
3. Retirement (8:25-26) > After age 50!

D. MOVEMENT

1. When (9:15-23)
 - At various intervals (20-22)
2. How (10:11-21)
 - a. Taken down by the families of Gershon and Merari (17)
 - After the east-side encampments took off
 - b. Kohathites carried the furniture (21)
 - After the south-side camps left the encampment

CONCLUSION:

Worship is important and God provides elaborate details and directions to assist Israel in doing so

Consider:

1. What has God called us to do?
2. How are we assisting others in their worship?
3. What instructions has God given us regarding corporate worship?

Read: Romans 12:4-8