

An aerial photograph of a desert landscape. A dark, winding river flows through the center of the frame. The surrounding terrain is a mix of light and dark brown, showing signs of erosion and dry vegetation. Several white dotted lines are drawn across the landscape, following the path of the river and other features. The overall tone is warm and arid.

**DESERT**

**WANDERINGS**

<b>Gershon (3:22)</b>	7,500		7,500
<b>Kohath (3:28)</b>	8,600		8,300
<b>Merari (3:34)</b>	6,200		6,200
	<b>22,300</b>	<b>≠</b>	<b>22,000</b>

# Census of the Levites

An aerial photograph of a river valley with a winding river. A dashed white line traces a path through the landscape, starting from the left and moving towards the right, following the general direction of the river but with several loops and turns. The text "Some LXX mss. three" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Some LXX mss. three

NKJV footnote on Numbers 3:28

The total is a rounded off number; it does not duplicate the precise total of 22,300. Some modern scholars try to explain it by positing an error in v. 28, suggesting that "six" should be read as "three" (שֵׁשׁ [shesh] as שָׁלוֹשׁ [shalosh]).

NET translation note on Numbers 3:39

We must rather assume that there is a copyist's error in the number of one of the Levitical families; possibly in Numbers 3:28 we should read שלש (for 8300) שש (for 8600). [sic]

Keil & Delitzsch, *Commentary on Numbers*

<https://studylight.org/commentaries/eng/kdo/numbers-3.html#verses-38-39>

The Jews used letters to signify numbers. The numeral six was represented by [~sh-sh], and the numeral three was represented by [~sh-l-sh]; and some scribe might easily have overlooked the [~l].

Coffman, *Commentary on Numbers*

<https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/eng/bcc/numbers-3.html#verses-33-37>

Apparently, some of the commentators never heard of "round numbers." ... To us, the "round number" explanation is sufficient.

Coffman, *Commentary on Numbers*

<https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/eng/bcc/numbers-3.html#verses-33-37>

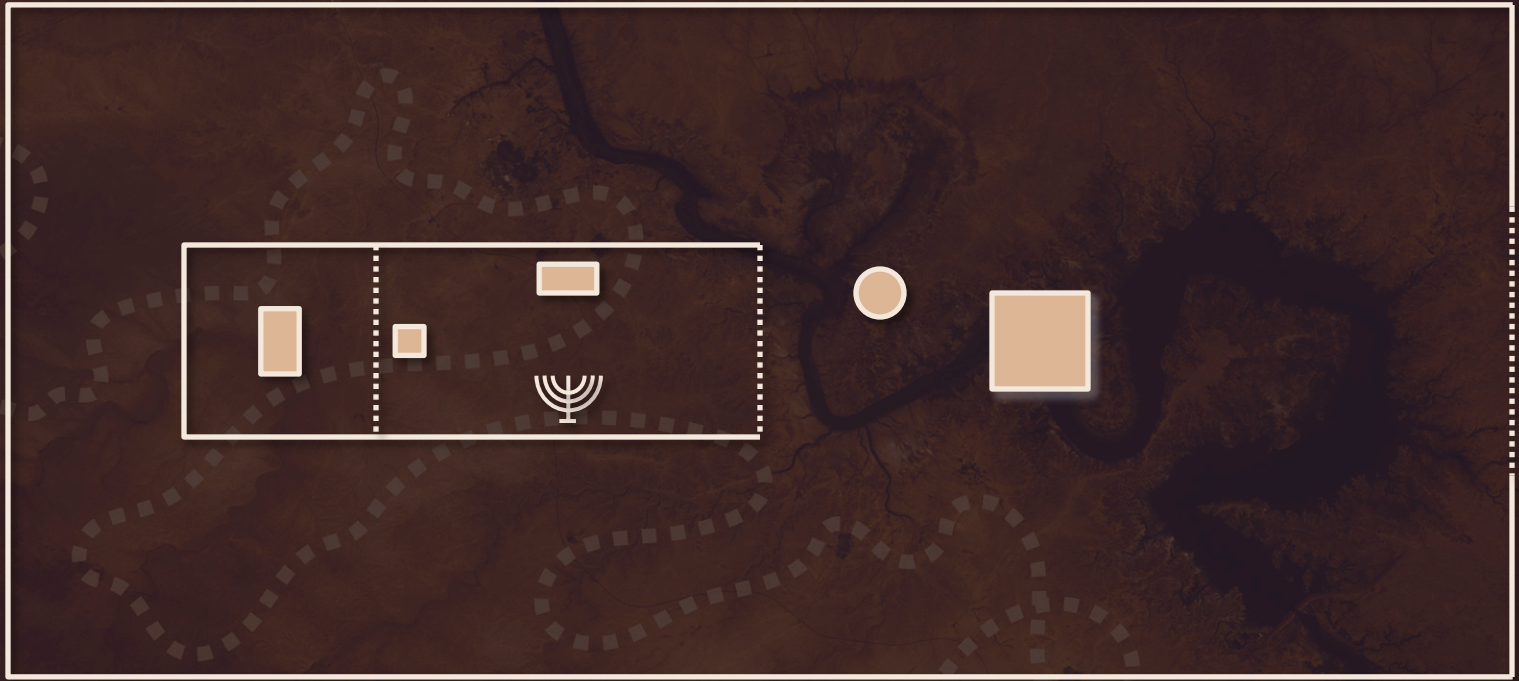






Issachar **Judah** Zebulun  
Moses, Aaron, Priests

Asher **Dan** Naphtali  
Merari



Manasseh **Ephraim** Benjamin  
Gershon

Kohath  
Simeon **Reuben** Gad

**Dan**  
ASHER  
NAPHTALI

**Ephraim**  
MANASSEH  
BENJAMIN

**Kohath**  
TABERNACLE  
HOLY ITEMS

**Reuben**  
SIMEON  
GAD

**Gershon**  
TABERNACLE  
HANGINGS &  
COVERINGS

**Merari**  
TABERNACLE  
HARDWARE

**Judah**  
ISSACHAR  
ZEBULUN

REAR

FRONT

