

service of the Lord, the pilgrimage journey ahead through your life, there are many things which may not seem of great importance to you now, but which others who have gone before have seen reasons why they would be of great importance.

I myself am never anxious to have people before they come to seminary make the decision whether their life is going to be spent in the pastorate or in ~~Christian~~ foreign mission work, or in teaching in a Christian organization, or exactly which phase of the Lord's work because I feel that what we give in the 3 yr. ~~course~~ course in the seminary is all of it of tremendous value for any type of Christian work. And I feel that the person who spends half of his time thinking about particular aspects of work in ^{the} foreign mission field may get something of real value to him which he could get later on if he is going to go into foreign mission work, but he is losing many things which are vital for him, just as vital for work in the foreign mission world -- field as here. Because the Christian worker no matter what he is doing, or the Christian layman for that matter, the most important thing is to understand the Word of God and to learn how to apply it.

Well this is Capital A. the ~~Time~~ Importance of this preparation -- It is very important that we get the preparation that we need for our pilgrimage journey for the Lord. And as we think of that we look at that Book of Num. because this comes at exactly this same place in relation to the pilgrimage journey of the Israelites who had been saved from the oppression of Pharaoh, representing the way we are saved from sin through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ and we open the book of Num and we find Capital B.

B. The First Step, the Census. 1:1-46, and what a let-down it gives us. What a way to start your preparation for your pilgrimage for the Lord to take a census. What a dry, boresome, dull thing to bother with at this point -- the taking of a census. But that is where Num. starts. And through the accident of our translating the Greek name into English the many people neglect this book of Num. because they say, It's just a lot of numbers. And there are only two or three, ^{OR} ~~three/are~~ four chapters in