

The O. T. in the Life of the Believer
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Lecture VII

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I believe that is the first time I have heard that hymn, but I well remember its author. I believe it was in the first year of my previous experience in starting a seminary that Dr. Oswald Smith who was pastor of a church in Toronto visited us and gave us a very thrilling message in our chapel. He had a great ministry for the Lord with a very special interest in the reaching out of the gospel to distant lands.

Now those of you who are taking this course in the OT in the Life of the Christian for credit, I wish within the next 3 hours you would look at the assignment I have posted. I wish you would look at that very soon. The assignment which I have posted on the bulletin board.

We were speaking last time about the -- how the beginning of the book of Num. corresponds to a vital point in the Christian's pilgrimage journey. A point where his journey has well begun, and he has had various heterogeneous experiences. But it is time to stop and look and think and consider his future course. And so the book of Num. starts with a census. And we noticed this is the first step. We made that IV, B. - The First Step, the Census. And under that we noted that the census here while it has its historical purpose to show us something of the coming of the Israelites as they came through the wilderness and how God dealt with them, that it has a very special purpose for us, to show that at this particular stage and in fact frequently in future stages, it is God's will that we should appraise our own ability, our own accomplishments, our own possessions, our own means of serving Him. And we notice No. 4, that this appraisal must be done for the purpose of determining how the particular Christian can best serve God. We were ready then for point No. 5.

No. 5 The Appraisal Should Be Related to God's Purposes for Us. There are many things about ourselves that it is good to know. Socrates said, "Know thyself." There are many things that are good to know, but they are not particularly related to this