

tasks. And sometimes these tasks seem rather dull and dry to us. And we say Look at Joshua there leading the forces as they go out to battle. Look at Aaron and Hur as they hold Moses' hands up and enable the battle to go forward. Look at the leaders of the different tribes, and here we are simply ~~are~~ simply ^{carrying} ~~carrying~~ these parts of the sanctuary and standing around the sanctuary. But the Psalmist said, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. We cannot appraise the importance necessarily of various parts of the Lord's work. But certain ones must be put aside for ~~certain~~ ^{certain} tasks. And so the Levites seem to be left out here because they are set aside for a particular task. Then in ch.2 where we have the arrangement of the camp, we simply have the Levites briefly mentioned in their proper place. "Then the tabernacle of the congregation shall set forward with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camp. As they encamp so shall they set forward, every man in his place by their standard." And then ch. 3:1-51, the whole of ch. 3 describes the redemption of the firstborn. God wished to show the people that everything belonged to Him, And so He performed the particular arrangement of having all the firstborn counted, and having the Levites counted, and having the Levites be substituted for the firstborn in taking this particular service for Him and then a certain amount of money paid for the small number that were left over. So the redemption of the firstborn was the first principle connected with the matter of the Levites. The indication that all the increase belongs to God. They properly are His and what seemed to be the very most important must be either given to the Lord or have the Levites here substituted for it. And then No. 2

2. They had the purpose of carrying the sacred things, and that is particularly in ch. 4:1-49. It's told just what they are to carry, what each group of the Levites are to carry. The Levite from 30 yrs. old up to 50 years. They were the ones to do the work in the Tabernacle. And they are the ones who were to carry the material as they went forward covered over so that they were not visible in the course of the journey to the rest of the people. Sometimes it is not well to show your material too widely.