Introduction
• A sprawling encampment of 600,000 tents covering 6 - 8 square miles at the base of Mount Sinai.
• A central, larger structure called ‘the Tabernacle.’
• A mysterious pillar of cloud hovers over this Tabernacle.
• Who are these people?
• Where did they come from?
• Why have they not moved for a year?
• What is this ‘Tabernacle structure?’
• Why is it fenced off?

1 Who Are These Millions Of People?
• They are referred too as ‘Israel’ or ‘the children of Israel.’
• Their origin goes back to an old man and his wife called Abraham and Sarah.
• God gave them a ‘miracle child’ called Isaac.
• To Isaac and his wife Rebekah Jacob was born.
• God changed his name to ‘Israel’ meaning ‘prince or ruling with God.’ [Genesis 32:28].
• To Jacob 13 children were born. One daughter and 12 sons.
• Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin and Joseph.
• To Joseph 2 sons (Manasseh and Ephraim) were born.
• This family of some 70 people emigrated to Egypt in the days when Joseph was PM of Egypt.
• They remained there 4 centuries and when they left ‘these descendants of Israel’ numbered about 2.5 million.
• That’s who is camped at the base of mount Sinai.
2 Where Are They Going To?
• They are going to a land then called ‘Canaan.’
• God promised this land to them through Abraham [Genesis 12:7].
• That promised was reiterated to Jacob/Israel in [Genesis 28:13].
• The land would come to be known as ‘the land of Israel.’
• God chose Israel to be ‘His people’ out of all the other peoples of the world. [Exodus 4:22]

3 Why Have They Not Moved For A Year?
• Their leader is called by God to the top of Mt. Sinai where He gives him 2 things.
• The ‘Decalogue’ and ‘the plans/blueprint’ for ‘the Tabernacle.’
• They were to construct this ‘tabernacle’ exactly according to the plans without alterations.

4 What Is The Purpose Of The Tabernacle?
• It was essentially a portable worship centre.
• It allowed Jehovah to dwell or ‘tabernacle’ among His people.
• God loves to fellowship with His people (Adam and Eve, Abraham etc)
• At His incarnation the Lord Jesus came to ‘dwell/tabernacle’ amongst people. [John 1:14].
• (See also Matthew 18:20).
• The ‘Tabernacle’ is a ‘type’ of the Lord Jesus and His redemptive work.
• NB. Two chapters devoted to God’s dwelling place for humanity [Genesis 1 & 2]
• But 13 chapters devoted to God’s dwelling place here amongst us.
• Ch 25 - 31. The PLANS For The Tabernacle.
• Ch 35 - 40. The PRODUCTION Of The Tabernacle.

5 Why The Positioning Of The Tabernacle?
• The rectangular perimeter of tabernacle was 150’ by 75’
• The 12 tribes camped in order around the 4 sides of the Tabernacle.
• The Tabernacle was right in the middle of the encampment.
• All ancient nations positioned their king in the middle of the camp.
• This said that Jehovah was Israel’s King.
• Question: Is The Lord Jesus in the centre of all that happening in your life. Is He your King?