

Was Kohath really Moses' Grandfather? The implications of Numbers 3 and 4

Exodus 6	Numbers 3	Numbers 4
<p>v 18 The sons of Kohath: Amram and Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel....</p> <p>v 20 Amram married his father's sister Jochebed, and she bore him Aaron and Moses....¹</p>	<p>v 19 and the sons of Kohath by their families: Amram and Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel;</p> <p>v 27 Of Kohath was the family of the Amramites and the family of the Izharites and the family of the Hebronites and the family of the Uzzielites; these were the families of the Kohathites.</p> <p>v 28 In the numbering of every male from a month old and upward,</p> <p>there were 8,600, performing the duties of the sanctuary.</p>	<p>v 34a So Moses and Aaron and the leaders of the congregation</p> <p>v 34c the sons of the Kohathites by their families and by their fathers' households,</p> <p>v 34b numbered</p> <p>v 35 from thirty years and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tent of meeting.</p> <p>v 36 Their numbered men by their families were 2,750.²</p>

¹ "...in the actual history of the birth of Moses his parents are not called Amram and Jochebed. Instead the text simply says (Ex. 2:1), 'And there went out a man of the house of Levi, and took a wife of the house of Levi'" (William Henry Green, "Primeval Chronology," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 47 (1890): 294.

² Adapted from Green, "Chronology," 291. Green writes, "...if no abridgement has taken place in the genealogy, the grandfather of Moses had, in the lifetime of the latter, 8,600 descendants of the male sex alone, 2750 of them being between the ages of thirty and fifty (Num. 4:36)."