

DAYS OF HIS SEPARATION

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~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God is considering the triune blessing in the three vows of a Nazarite in this report. We began examining the vows and what they entail in our previous report. It was a voluntary vow and there are no commands or requirements to take this vow - but all three go together as one. God said if there were any of His people who wanted to become a Nazarite, then He would bring them closer to Him! God made it available in that day, and it is available for believers today. For the genuine child of God, it doesn't mean letting your hair grow crazy; it means God has a closer walk for you in a dedicated service; a closer walk than others have with the Lord Jesus – if you want it. It is not a requirement of being saved to make this vow, but you can believe me when I tell you it's nice to have a closer walk with Christ. The vow can be temporary, or it can be for one's entire life. I think John Baptist remained a Nazarite his entire life. Samson was also a Nazarite. We have quite a few notable names throughout Scripture who were Nazarite's.

There were three requirements of an Israelite to become a Nazarite. **1.** No wine or strong drink. The Nazarite was to find his joy in the Lord and not in the things of the earth! **2.** A Nazarite was not to have a razor come upon his head. This wasn't done to make a statement about anything – it was done to make a Nazarite a Nazarite! New Testament Scripture says it is a shame for a man to have long hair. That's a good study verse for Christian rock music bands today. You'll find it in first Corinthians chapter eleven at verse fourteen. It was a shame then and it's a shame today and it reveals there is no dignity in a man who has long hair. This Nazarite vow means no less than to take the place of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who said He was no man but a worm. And my friends – these things I am saying now just do not happen to be popular Bible teaching around this forum on which I teach, because THIS is what the Word of God says. **3.** The Nazarite was not to touch any dead bodies – not even of a loved one. That meant, in practical terms, that the vow involved forsaking father and mother.

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Taking this vow is something that can only happen after a true transformation of one's life – just to be perfectly and redundantly clear. The meaning of this section of the Bible is forgotten and its tremendous spiritual message and meaning is utterly lost on most believers – which is sad. What this means for me and you is that we need to ask ourselves if we want to walk closer to the Lord Jesus Christ in an act of dedication to Him? Now, this means relying totally and completely on the dependable provision of God. These so-called ‘consecration services’ where people say they consecrate themselves is foolishness; only God can consecrate us as we come to Him with empty hands offering nothing but our faith and belief in whatever His plan for our lives happens to be. How about it friends – can you let go of your life to God like that?

God doesn't need anything that you have; and God doesn't take delight in what you have to offer. You're a SINNER in His eyes, friends – a sinner saved by grace. All you have to offer that He is interested in is your devotion and worship service all being dedicated to knowing the Lord Jesus Christ in a sincere and educated Bible study. That says everything about you that He wants to know. How many people are really willing to bear THAT shame for Christ? Not many. Many people talk about how they are consecrated Christians, but they wouldn't DARE say a word that might offend someone in their own little groupie clique. Everyone else finds themselves on the outside. Putting Christ above loved ones is a difficult thing to do, and if this vow is made, then your relationships will definitely be tried in judgment. Period. All of these things are pretty important to the genuine child of God, and they are presented in an imperative manner, by the way. And, also by the way, I just happen to speak to you from experience, friends.

We see the man who has made his vow set aside as holy and my understanding is that most Christians miss just about every single blessing in their life that God would do for them; or they, at least, miss the full potential of those blessings - and they certainly miss any really great ones that would bring them right up against the Lord Jesus Christ. Well, if you're a Christian and you're going through crises or trouble right now, then why

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not set yourself aside for Christ? All you have to do is tell Him you want to in prayer. Tell the Lord you don't want to get hurt in all of this but tell Him that you want to live for Him – if you do! Then, set yourself aside for God in a very definite way to walk in a personal relationship with Him. This won't remove the trial of life, but it will make it much more bearable. It starts with Bible study, too - just so you know. God says take His yoke upon us, it is easy and light and all who labor and are weary and heavy burdened can come to Him for rest! It's nice to get yoked up with Him on a meek and lowly basis. This is something a child of God can specifically do today in our service in the royal priesthood. It's quite wonderful....

VI

8 All the days of his separation he is holy unto the LORD.

9 And if any man die very suddenly by him, and he hath defiled the head of his consecration; then he shall shave his head in the day of his cleansing, on the seventh day shall he shave it.

10 And on the eighth day he shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons, to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

~ This is a vow that may be broken; though God is extremely urgent about us keeping our vows, as we saw the mandatory – no exceptions – command to keep our vows in Leviticus. Well, this one may be atoned for if not kept, where no other vow can be. God requires no vows – I cannot say that enough. However, when you DO take one, He expects you to keep it and He will require it of you at all costs up to and, possibly, including your life. We need to be very slow to think about making our vows and very quick to keep them. I see Christians that have promised God a whole bunch of things who never made good on any of their commitments to Him. Well, that explains their sad spiritual plight today. I am absolutely positive about this finding, and you can trust my advice as a man in this world who has learned from experience – not theory. The most super-duper pious ones let the Lord down the most hurtfully and the most often. My experience is a case after case after case observation of the state of the true and living

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invisible and non-organized church. Later in life, these people are an absolute spiritual shipwreck! God will bless you always if you live up to your vow – but if you break it, then the Lord will require it of you. There is a tremendous amount of detail we could go into about this matter of the Nazarite, but our safari has to move out of Nazareth now. I will say that God expected the instructions to be followed down to every letter of detail by those who took the vow.

Now, this gets very personal, and many people say they don't want to make a vow because they are afraid that they can't keep it. Well, my personal opinion is those people are never really blessed, especially financially, because they aren't willing to just lay it on the line with God. They have a job, and they commit a portion of their earnings in giving. However, the next week, a new model automobile is on sale and that's the end of the pledge. Then their lives become financial disasters as God holds them accountable and the myriad problems compound as a result. Some say they'll make it up later but, of course, that never happens.

We need to get serious with the Lord in our everyday life, friends. We need to be a little bit more practical about what it means to allow Christ to live through us. When God can use us as the result of obedience and because we are honestly trusting Him, then all blessings flow – but not until then. I am sure God withholds much blessing from many people because they fail in exactly this one particular area; and I think a tremendous and wonderful spiritual truth has been mined in Numbers from the voluntary law of the vow of a Nazarite....

11 And the priest shall offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering, and make an atonement for him, for that he sinned by the dead, and shall hallow his head that same day.

12 And he shall consecrate unto the LORD the days of his separation, and shall bring a lamb of the first year for a trespass offering: but the days that were before shall be lost, because his separation was defiled.

13 And this is the law of the Nazarite, when the days of his separation are fulfilled: he shall be brought unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

14 And he shall offer his offering unto the LORD, one he lamb of the first year without blemish for a burnt offering, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish for a sin offering, and one ram without blemish for peace offerings,

15 And a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mingled with oil, and wafers of unleavened bread anointed with oil, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings.

16 And the priest shall bring them before the LORD, and shall offer his sin offering, and his burnt offering:

17 And he shall offer the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread: the priest shall offer also his meat offering, and his drink offering.

18 And the Nazarite shall shave the head of his separation at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall take the hair of the head of his separation, and put it in the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offerings.

19 And the priest shall take the sodden shoulder of the ram, and one unleavened cake out of the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and shall put them upon the hands of the Nazarite, after the hair of his separation is shaven:

20 And the priest shall wave them for a wave offering before the LORD: this is holy for the priest, with the wave breast and heave shoulder: and after that the Nazarite may drink wine.

21 This is the law of the Nazarite who hath vowed, and of his offering unto the LORD for his separation, beside that that his hand shall get:

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according to the vow which he vowed, so he must do after the law of his separation.

22 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

23 Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel, saying unto them,

24 The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:

GOD THE FATHER

25 The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

GOD THE SON JESUS CHRIST

26 The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

....**the Holy Trinity** has just been clearly observed in the Old Testament in our Spiritual Safari. All blessings come from God the Father. The Lord Jesus Christ made His Face to shine upon us as He became a man. It is by His grace that we are saved. Then, when God says the Lord lift up His countenance upon us – that is so deep you may not quite recognize what you are dealing with, my beloved safari travelers. This means that if God didn't reveal Himself to us, we would NEVER – EVER know ANYTHING about Him! The only way we ever knew about God is because He appeared to us. The only way we can ever have peace with this statement in Scripture is through the Holy Spirit of God that comforts; because, without Christ – we can do nothing, my friends. True believers have a Triune Blessing! ~

27 And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.

~ So, the census has been taken. The children of Israel now know their pedigrees and they know where they belong within the camp; the standards have been raised, and they know them and recognize them. They know their position in Jewish society and are grouped with the families they are to follow. They will march with their own tribes and with their own relatives in an orderly procession that has been cleansed - as we have previously seen. Here, they are prepared to march, and the Lord blesses them. This is the only way God can or does bless. Ever.

Very few, if any, churches are experiencing the blessing of God. Most are marching like a soldier that forgot to put his belt on; and they're having trouble marching and carrying their gun with their pants down around their knees. When we start out, things have to be done decently and in order for the march to be successful. Our Triune Blessing speaks of the Triune God Who holds us and keeps us. Christ shines upon us and He says He is the Light of the world. The peace that surpasses all understanding only comes from the Spirit of God. What a remarkable and glorious, incredible and amazing chapter we leave behind now; but the next chapter is equally as stunning....

VII

Chapter seven of the Book of Numbers is the second longest chapter in the Bible. The longest chapter, Psalm one hundred nineteen, is all about the Word of God. This chapter is all about the gifts that the princes brought. And friends, this is one monotonous chapter to read. Twelve princes all brought exactly the same gifts, but the gifts are spelled out specifically all twelve times and the names of the princes are each given twice! It's similar to an awards ceremony.

Well, even so, we don't know much about these men, but God knew them, and God took note of every one of their gifts. They all offer a silver charger, a silver bowl – both full of fine meal offering with oil – then a spoon of incense, a bullock, a ram, a lamb, a kid goat, two oxen – and so on. Now, if you find this interesting then, by all means, absorb every word. It reads to me like a grocery list. Each of these princes does exactly the same thing. I

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would have thought God could have just wrote “ditto” here and moved on but He took up a whole very long chapter with this. The Holy Spirit of God recorded what each of these men gave to the Lord and they are named. This is the only place these men’s names are ever found, also. This is the story of everything they gave to God; and all they did give – down to a spoonful of incense, was recorded, noted and accounted for. What does that tell you, friends? Some people ought to be ashamed of how little they’re doing for the Lord; and if they knew He was really recording their activities this way, I think a great many things might change in their lives. If you don’t think I mean this, then you are woefully mistaken.

The Lord Jesus Himself sat over the treasury and watched how the people gave in the temple, you may recall. That was an intentionally detailed account from Luke of sheer nosiness on the part of Jesus. Friends, He just happens to be the Lord of Glory! He sure is the Lord of the temple watching how we give. Even that little spoonful of incense was jotted down because it was weighed by God against what we keep for ourselves! That statement should be a mind-revelation of fantastic proportions for many of us. God has recorded every move, error, fumble, victory and gift we ever used or gave. The rich will receive the greater accountability. This is a touchy subject; is it not?

Well, how about it, friends – what about your spiritual blessing? Where are you getting them? Are you supporting that place? Paul had a lot to say about this - and we’re getting very close to studying Paul’s missionary journeys. We’re going with Paul all the way and we’re going to talk about things that minister to our physical needs; things that minister to our spiritual needs, and how a church is to support itself, Biblically. When you support this safari, every penny is used to teach the Word of God in the sound doctrine of the apostles to the entire World. Not one dime is ever spent frivolously. However, the safari has to be financed somehow, and it isn’t cheap. The world still insists the Spiritual Safari pay its bills. That’s the way the world operates, and we just happen to operate in the world. This is what we’re talking about in the Bible today in this chapter we have traveled to. Eighty-nine monotonous verses that the Lord likes to look at. Oh, yes, I think God likes to open this up and give it a look over and remember what

the princes did. They all gave the same, but they were noted separately. Anything you have ever done for God has been recorded and you will be rewarded for it.

That's the Biblical basis for giving, and it's too bad we don't have more frank discussions about giving, because the Word of God is very strong and very dogmatic. God is as relentless as a bill collector, you might say. Most Christians are dead-beats as far as giving is concerned. Everything I have said in this report is right here in the Bible, my beloved. Read it for yourself. To retort with Scripture about giving a cup of cold water is disingenuous, insincere and it shows your insincerity about the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God going out to the world. Offering the cold-water cup statement is also indicative of a complete and total ignorance of the Word of God; because that is in the Great Tribulation period, and the man who gives a cup of cold water to one of the one hundred forty-four thousand will be jeopardizing his life by doing so. Many of them will be discovered and made martyrs. No, friends, we're not talking about a cheap cup of cold water. This is real. This is meaningful. This is worthwhile. If the Bible is the Word of God, then nothing else matters. If the Bible is not the Word of God, then nothing matters. This is one of the most remarkable chapters we have in the entirety of Holy Writ – I marvel at it ~

1 And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;

2 That the princes of Israel, heads of the house of their fathers, who were the princes of the tribes, and were over them that were numbered, offered:

3 And they brought their offering before the LORD, six covered wagons, and twelve oxen; a wagon for two of the princes, and for each one an ox: and they brought them before the tabernacle.

4 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

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5 Take it of them, that they may be to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; and thou shalt give them unto the Levites, to every man according to his service.

6 And Moses took the wagons and the oxen, and gave them unto the Levites.

7 Two wagons and four oxen he gave unto the sons of Gershon, according to their service:

8 And four wagons and eight oxen he gave unto the sons of Merari, according unto their service, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

9 But unto the sons of Kohath he gave none: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear upon their shoulders.

10 And the princes offered for dedicating of the altar in the day that it was anointed, even the princes offered their offering before the altar.

11 And the LORD said unto Moses, They shall offer their offering, each prince on his day, for the dedicating of the altar.

12 And he that offered his offering the first day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab, of the tribe of Judah:

13 And his offering was one silver charger, the weight thereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them were full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

14 One spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense:

15 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

16 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

17 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

18 On the second day Nethaneel the son of Zuar, prince of Issachar, did offer:

19 He offered for his offering one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

20 One spoon of gold of ten shekels, full of incense:

21 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

22 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

23 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

24 On the third day Eliab the son of Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun, did offer:

25 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

26 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

27 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

28 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

29 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Eliab the son of Helon.

30 On the fourth day Elizur the son of Shedeur, prince of the children of Reuben, did offer:

31 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

32 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

33 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

34 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

35 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Elizur the son of Shedeur.

36 On the fifth day Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, prince of the children of Simeon, did offer:

37 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the

shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

38 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

39 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

40 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

41 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

42 On the sixth day Eliasaph the son of Deuel, prince of the children of Gad, offered:

43 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, a silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

44 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

45 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

46 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

47 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

48 On the seventh day Elishama the son of Ammihud, prince of the children of Ephraim, offered:

49 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

50 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

51 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

52 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

53 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Elishama the son of Ammihud.

54 On the eighth day offered Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, prince of the children of Manasseh:

55 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

56 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

57 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

58 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

59 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

60 On the ninth day Abidan the son of Gideoni, prince of the children of Benjamin, offered:

61 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

62 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

63 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

64 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

65 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Abidan the son of Gideoni.

66 On the tenth day Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai, prince of the children of Dan, offered:

67 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

68 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

69 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

70 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

71 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

72 On the eleventh day Pagiel the son of Ocran, prince of the children of Asher, offered:

73 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

74 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

75 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

76 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

77 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ocran.

78 On the twelfth day Ahira the son of Enan, prince of the children of Naphtali, offered:

79 His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

80 One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

81 One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

82 One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

83 And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan.

84 This was the dedication of the altar, in the day when it was anointed, by the princes of Israel: twelve chargers of silver, twelve silver bowls, twelve spoons of gold:

85 Each charger of silver weighing an hundred and thirty shekels, each bowl seventy: all the silver vessels weighed two thousand and four hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

86 The golden spoons were twelve, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece, after the shekel of the sanctuary: all the gold of the spoons was an hundred and twenty shekels.

87 All the oxen for the burnt offering were twelve bullocks, the rams twelve, the lambs of the first year twelve, with their meat offering: and the kids of the goats for sin offering twelve.

88 And all the oxen for the sacrifice of the peace offerings were twenty and four bullocks, the rams sixty, the he goats sixty, the lambs of the first year sixty. This was the dedication of the altar, after that it was anointed.

89 And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him ~

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