



Numbers 6-9

1. God has provided ways for His people to show their dedication to Him thru special vows of separation (6:1-21; Rom 14:4-17, 5).

2. We are still responsible for those sins that are the result of being in the wrong place at the wrong time (6:9-12, 11).

3. There is no such thing as a Nazirite today since: 1) the prescription requires the OC sacrificial system (6:14-18; Heb 9:10), 2) abstaining altogether from wine would be a violation of the NC prescription regarding the LT (since it requires grapes/wine) (Luk 22:18; 1Co 11:21).

4. The (ordained/anointed) priests are commanded – and possess the ability, to place God’s blessing on His people (Num 6:22-27; Consider w/Act 6:4 w/Jam 5:14-18 = Ordained/Anointed elders equated w/anointed prophets and able to request/place God’s blessing on people; Also Gen 20:7 – “prophet” – i.e. anointed person w/17-18; Consider NT epistles: “grace and peace to you”[Rom 1:7; 1Co 1:3; 2Co 1:2; Gal 1:3; Eph 1:2; Phi 1:2; Col 1:2; 1Th 1:1; 2Th 1:2; 1Ti 1:2; 2Ti 1:2; Tit 1:4; 1Pe 1:2; 2Pe 1:2]= Num 6:24-26; “grace” = saving favor – Psa 67:1-2, “peace” = life w/God – Psa 4:6-8).

- “[The priest] it is that must put up prayers for you to God, who will readily hear them, because God will receive them as offered by one that he hath himself chosen to this office.” - Josephus*

5. Like the priests, God’s house and holy things are also “anointed” signifying their ability to confer salvation (7:1; Think: no salvation outside of God’s house and his sacraments; Gen 28:17 w/Mat 16:19).

6. The responsibility of providing for the priests and Levites what is necessary to fulfill their duties to God and His house is to be shared equally among the members of the covenant community (7:2-88, 84 = The silver plates, basins and golden dishes were ml part of the bounty given by God during Israel’s earlier plundering of the Egyptians – Exo 12:36; e.g. Sharing equally the resp. = The tithe [going back to the Adam and Eve – e.g. Gen 4:3-5] was the first to establish this principle and would again become the exclusive means to its fulfillment).

7. God’s (or Christ’s) abiding presence and blessing on His people (8:1-4) is the direct result of their: 1) willingness to serve/go to war/guard His house (1:1-54), 2) obedience to God’s order and offices (2:1-4:49), 3) commitment to holiness and justice (5:1-31), 4) dedication to His house and holy duties (7:1-88).

8. The Levites: 1) occupy a sacred office to God/in God’s house (8:5-8), 2) are representatives of the people to God (8:9-18), 3) serve the (high) priests (8:19-22), 4) have restrictions as to the years they can serve (8:23-26).

9. God’s (or Christ’s) Passover/LT is to be observed by those professing to be God’s people: 1) exactly according to its covenant prescription w/o exception or modification (9:1-5, 14 ; 1Co 11:17-26), 2) only when they are qualified to do so (9:6-12; 1Co 11:27-28; Joh 19:36), 3) lest they be guilty of serious sin and face God’s divine judgment (9:13; 1Co 11:29-30).

10. Unless we are sure God has left His house, we don’t leave the “camp” (i.e. the covenant community) where we and His house currently reside (9:15-23 = We don’t leave unless we are confident God has left first).

11. Our sin can mean the only time we exist in God’s presence (or under His protection), is when we are in His house (9:17 w/Exo 13:21-22, 14:19-20 w/Exo 33:7-11 = Though God had promised them victory in their conquest – or that the land of Canaan was theirs, this would now come w/its share of casualties. Their future wars would therefore be very different than their battle against Egypt where God’s presence/protection had gone before and behind them).