



### **Numbers 26-29**

1. God can restore to future generations what was taken from their ancestors due to sin (26:1-51, 57-65; Compare: Num 1:23, 27, 46 w/26:14, 22, 51).

2. God's justice does not negate His personal preference (26:52-56; Pro 16:33).

3. Death is part of how we serve justice for our sin and the proof that what Jesus did on our behalf did *not* fulfill all the requirements of justice (27:1-3 w/Gen 2:17; Exo 34:7; 1Pe 4:17-18). The two parts of justice needed to be right w/God: 1) active justice/removal of corruption in re: to our behavior (what we must do) = obedience to the Law/righteous practice/repentance/cleansing thru punishment – Pro 20:30, 2) passive justice/removal of contamination in re: to our spirit (what God must do) = sacrifice according to the Law/atonement/forgiveness/pardon/propitiation/cleansing thru substitution – Eph 2:13-14).

4. God doesn't punish His food (28:1 – "My food for my food offerings, my pleasing aroma" = He w/happiness becomes our sin-eater so that our position before Him can become clean and His disposition toward us that of Friend). In this light then consider: Is Christ's death penal? Did Jesus in His death pay the penalty for our sin OR like the OT sacrificial animals, become the vessel to carry/destroy the stain/contamination our sins thru death – after we repented/paid the penalty/did justice (Luk 19:1-10; Lev 6:1-7 w/Mat 5:23-24 w/Exo 34:7 = God doesn't give pardon/passive justice w/o active justice being served by us. Hence the reason we must repent to receive forgiveness).

5. Equity: 1) means that God's inheritance is the same for both men and women (27:4-11; 1Pe 3:7), 2) does not mean the same thing as equality (These verses establish equity [everyone is treated fairly], but not equality [everyone is treated the same]; e.g. women cannot be pastors – though they are equal heirs of the grace of life; 1Ti 2:12-15).

6. Though applications change, the principal established by God's Word (i.e. the "spirit of the law") must be preserved (27:1-11).

7. An anointed ("appoint[ed]"/ordained ("commissioned") pastor (i.e. a "shepherd" w/ "authority" "over the congregation"): 1) must "uphold" God as holy before His people or risk serious consequences (27:12-14; Jam 3:1), 2) is the paradigm established (and later promised) for the covenant community of God's people (which means if that is not the case, then they are not God's people)(27:15-23; Joh 21:21-23; e.g. 1Co 7:40; NC promise – Jer 2:8 w/3:15, 23:1-6).

8. The Pentateuch (or Law) w/b the other (or highest) authority and primary governing tool for all God's leaders after Moses (27:20 – "some authority" [the other existing in God's written words] versus Moses who possessed all authority – Num 12:8 w/Exo 4:16; Jos 1:7-8; Deu 17:14-20; Mal 2:7 w/4:4; Mat 5:17-20).

9. Like physical maturity, spiritual maturity moves from learning faithfulness to your designation and duties, to learning faithfulness w/your time (28:1-29:40 w/2:1-4:49; 28:1, 29:39– "offer to Me/the LORD at its/your appointed time/feasts"; Eph 5:15-20; 1Pe 4:1-3).

10. Like physical maturity, spiritual maturity requires: 1) prioritizing our calendars according to spiritual events/activities/holidays (versus those of the world) (28:1-8 = Everyday, 29:9-10 = Every Lord's Day, 29:11-15 = Every month, 28:16-29:40 = Taking time off for spiritual holidays/covenant community vacations – e.g. camping trip), 2) never forgetting/frequently recognizing and celebrating God's increasing provision (28:16-29:40; Passover/Unleavened Bread = Birth/Beginning of our life w/God/Initial blessings; Pentecost/Weeks = Realizing the first-fruits of our life w/God; Trumpets/Yom Kippur/Booths = Acknowledging the bountiful provision that is now coming from God as we continue through time and trials to walk in faithfulness to Him).

11. The descending order of sacrifices per day over the course of the Feast of Booths - a festival representing God's special dwelling with Israel while on their journey to the Promise Land, may have been meant to communicate God's expectation that there w/b progressively less sin in the camp/our lives the longer we walk w/Him (29:12-38 = Day one: 30 animals, Day two: 29 animals, Day three: 28 animals, Day four: 27 animals, Day five: 26 animals, Day six: 25 animals, Day seven: 24 animals, Day eight: 10 animals).

12. The fact that worshipping/pleasing God involved so much animal death (28:1-29:40 - 730 animals day/evening + 132 1<sup>st</sup> of month + 11 Passover + 11 Weeks + 11 Trumpets + 11 Atonement + 199 Booths = 1,105 animals per yr not counting personal sacs) should radically change the way we kill animals (it is to be kosher/humane --they are not to suffer/we should not wait until they are suffering – Pro 12:10) and view killing animals (when kosher/humane) (it is not sadistic or sad, but happy: 1) service to God's glory and kingdom, 2) service to us [in providing food], 3) retirement from their service to us).