

#5 God's Desire for All His People to Be Today's Nazarites

Crystallization-Study of Numbers (1) 2019/3/25-31

I. Among the human race, the unique Nazarite is the Lord Jesus; hence, a Nazarite is a type of Christ in His living absolutely for God in His humanity: Num. 6:2 Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, When a man or a woman makes a special vow, the vow of a Nazarite, to separate himself to Jehovah, **A.** In His human living, the Lord Jesus ate butter (the richest grace) and honey (the sweetest love) all the days of His life; this richest grace and sweetest love of the Father enabled Him to choose the good things of the Father's will and refuse the evil. **Isa. 7:15** He will eat curds and honey until he knows how to refuse evil and choose good. **B.** The reason anyone can choose the Father's will and give up something, deny himself, or choose the difficult thing is that behind him there is the great and reinforcing power of the enjoyment of Christ as the richest grace and the sweetest love.

[Mon]

II. God desires that all His people be Nazarites; to be a Nazarite is to be sanctified, separated, absolutely and ultimately to God, that is, to be for nothing other than God and for nothing other than His satisfaction: A. Abstaining from wine and anything related to its source signifies abstaining from all kinds of earthly enjoyment and pleasure: **Num. 6:3-4** He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink; he shall drink no vinegar of wine or vinegar of strong drink, nor shall he drink any juice of grapes, nor eat fresh or dried grapes. **1.** A Nazarite is altogether separated from anything of earthly pleasures. **2.** We must enjoy Christ as our new wine (God's invigorating life and cheering love) day by day so that we can be poured out to God as a drink offering for His satisfaction.

[Tue]

B. Not shaving the head signifies not rejecting but being absolutely subject to the headship of the Lord as well as to all deputy authorities appointed by God: **1 Cor. 11:3** But I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ. **6** For if a woman is not covered, let her hair also be cut off; but if it is shameful for a woman to have her hair cut off or to be shaved, let her be covered. **1.** "All things cohere in Him; and He is the Head of the Body, the church... that He Himself might have the first place in all things" (Col. 1:17—18). **2.** "Holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God" (Col. 2:19). **3.** To be filled with Christ is to be filled with submission, having a submissive spirit, standing, atmosphere, and intention; if you are such a person, there will be a great blessing for you and your future. **4.** It is a great blessing to be under the Lord's headship—even to be under someone, some thing, or some environment. **5.** In submission there is power.

[Wed]

C. Not being defiled by the death of his blood relatives, but remaining in his separation to be holy to God, signifies that a Nazarite overcomes natural affection: **Num. 6:6-7** All the days that he separates himself to Jehovah he shall not come near a dead person. He shall not make himself unclean for his father or for his mother, for his brother or for his sister, when they die, because his separation to God is upon his head. **1.** God does not want us to love with our natural love but with Him as our love. **2.** The problem between Paul and Barnabas was caused by the natural life with natural

relationships. **3.** We need to separate ourselves from everything of our natural man with its natural enthusiasm, natural affection, natural strength, and natural ability so that we may live by the Spirit, walk by the Spirit, and serve by the Spirit, doing everything by the Spirit in our spirit for God's unique testimony.

D. Not coming near a dead person or not being defiled by the sudden death of one beside him signifies that a Nazarite is separated from death: **1.** The most hateful thing in the eyes of God is death. **2.** Different kinds of spiritual death may spread among God's people in the church life—wild death (the carcasses of beasts), mild death (the carcasses of cattle), or subtle death (the carcasses of creeping things). **3.** In order to be saved from death, we must set our mind on the spirit, paying attention to our spirit, caring for our spirit, and using our spirit. **4.** In order to be saved from death, we must be filled with "anti-death," filled with Christ as the life-giving Spirit by exercising our spirit to pray. **5.** If we are defiled by some unexpected deadness, we need to have a new start with a new consecration by re-separating ourselves to the Lord.

[Thu]

III. There is a contrast in the Scriptures of two Nazarites—Samuel and Samson: A. Samuel is a positive pattern of a faithful Nazarite: **1 Sam. 1:11** And she made a vow and said, O Jehovah of hosts,...but give to your female servant a male child, then I will give him to Jehovah for all the days of His life, and no razor will come upon his head. **2:35** And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest, **3:20** And all Israel...knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of Jehovah. **7:15** And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. **1.** Hannah's prayer was an echo, a speaking out, of the heart's desire of God; it was a human cooperation with the divine move for the carrying out of God's eternal economy: **a.** God could motivate Hannah as a person who was one with Him on the line of life; as long as God can gain such a person, He has a way on earth. **b.** Hannah's prayer indicates that God's move with His answer to Hannah's prayer was to produce a Nazarite who was absolute for the fulfilling of God's desire; a Nazarite is one who is consecrated to God absolutely, one who takes God as the Head, considering God his Husband, and one who has no interest in the enjoyment of worldly pleasures. **2.** Samuel was one with God on earth; he began to minister as the acting God, the representative of the very God in heaven to rule over His people on earth. **3.** In God's ordination Samuel was a new priest and a prophet, whose speaking changed the age, not through revolution but through divine revelation, to bring in the kingship: **a.** Samuel ministered as a Nazarite consecrated to God absolutely for God's fulfillment of His economy, a volunteer to replace any official and formal serving ones of God. **b.** Samuel ministered as a God-honoring, God-pleasing priest to replace the stale and degraded priesthood. **c.** Samuel ministered as a prophet to speak the word of God when the word of Jehovah was rare and visions were not widespread. **d.** Samuel ministered as a judge in the reality of the kingship to replace the judging of the people by the old and stale priesthood. **e.** Samuel ministered as a man of prayer, praying for God's elect to be kept in the way of God that God's desire of His will in them might be fulfilled.

[Fri]

4. Samuel was a man according to God's heart—God's heart was duplicated in him, and he was pure and single.

1 Sam. 13:14 But now your kingdom will not continue. Jehovah has sought a man (This is talking about David. Samuel, as a man who fulfilled God's heart, had brought about David.) according to His heart for Himself, and Jehovah has appointed him ruler over His people; for you have not kept that which Jehovah commanded you. **5.** Samuel's whole being and person, not just his doing, living, and work were according to God; his being and God's heart were one; he was the acting God on the earth. **6.** God's mind was Samuel's consideration; he had no other thought or consideration. **7.** He was altogether not self-seeking; he never sought to gain anything for himself. **8.** He had no heart for anything besides God's heart and God's elect; his heart was a reflection of God's heart, and his living and working were for the carrying out of whatever was in God's heart. **9.** Because Samuel had no heart to build up a kingdom for his descendants, it was easy for God to bring in the kingdom; thus, Samuel was one who turned the age. **10.** Although it was not easy for Samuel to stand for God in his particular environment, he cared for God's interest and turned the age; according to the Old Testament, Samuel is ranked with Moses in being for God and for God's interest. **Jer. 15:1** And Jehovah said to me, Even though Moses and Samuel were to stand before Me, My soul would not turn toward this people. Send them out of My sight and let them go.

B. Samson is a negative example of a Nazarite: **1.** His origin was a miracle initiated by the appearing of the Angel of Jehovah. **2.** Samson was sanctified in his mother's womb to be a Nazarite. **3.** He grew up and was clean and pure according to God's ordination. **4.** Samson was empowered by the Spirit of God as the holy, economical Spirit. **5.** Samson is an illustration of one who moved in the Spirit of power but not in the Spirit of life; he was very powerful, yet with him we cannot see anything of life. **6.** Samson failed in not contacting God and in indulging in fleshly lusts: **a.** He was not genuine in seeking for a spouse; rather, his contacting of women was to indulge his lusts. **b.** Although he had been empowered by God, he was damaged to the uttermost because of his indulgence in lust. **c.** Ultimately, Jehovah left him, and he came to a miserable ending because he did not know how to restrain the lust of his flesh. **7.** A Nazarite does not need the Spirit of God rushing upon him; rather, a Nazarite needs a heart that is a reflection of God's heart. **[Sat]**

Explanation of terms: The Nazarite: The vow of a Nazarite is a special preparation against the fall of the priesthood. When the priesthood became old, corrupted and fallen, the Lord required some people to have a special vow, a vow that is to be a Nazarite, a need to be a Nazarite priest.

Uncontaminated by death: Since death is hated the most in God's eyes, it was necessary for the Nazarites to isolate themselves from the body of the blood relatives. This shows that one needs to separate oneself from matters such as, the natural man and its natural enthusiasm, natural affection, natural strength, natural ability. Also, it is necessary to keep away from any kind of death and not to spread them. The more we get in touch with negative things like rumor, criticism and murmurs, the more we are dying. If you feel death in the meeting, you need immediately pray in the spirit and resist.

I . The High Gospel Topic 9: Christ's Redemption

Heb. 9:12 And not through the blood of goats and calves but through His own blood, entered once for all into the Holy of Holies, obtaining an eternal redemption. **Eph. 1:7** In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace.

GOD'S WAY OF REDEMPTION BEING THROUGH DEATH :

According to the Bible, God's righteousness requires that all sins be judged. The only way that sin can be judged righteously is by the way of death. **Hebrews 9:22** says that "without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." In order for God to judge and then to forgive our sins, there must be the shedding of blood; that is, there is the need of death. Any way of redemption that does not involve death cannot meet the righteous requirement of God, but comes short of God's standard.

CHRIST AS THE PASSOVER LAMB : He ordered the children of Israel to kill a lamb and put the blood on the doorposts of their houses. In the night the messenger of God passed through the land and executed judgment on the land. In all the houses that did not have the blood on their doorposts, the firstborn was killed; but those who hid under the covering of the blood were saved and delivered. The Bible says that He is "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world".

DYING ON THE CROSS TO BEAR GOD'S JUDGMENT ON SIN :

When He was crucified on the cross, He was rejected by God. Because of this He cried out on the cross, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?". He was the sinless Son of God, yet He was forsaken by God. He was judged by God not for His own sins but for the sins of all mankind.

CHRIST'S BLOOD SPEAKING FOR MAN AND GIVING MAN PEACE : The Bible says that the blood of Christ speaks for us like an attorney in a law court speaking for the defendant. Through this blood God is at peace because His righteous requirement is satisfied. When God is at peace, our conscience also is at peace.

If you see how the redemption of Christ has fully satisfied God, you will be at peace with God. By the redemption of Christ, God has forgiven man's sins. When God forgives man's sins, He forgets man's sins. His forgiving is His forgetting. God can do everything, but He cannot remember the sins of those who have believed in the redemption of Christ. Those who believe in Christ's redemption are cleansed, justified, purified, absolved, unspotted, and untainted before God.

116. Praise of the Lord - His Redemption

1. How wonderful redemption is, My gracious Lord, in Thee!
Not seen, nor heard, nor e'er conceived
What Thou hast done for me! Thou art divine, mysterious,
Beyond my grandest phrase! Redemption is so marvellous,
Beyond all pow'r to praise!
2. For us Thou on the Cross wast pierced,
And blood and water streamed;
That life divine be giv'n to us, That we may be redeemed.
Thy precious blood has made us clean,
That we accepted be; Regenerated by Thy life,
We now are one with Thee.
5. While in remembrance now we meet
And here the symbols see, For Thy redemption great and full
We're filled with praise to Thee.
Since we are made Thy Body, Lord, Thy dwelling place and bride,
We would give thanks and worship Thee
And in Thy praise abide.

Crucial Point①: The Lord Jesus ate butter (the richest grace) and honey (the sweetest love) all the days of His life, and was able to choose the good things and refuse the evil.

OL1: In His human living, the Lord Jesus ate butter (the richest grace) and honey (the sweetest love) all the days of His life; this richest grace and sweetest love of the Father enabled Him to choose the good things of the Father's will and refuse the evil. **Isa.7:15** He will eat curds and honey until he knows how to refuse evil and choose good. **OL2:** The reason anyone can choose the Father's will and give up something, deny himself, or choose the difficult thing is that behind him there is the great and reinforcing power of the enjoyment of Christ as the richest grace and the sweetest love.

In reading the four Gospels, we can see how good and perfect the outward living of the Lord was. Yet from the four Gospels, we cannot tell why the Lord had such a superb outward living.... We can find out the answer to these questions from Isaiah 7.... Verse 15 tells us that He ate butter and honey all His life. Because He ate butter and honey all His life, He was able to choose the good things and refuse the bad things. This is why He could obey God, seek for His glory, and win His heart.

At the age of twelve, our Lord went with His parents to Jerusalem to keep the feast. After the feast His parents returned, but He remained in Jerusalem without their knowing about it. Later His parents returned to Jerusalem to look for Him. After three days they found Him in the temple. His mother said, "Child, why have You treated us like this? Behold, Your father and I, being greatly distressed, have been seeking You" [Luke 2:48].

At the age of twelve, the Lord knew the Father already. He had the heavenly butter and honey. He had received the richest and the sweetest and was living in God's will. If it were us, we might have said, "Go back to Nazareth to care for your carpentry and your housework. I will not go. Let me stay in the temple." Our Lord did not behave this way. He spoke, and He testified; yet He went back with them. After they returned to Nazareth, He was subject to them. The reason He could choose the difficult thing was that God had given Him the richest and sweetest taste.

For Junior High and High School Students/College Students

God's economy is to dispense God Himself into people in Christ, to make people be built up with others, and to express God corporately. Isaiah 7:15 is an important verse to explain God's economy. As a Junior High and High School Student, follow the example of the Lord Jesus and learn to eat the Lord Jesus as butter (the richest grace) and honey (the sweetest love) every morning from a young age for your whole life. You can eat Christ, be fed, refuse the evil, and choose the good things. Even if you don't eat butter and honey, if you try to refuse evil with your own power and choose good, you can not do it, and it is not God's economy.

To refuse evil is to refuse (1) rebellion, (2) pride, (3) individualism, (4) not wanting to study, (5) do not love the church life, which is the life to eat the Lord, (6) do not respect your parents, (7) life in accordance with the lust, (8) life that touches deaths such as rumors and criticism. To choose good is to choose (1) obedience, (2) humble, (3) seeking the benefit of the church or brothers and sisters, (4) working hard to study, (5) Love the church life of eating the Lord, (6) respect your parents, (7) life of crucifying lust and following the Spirit, (8) life that does not touch deaths such as rumors and criticism. It is not easy at all to refuse evil and to choose good.

However, eating Christ as butter and honey will bring you power from inside, and then you can make it.

Prayer: "O Lord Jesus, I consecrate myself to the Lord. May I eat butter and honey every morning for my whole life. On the day of not eating, there will be no power to refuse evil and choose good. However, if I eat the Lord, I can have power inside, refuse the evil, choose the good, and express the Lord. This is God's economy for me. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!"

Crucial Point②: It is a great blessing to be under the Lord's headship—even to be under someone, some thing, or some environment

OL1: To be filled with Christ is to be filled with submission, having a submissive spirit, standing, atmosphere, and intention; if you are such a person, there will be a great blessing for you and your future. **OL2:** It is a great blessing to be under the Lord's headship—even to be under someone, some thing, or some environment **OL3:** In submission there is power.

The fallen race is a rebellious race. The rebellious nature is still within us. Thus, it would be dangerous to be in a situation in which there is no deputy authority. This was the reason God established human government. The entire government is a deputy authority representing God's authority. Speaking of this, Paul says, "Let every person be subject to the authorities over him, for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are ordained by God. So then he who resists the authority opposes God's ordination" (Rom. 13:1-2a). Teachers, employers, and police officers are deputy authorities. Everywhere on earth there is deputy authority.

Let us apply this matter of deputy authority to the church. Is there deputy authority in the church? If there is no deputy authority in the church, why are there elders? Recently, some have said that there is no deputy authority in the New Testament. If such a claim is true, why does the New Testament tell us that there are elders in the churches? Surely, Christ is the Head, and the authority is the Spirit, but we still need elders in the church. Without elders, the church would be in anarchy.

Two particular characteristics, or two signs, of a Nazarite are, first, that he does not touch any worldly pleasure and, second, that he always keeps himself under some authority. These are solemn matters. As those who would be absolute for God, we must abstain from earthly pleasure. Furthermore, we must not shave our head; that is, we must respect authority and remain under the headship of our Lord in every way.

For young working saints/graduate students

Eph. 4:15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ, **6:5** Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as to Christ; **6** Not with eye-service as men-pleasers but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the soul; **7** With good will serving as slaves, as serving the Lord and not men; Your growing up into the Head, Christ includes your submission to the Head. You should be filled with submission to grow. Also by your being submissive to your deputy authority, such as your boss and professor, you can experience Christ and participate God's blessing. In the church life, you need to submit to the elders of the church, the responsible brothers and the serving ones in your district.

For example, in your company, you should obey the policy of the president of your company or the chief director of your department. Otherwise you are working under the opposite position basically. And this is to take the positioning of Satan,

thus you are under God's judgment. When you carry out your performance, you need to make use of the power of the company or the department, which are much greater than the one of individuals to apply the leverage. For this, you need to submit to the policy of your director or president and put your personal opinion onto the cross.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, for me to grow in the life of the Lord, I need to subject to the Head, Christ. I will learn to submit to the Lord and to my boss. By doing this I can stand differently from Satan's rebellion and can be blessed by God greatly. Amen!"

Crucial Point ③: Comparing Samuel with Samson is encouragement and warning for you. You must set your mind on your spirit.

OL1: Hannah's prayer indicates that God's move with His answer to Hannah's prayer was to produce a Nazarite who was absolute for the fulfilling of God's desire. **OL2:** Samuel was one with God on earth; he began to minister as the acting God, the representative of the very God in heaven to rule over His people on earth. **OL3:** In God's ordination Samuel was a new priest and a prophet, whose speaking changed the age, not through revolution but through divine revelation, to bring in the kingship. **OL4:** Samuel was a man according to God's heart—God's heart was duplicated in him, and he was pure and single. **OL5:** Samuel ministered as a man of prayer, praying for God's elect to be kept in the way of God that God's desire of His will in them might be fulfilled. **OL6:** Samson failed in not contacting God and in indulging in fleshly lusts. **OL7:** Ultimately, Jehovah left him, and he came to a miserable ending because he did not know how to restrain the lust of his flesh.

On the human side, Samuel's origin was his God-worshipping parents, especially his God-seeking mother with her prayer. In the midst of the chaos of degraded Israel, Elkanah and Hannah remained in the line of life ordained by God for His eternal purpose. The line of life is a line that brings forth Christ for the enjoyment of God's people that on earth God may have His kingdom, which is the church as the Body of Christ, the very organism of the Triune God. Because of God's moving in her, Hannah could not have peace until she prayed for a son. Hannah's prayer was an echo, a speaking out, of the heart's desire of God. It was a human cooperation with the divine move for the carrying out of God's eternal economy. God could motivate Hannah as a person who was one with Him in the line of life. As long as God can gain such a person, He has a way on earth.

The picture in 1 Samuel 7:2-6 shows a people returning to God, and a man, Samuel, who was one with God on earth. As the acting God on earth, the representative of the very God in heaven to rule over His people on earth, Samuel began to minister. Samuel, who was by nature a Levite born of one of the descendants of the great rebel Korah, ministered in five statures: (1) as a Nazarite consecrated to God absolutely for God's fulfillment of His economy, a volunteer to replace any official and formal serving ones of God; (2) as a priest faithful to act on behalf of God, even to appoint and establish kings for the divine government on earth; (3) as a prophet established by God to assist the kings appointed by him as a priest, to speak the word of God to replace the teaching of the word of God by the old priesthood; (4) as a judge established by God to carry out God's governmental administration, to replace the judging of the people by the old priesthood; and (5) as a man of prayer who prayed for God's elect, the children of Israel, that they

would be kept in the way of God, would be one with God, would not be ensnared by the idols of the nations, and would enjoy God that God's desire in His will regarding His elect might be fulfilled.

For every believer who desires to be an overcomer

If you want to be an overcomer, you should be encouraged by Samuel and his mother Hannah and be warned from Samson. The prayer of Hannah was to respond to and to speak out God's heart desire. It is to touch God as life. Regardless of the difficulty in standing for God in his particular environment, Samuel cared for God's interest and changed the age. On the other hand, Samson did not touch God as life. Also he was not pure in seeking the spouse and indulged in lust. **2Tim. 2:22** But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. **Rom. 8:5** For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit. **6** For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

2Cor. 10:4-5 For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful before God for the overthrowing of strongholds, As we overthrow reasonings and every high thing rising up against the knowledge of God, and take captive every thought unto the obedience of Christ.

Those who are according to the flesh are those who put their mind on the flesh. Such ones practically listen to the negative words from Satan and their hearts are filled with Satan's words and thus against God. Peter, even right after he saw the revelation, put his mind on the flesh and rebuked the Lord that the Lord should not be put to the cross. Lord immediately said to Peter "Get behind Me, Satan! (Matt. 16:23)". Peter was one with Satan and spoke the word of Satan. It is very terrible thing to put our mind on the flesh. Do not even to consider the word from Satan when you hear it by putting your mind on the flesh. Rather you should pray like this, "Oh Lord Jesus, my considering of Satan's word means my receiving of it. I will thoroughly exclude it and discard it. I will discard the negative feeling from Satan against the brothers and sisters and against the church into the trash can". We should pray like this and exclude it thoroughly. Please exercise your mingled spirit always and put your mind on the spirit, excluding Satan's word thoroughly and listen to Lord's voice and fellowship with Him. **Prayer:** "Oh Lord Jesus, when I am according to the flesh, I mind the things of the flesh and become those who listens to Satan's word and be one with Satan. Save me thoroughly from the deceit that comes from Satan's whispering. And for this I would not consider any negative thought which comes from Satan's word and discard it totally. Save me thoroughly from any feeling that is against to Christ and the church. Let me be today's Samuel who turn the age."

Hymn (New Song) In this godless age

(This recording is on the church website.)

In this godless age Lord, You need some Samuels
Burdened with a vision clear of Your economy
Where's Your ark today? And the ones who'd care for You,
E'en to put themselves aside to gain Your heart's desire?
Raise up some to meet Your need, some Nazarites,
Prophets, priests, and judges, and men of prayer,
Speaking forth Your word, with Your authority,
A photo of Your heart for Your move.