

FINAL STUDY NOTES – *Numbers Chapters 4 - 6* 10/19-20/26

ROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: **07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS** Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: **07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS** Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: *Numbers Chapter 1* – The First Census of Israel. *Chapter 2* – The Tribes and Leaders by Armies. *Chapter 3* – The Sons of Aaron; The Levites Serve in the Tabernacle; Census of the Levites Commanded; Levites Dedicated Instead of the Firstborn.

THIS WEEK: *Numbers Chapter 4* – Duties of the Sons of Korah – (vs. 1-20); Duties of the Sons of Gershon – (vs. 21-28); Duties of the Sons of Merari – (vs. 29-33); Census of the Levites – (vs. 34-49).

Chapter 5 – Ceremonially Unclean Persons Isolated - (vs. 1-4); Confession and Restitution – (vs. 5-10); Concerning Unfaithful Wives - (vs. 11-31). *Chapter 6* – The Law of the Nazirite – (vs. 1-21); The Priestly Blessing (The Benediction) – (vs. 22-27).

Chapter 4 - Duties of the Sons of Kohath - [1] Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: [2] "Take a census of the sons of Kohath from among the children of Levi, by their families, by their fathers' house, [3] from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, all who enter the service to do the work in the tabernacle of meeting.

- Notice the age limits on this census for the Levites is different (30-50 years old; 25-50 in some cases – serving, not carrying) than for the other tribes (armies; 20 years and above). (*Num 8:24*) "This is what pertains to the Levites: From twenty-five years old and above may enter to perform service (ministry in serving, not bearing burden) in the work of the tabernacle of meeting.

[4] *"This is the service of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of meeting, relating to the most holy things; [5] When the camp prepares to journey, Aaron and his sons shall come, and they shall take down the covering veil and cover the ark of the Testimony with it. [6] Then they shall put on it a covering of badger skins, and spread over that a cloth entirely of blue (heavenly, royal or sacred origin of the objects directly touching and covering the holy vessels. When the Kohathite priests came in to carry the ark, they never even saw it); and they shall insert its poles. [7] "On the table of showbread they shall spread a blue cloth, and put on it the dishes, the pans, the bowls, and the pitchers for pouring; and the showbread shall be on it. [8] They shall spread over them a scarlet (blood, sacrificial atonement) cloth, and cover the same with a covering of badger skins; and they shall insert its poles. [9] And they shall take a blue cloth and cover the lampstand of the light, with its lamps, its wick-trimmers, its trays, and all its oil vessels, with which they service it.*

[10] Then they shall put it with all its utensils in a covering of badger skins, and put it on a carrying beam. [11] "Over the golden altar they shall spread a blue cloth, and cover it with a covering of badger skins; and they shall insert its poles. [12] Then they shall take all the utensils of service with which they minister in the sanctuary, put them in a blue cloth, cover them with a covering of badger skins, and put them on a carrying beam. [13] Also they shall take away the ashes from the altar, and spread a purple (possibly foreshadowing the costliness of sin/sacrifice, pointing forward to Jesus Christ our King) cloth over it. [14] They shall put on it all its implements with which they minister there—the firepans, the forks, the shovels, the basins, and all the utensils of the altar—and they shall spread on it a covering of badger skins, and insert its poles. [15] And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is set to go, then the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them; but they shall not touch (Gen 3:3b) but of the fruit of the tree... 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "any holy thing, lest they die. "These are the things in the tabernacle of meeting which the sons of Kohath are to carry. It was all done in an orderly fashion.

- **Notice the prevalence of poles for man to carry the holy things, which also points to the coming Messiah and the LORD's use of men to carry the Good News into the world. As a believer, how effective am I in being a carrier of the Good News into the world around me?**

[16] "The appointed duty of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is the oil for the light, the sweet incense, the daily grain offering, the anointing oil, the oversight of all the tabernacle, of all that is in it, with the sanctuary and its furnishings."

- Eleazar, now the eldest son of Aaron, is appointed overseer of the Kohathites in this service. He must take care that nothing was forgotten, left behind, or displaced. As a priest he had more honor than the Levites, but then he had more care, which was a heavier burden upon his heart, than all the burdens that were laid upon their shoulders. It is much easier to do the work of the tabernacle than to discharge the trusts of it, to obey than to rule.

[17] Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: [18] "Do not cut off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites from among the Levites; [19] but do this in regard to them, that they may live and not die when they approach the most holy things: Aaron and his sons shall go in and appoint each of them to his service and his task.

- **"May live and not die when they approach the most holy things" - How aware am I of His holiness? (Lev 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7; 1Pe 1:16) because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."**

[20] But they shall not go in to watch while the holy things are being covered, lest they die."

- **Notice His holiness! The penalty for the Kohathites is death for touching; approaching; and watching the most holy things! What is the reaction in my heart when I read these words? How aware am I in my heart of His profound holiness?**

Duties of the Sons of Gershon - [21] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [22] "Also take a census of the sons of Gershon, by their fathers' house, by their families. [23] From thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, you shall number them, all who enter to perform the service, to do the work in the tabernacle of meeting.

- Notice the age limits on this census for the Levites (30-50 years old; 25-50 in some cases – serving, not carrying, bearing a burden) is different than for the other tribes (armies, 20 years and above). (Num 8:24) "This is what pertains to the Levites: From twenty-five years old and above one may enter to perform service (ministry in serving, not in the carrying) in the work of the tabernacle of meeting.

[24] This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, in serving and carrying: [25] They shall carry the curtains of the tabernacle and the tabernacle of meeting with its covering, the covering of badger skins that is on it, the screen for the door of the tabernacle of meeting, [26] the screen for the door of the gate of the court, the hangings of the court which are around the tabernacle and altar, and their cords, all the furnishings for their service and all that is made for these things: so shall they serve. (It was quite a job to set up and take down the tabernacle, yet it was so well organized by the LORD, that it went smoothly!)

- **Serving as the LORD directs! Is this not a great illustration for us in moving forward as He calls us in our ministry? When we are led by the Spirit, willingly following Him, the task will go, supernaturally smoothly, bearing much fruit.**

[27] "Aaron and his sons shall assign all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, all their tasks and all their service. And you shall appoint to them all their tasks as their duty. [28] This is the service of the families of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of meeting. And their duties shall be under the authority of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

- Their charge shall be under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest; the things committed to their care were delivered by him to them, and they were under his inspection and direction.

Duties of the Sons of Merari - [29] "As for the sons of Merari, you shall number them by their families and by their fathers' house. [30] From thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, you shall number them, everyone who enters the service to do the work of the tabernacle of meeting. [31] And this is what they must carry as all their service for the tabernacle of meeting: the boards of the tabernacle, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, [32] and the pillars around the court with their sockets, pegs, and cords, with all their furnishings and all their service; and you shall assign to each man by name the items he must carry (notice the assignment of personal responsibility; by name; by specific duty.)

- (Eph 2:20-22) having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, [21] in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, [22] in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

[33] This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari, as all their service for the tabernacle of meeting, under the authority of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest."

- Under the authority or hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest; who had the oversight of these as well as of the Gershonites, as Eleazar had of the Kohathites; though as Eleazar was the chief of the tribe of Levi, it is thought that Ithamar acted under him (his older brother.) (Num 3:32)
- We note the effect of Abihu's and Nadab's sin on the organization now. Eleazar and Ithamar have double duty, which would not have occurred if all Aaron's four son were able to serve. May I never think that my sin does not affect others!

Census of the Levites – [34] And Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of the congregation numbered the sons of the Kohathites by their families and by their fathers' house, [35] from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tabernacle of meeting; [36] and those who were numbered by their families were (2,750) two thousand seven hundred and fifty. [37] These were the ones who were numbered of the families of the Kohathites, all who might serve in the tabernacle of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

[38] And those who were numbered of the sons of Gershon, by their families and by their fathers' house, [39] from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tabernacle of meeting— [40] those who were numbered by their families, by their fathers' house, were (2,630) two thousand six hundred and thirty. [41] These are the ones who were numbered of the families of the sons of Gershon, of all who might serve in the tabernacle of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD.

[42] Those of the families of the sons of Merari who were numbered, by their families, by their fathers' house, [43] from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who entered the service for work in the tabernacle of meeting— [44] those who were numbered by their families were (3,200) three

thousand two hundred. [45] These are the ones who were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses. [46] All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses, Aaron, and the leaders of Israel numbered, by their families and by their fathers' houses, [47] from thirty years old and above, even to fifty years old, everyone who came to do the work of service and the work of bearing burdens in the tabernacle of meeting— [48] those who were numbered were (8,580) eight thousand five hundred and eighty. [49] According to the commandment of the LORD they were numbered by the hand of Moses, each according to his service and according to his task; thus were they numbered by him, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 5 – Ceremonially Unclean Persons Isolated - [1] *And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:* [2] *"Command the children of Israel that they put out of the camp every leper, everyone who has a discharge, and whoever becomes defiled by a corpse.* [3] *You shall put out both male and female; you shall put them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camps in the midst of which I dwell."*

- This is first time since the Garden of Eden that man is in the midst of where the LORD dwells. Again, to have that consciousness of the awesomeness of the LORD's presence. Anything that was unclean had to be put outside of the camp. Why? Because the LORD was dwelling within the camp. He does not want anything that is unclean; put all defilement outside of the camp!
- (Joh 14:23) *Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.*
- ***How aware am I that I am always in the midst of where the LORD dwells? That He is always present my life? Is there any defilement in me, of which He said there can be no defilement where He dwells?***

[4] *And the children of Israel did so, and put them outside the camp; as the LORD spoke to Moses, so the children of Israel did.*

Confession and Restitution - [5] *Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,* [6] *"Speak to the children of Israel: 'When a man or woman commits any sin that men commit in unfaithfulness against the LORD, and that person is guilty,* [7] *then he shall confess the sin which he has committed. He shall make restitution for his trespass in full, plus one-fifth of it, and give it to the one he has wronged. [8] *But if the man has no relative to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for the wrong must go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of the atonement with which atonement is made for him. [9] Every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel, which they bring to the priest, shall be his. [10] And every man's holy things shall be his; whatever any man gives the priest shall be his.' "**

A Test for Adultery; Concerning Unfaithful Wives - [11] *And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,* [12] *"Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'If any man's wife goes astray and behaves unfaithfully toward him, [13] and a man lies with her carnally, and it is hidden from the eyes of her husband, and it is concealed that she has defiled herself, and there was no witness against her, nor was she caught— [14] if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, who has defiled herself; or if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, although she has not defiled herself—*

- The difficulty here is that you may be living with a jealous and suspicious man. It is possible that there are no grounds for his suspicions. It could be that you are just as faithful as any wife could be, yet he is just suspicious and jealous.

[15] *then the man shall bring his wife to the priest. He shall bring the offering required for her, one-tenth of an ephah of barley meal; he shall pour no oil on it and put no frankincense on it, because it is a grain offering of jealousy, an offering for remembering (not only for the husband and wife, but for the whole community), for bringing iniquity to remembrance. [16] 'And the priest shall bring her near, and set her before the LORD. [17] The priest shall take holy water in an earthen vessel, and take some of the dust that is on the floor of the tabernacle and put it into the water. [18] Then the priest shall stand the woman*

before the LORD, uncover the woman's head, and put the offering for remembering in her hands, which is the grain offering of jealousy. And the priest shall have in his hand the bitter water that brings a curse. [19] And the priest shall put her under oath, and say to the woman, "If no man has lain with you, and if you have not gone astray to uncleanness while under your husband's authority, be free from this bitter water that brings a curse. [20] But if you have gone astray while under your husband's authority, and if you have defiled yourself and some man other than your husband has lain with you"— [21] then the priest shall put the woman under the oath of the curse, and he shall say to the woman—"the LORD make you a curse and an oath among your people, when the LORD makes your thigh (secret generative parts) rot and your belly swell;

- The priest puts her under the oath of the curse. When you drink this water, if you are guilty, may your thigh rot and your belly swell. If you are not guilty, nothing may happen to you. The woman then had to drink this bitter water. Now imagine if you had an extremely jealous husband, going through this whole routine of your thigh rotting and your belly swelling, determining if you are guilty.

[22] and may this water that causes the curse go into your stomach, and make your belly swell and your thigh rot." 'Then the woman shall say, "Amen, so be it." ("That's the truth!" She had to agree that if she was innocent, she deserved vindication; but if guilty, she deserved the punishment of the curse.) [23] 'Then the priest shall write these curses in a book, and he shall scrape them off into the bitter water. [24] And he shall make the woman drink the bitter water that brings a curse, and the water that brings the curse shall enter her to become bitter. [25] Then the priest shall take the grain offering of jealousy from the woman's hand, shall wave the offering before the LORD, and bring it to the altar; [26] and the priest shall take a handful of the offering, as its memorial portion, burn it on the altar, and afterward make the woman drink the water. [27] When he has made her drink the water, then it shall be, if she has defiled herself and behaved unfaithfully toward her husband, that the water that brings a curse will enter her and become bitter, and her belly will swell, her thigh will rot, and the woman will become a curse among her people. [28] But if the woman has not defiled herself, and is clean, then she shall be free and may conceive children.

- Now the priest has made her to drink the water. If she has defiled herself, behaving unfaithfully toward her husband, the water that brings a curse will enter her and become bitter and her belly will swell and her thigh will rot. She will become a curse among the people. But if she is not guilty and she is clean then she will be free from the curse and will be able to conceive and bear children!

[29] 'This is the law of jealousy, when a wife, while under her husband's authority, goes astray and defiles herself, [30] or when the spirit of jealousy comes upon a man, and he becomes jealous of his wife; then he shall stand the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall execute all this law upon her. [31] Then the man shall be free from iniquity, but that woman shall bear her guilt.' "

- Certainly, this reveals again that the Word of God is very clear on this matter of fidelity to the marriage vow. Today we are seeing a great letdown of that, and it is becoming the accepted thing that the marriage vow is not to be taken seriously. God will hold you to it! A great many of the problems of this world today begin in the home. They are being made by those who are treating the marriage vow lightly. God cannot, nor will He bless a nation where this situation prevails.
- (Lev 20:10) 'The man who commits adultery with another man's wife, he who commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death. Explicitly establishes the death penalty for adultery.
- (Deu 22:22,24a) "If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them shall die—the man that lay with the woman, and the woman; so you shall put away the evil from Israel. [24a] then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones. Re-affirms that if a man is found lying with a married woman, both must die (either stoned to death at the city gates or executed) to purge evil from Israel. Because of the love for His people, He gives harsh penalties to those who break them.
- **How much harmful, unrighteous, ungodly, jealousy is in my life? How much Godly jealousy is there? Is my jealousy centered too much on me? We see that God's jealousy is tremendous regarding us, but it is all centered on His profound love for us that we not be separated from Him at all!**

Chapter 6 - The Nazirite Vow –

- **The vow of the Nazirite was a vow of consecration of a person's life to the LORD.** You are going to separate yourself for the LORD for a period of time. "I am going to dedicate my life, I am going to consecrate myself," and you would determine the amount of time. Six months, a year, "I am going to give this year to God, I am just going to consecrate myself for a year's period, or six-month, or whatever time you designated when you made your vow."
- **I want to devote and dedicate my life to God in an even greater measure** than the completely obedient child of God that's kind of walking with them through this pilgrimage. They wanted something extraordinary in their relationship with God and in their intimacy with God.
- **We remember in the book of Judges when Manoah and his wife could not have children.** An angel of the LORD appeared, telling her that God was going to give her a son. That she was not to drink any wine or strong drink, neither was a razor to come to his head, (Judges 13:5) for he was to be a Nazirite to God, from his birth. We remember the birth of Samson, and how that God's Spirit was upon his life and would come upon his life, and that tremendous strength he would have when the anointing of God's Spirit was upon him. The vow of the Nazirite. It was to be a vow from his birth, a lifelong thing. He was to live a consecrated life!
- **Unfortunately, Samson had a weakness in his flesh.** God wanted to use Samson for a marvelous work. God wanted to use him as the deliverer of God's people. Samson could have gone down in the Old Testament as a hero of faith, as one of the greatest deliverers in the history of the nation of God's people. He had that potential. Being separated from his mother's womb unto God, as a Nazirite. But he had a weakness in his flesh.
- **Ultimately this weakness in his flesh brought him to the place of the breaking of that vow,** as he revealed the secret of his strength to Delilah. His consecration to God which was represented by his long hair. You may ask many people, "What was the secret of Samson's strength?" Immediately they will answer, "His long hair." Not so. There is no strength in long hair. You do not have to have any hair. **The strength was in his consecration to God; to any man who consecrates his life to God, is a man of strength and power.** The strength is in commitment. When his hair was cut, the Nazirite vow was broken, the Spirit of God departed from his life. Even though he did not realize it at first. Without that anointing and power of the Spirit, he was weak just like any other man, and the Philistines overcame him. He was defeated before the enemy. The secret of strength. (**Jdg 16:20**) *And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" So he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.*
- **Jesus was to be known as a Nazirite.** There are indications that perhaps from His birth, Jesus kept the vows of the Nazirite, a life of total separation unto God. There was and is, only one in history who really ever kept those vows completely, and that was Jesus. He lived a life that was separated unto God His entire life! Never once did He break that. A life of commitment, of consecration.

[1] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2] "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When either a man or woman consecrates an offering to take the vow of a Nazirite (naziriy, to separate (12x) himself to the LORD, [3] he shall (#1) separate himself from wine and similar drink; he shall drink neither vinegar made from wine nor vinegar made from similar drink; neither shall he drink any grape juice, nor eat fresh grapes or raisins. (The Nazirite was to find his joy in the LORD, not wine!) [4] All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, from seed to skin.

- You were prohibited from the grape vine; anything that grows on the grapevine. Whether it be processed or whatever. The wine, the grape juice, the raisins, or whatever, were to be deleted.

[5] 'All the days of the vow of his separation (#2) no razor shall come upon his head; until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to the LORD, he shall be holy. Then he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow. [6] All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he shall (#3) not go near a dead body. [7] He shall not make himself unclean even for his father or his mother, for his brother or his sister, when they die, because his separation to God is on his head. [8] All the days of his separation he shall be holy to the LORD.

- (2Co 6:17) **Therefore "COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND BE SEPARATE, SAYS THE LORD. DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN, AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU."**

[9] 'And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him, and he defiles his consecrated head, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing; on the seventh day he shall shave it. [10] Then on the eighth day he shall bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of

meeting; [11] and the priest shall offer one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering, and make atonement for him, because he sinned in regard to the corpse; and he shall sanctify his head that same day. [12] He shall consecrate to the LORD the days of his separation, and bring a male lamb in its first year as a trespass offering; but the former days shall be lost, because his separation was defiled.

- The third thing is that you are not to go near a dead body. Even if a member of your own family should die, during this period of consecration, you were not to go near their dead bodies. If someone accidentally dies next to you, then you would have to go through the purification rites. Then you would have to start all over on your period of time. The time that you had done up to that point did not count.

[13] 'Now this is the law of the Nazirite: When the days of his separation are fulfilled, he shall be brought to the door of the tabernacle of meeting. [14] And he shall present his offering to the LORD: one male lamb in its first year without blemish as a burnt offering, one ewe lamb in its first year without blemish as a sin offering, one ram without blemish as a peace offering, [15] a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mixed with oil, unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and their grain offering with their drink offerings.

[16] 'Then the priest shall bring them before the LORD and offer his sin offering and his burnt offering; [17] and he shall offer the ram as a sacrifice of a peace offering to the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread; the priest shall also offer its grain offering and its drink offering. [18] Then the Nazirite shall shave his consecrated head at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and shall take the hair from his consecrated head and put it on the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offering. [19] 'And the priest shall take the boiled shoulder of the ram, one unleavened cake from the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and put them upon the hands of the Nazirite after he has shaved his consecrated hair, [20] and the priest shall wave them as a wave offering before the LORD; they are holy for the priest, together with the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the heave offering. After that the Nazirite may drink wine.'

[21] "This is the law of the Nazirite who vows to the LORD the offering for his separation, and besides that, whatever else his hand is able to provide; according to the vow which he takes, so he must do according to the law of his separation."

The Priestly Blessing

[22] And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [23] "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel.

Say to them: [24] "The LORD bless you (#1 The LORD is a blessing God!) and keep you; (#2 The LORD is a keeping God!)

[25] The LORD make His face shine upon you, (#3 The LORD is a smiling God!) And be gracious to you; (#4 The LORD is a gracious God!)

[26] The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, (#5 The LORD is an attentive God!) And give you peace." ' (#6 The LORD is a peace-giving, blessing God!)

[27] "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

- He said, You speak this blessing over them because in doing so, you are speaking My name over them. When God says, When you pronounce this over My people, you are pronouncing My name over them, He is saying, You are reminding them of who and what I am. This is who and what I am to My people. So, this is My nature. I want you to reinforce in them all of the time that this is what their God is like and how their God views them and the commitment that He has made to them.
- Then maybe the most astonishing part of the whole instruction is that he says, and I will bless them! Aaron, every time you close out a service, I want you to declare this over My people. I want them to hear it so often that they have it memorized that they can think backwards and forwards. I want them to know this like they know the back of their hands. And when you pronounce this over them, then they and you are confident that I will do it. I will be a blessing in their lives!
- Aaron, sometimes you can look and say, now that is some major sanctified boasting in God. Will He do it? Will He be that to them? Will He be it to them in the coming week? God says, Your job, Aaron, is to remind them of this, and then if you do that, I will live up to it in their lives. It is a very, very rich, deep, beautiful blessing and part of the Word of God.

- **The duties of the priest were two-fold.** Number one, he was to go in before God, representing the people. As a sinful person you could not directly approach the holy God. A sinful person was only allowed within the outer court with your offering. The priest would meet you to receive your offering from you. When the offering was slain, he would take the blood of the offering and go into the holy place and put it upon the horns of the altar, as he stood there before God, representing you, offering the sin offering for you.
- **Having then represented you before God, the priest would return and then represent God to you.** So, the second portion of the priestly duty was representing God to the people. First, representing the people to God. Secondly, representing God to the people. He became God's representative. He stood there in God's place, to represent God.
- **We are told that we are a royal priesthood, a holy nation.** That we are a kingdom of priests unto the Lord. We in the church are representatives of God, to the world. (*1Pe 2:9*) *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*
- **Jesus said, (Luk 24:48) And you are witnesses of these things. We are to represent Him before the world.** God is very concerned in how He is represented. Unfortunately, God has been greatly misrepresented by many people, supposing to be representatives of God, are really misrepresenting Him.
- **We remember how Moses misrepresented God in failing to hallow God's Holiness.** (*Num 20:12*) *Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."* By lashing out in anger, Moses made it look as though God was hot-tempered, impatient, or annoyed with meeting His people's needs, rather than His being gracious and compassionate.
- **I wonder God, how many times do I misrepresent You? Help me never to do that, but may I always in Your name, be a blessing to others! That they would know that You "will bless them!"**

SUMMARY:

- **Num 4:15** Notice the prevalence of poles for man to carry the holy things, which also points to the coming Messiah and the LORD's use of men to carry the Good News into the world. As a believer, how effective am I in being a carrier of the Good News into the world around me?
- **Num 4:19** "May live and not die when they approach the most holy things" - How aware am I of His holiness? (*Lev 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7; 1Pe 1:16*) *because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."*
- **Num 4:20** Notice His holiness! The penalty for the Kohathites is death for touching; approaching; and watching the most holy things! What is the reaction in my heart when I read these words? How aware am I in my heart of His profound holiness?
- **Num 4:26** Serving as the LORD directs! Is this not a great illustration for us in moving forward as He calls us in our ministry? When we are led by the Spirit, willingly following Him, the task will go, supernaturally smoothly, bearing much fruit.
- **Num 5:3** How aware am I that I am always in the midst of where the LORD dwells? That He is always present my life? Is there any defilement in me? He said there can be no defilement where He dwells?
- **Num 5:31** How much harmful, unrighteous, ungodly, jealousy is in my life? How much Godly jealousy is there? Is my jealousy centered too much on me? We see that God's jealousy is tremendous regarding us, but it is all centered on His profound love for us that we not be separated from Him at all!
- **Num 6:27** I wonder God, how many times do I misrepresent You? Help me never to do that, but may I always in Your name, be a blessing to others! That they would know that You "will bless them!"

THE BENEDICTION – Pastor Chuck Smith- (47/51)

(Num 6:24-26) The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

CLOSING PRAYER - Pray for all Christians to vote!

NEXT WEEK: Study *Numbers Chapters 7-9*