

Naso Numbers - Bemidbar (4.21-7.89)

After God told Moses to count the other Kohen families and assign responsibilities, the counting of the Children of Israel was complete. God said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and tell them, "Send out of camp anyone unclean so that they do not defile their camp where I dwell among them." And they did. God said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'If a man or a woman sins against another human, a trust is broken and it is being untrue to God. The sinner is then guilty of a crime. For restitution, the person must confess the sin that has been committed and pay back "the cost of the sin" plus an extra 20% to the victim. If the victim is dead, the restitution must be given to the priests. "

Now a man or a woman may make a resolve to God and take a Nazarite vow to not drink any wine, nor cut any head hair, nor come in contact with the dead. When the person no longer wants to keep the Nazarite vow, he or she must give offerings to a priest who will take it before God and there is a ceremony to reflect the vow being fulfilled.

God said to Moses, "Speak to Aaron and his priestly sons and say, 'This is how you must bless the Israelites. Say to them, "May God bless you and keep you. May God shine God's Almighty Favor upon you and be gracious to you. May God lift up God's Countenance to support you and grant you peace.'" Thus the priests will attach My Name with the sons of Israel and I shall bless them."

On the day Moses finished building the Tabernacle and Dwelling Place of the Ten Commandments, he anointed and sanctified everything associated with it. Then the princes of Israel, the leaders who directed the family census, presented God an offering of six covered wagons and twelve oxen. God told Moses to give their gifts to the Levites who are in charge of moving the materials of Tabernacle. Those moving the most sacred and holy items would carry them on their shoulders."

On the day the Tabernacle was anointed, the leaders of each family brought near their dedication offerings for the Altar. God said to Moses, "For the Altar's dedication, one prince each day shall bring their offering." The first day was from the tribe of Judah, and was followed by Issachar, Zebulun, Reuben, Simeon, Gad, Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin, Dan, Asher and Naphtali. Each brought God the same offerings. Each brought a silver bowl and basin filled with wheat kneaded with oil for the bread offerings, a gold bowl filled with incense, and livestock for the burnt, sin and peace offerings.

When Moses came into the Tent of Tabernacle to speak with God, he would hear God's Voice from above the cover of the Ark of the Testimonial Tablets, from between the two cherubim angels. God thus spoke to Moses.

Questions: 1) Where do speak with God? 2) When do you make a vow? 3) What would you bring as an offering to dedicate the holy Altar? Why?

Illustration Ideas: A person committing a sin and feeling guilty...a Nazarite man or woman...Aaron blessing the Israelites...the leader's offerings...Moses going into the Tent of Appointed Meeting to speak with God...God speaking from between the two Angels on the cover of the Ark of the Testimony.