

Message Five

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

EM *Hymns*: 445

Scripture Reading: Num. 6:1-9; Rev. 1:2; 19:10

Num 6:1	Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
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,
Num 6:3	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.
Num 6:4	All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grape vine, from the seeds even to the skin.
Num 6:5	All the days of his vow of separation no razor shall pass over his head. He shall be holy until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to Jehovah; he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow long.
Num 6:6	All the days that he separates himself to Jehovah he shall not come near a dead person.
Num 6:7	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.
Num 6:8	All the days of his separation he is holy to Jehovah.
Num 6:9	And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him so that he defiles the head of his separation, then he shall shave his head on the day he becomes clean; on the seventh day shall he shave it.
Rev 1:2	Who testified the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, even all that he saw.
Rev 19:10	And I fell before his feet to worship him. And he said to me, Do not do this. I am your fellow slave and a fellow slave of your brothers who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of the prophecy.

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— John 5:30; Phil. 2:8; cf. Matt. 11:28-30; Eph. 4:20-21; John 6:57:

John 5:30	I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
Phil 2:8	And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of a cross.
Matt 11:28	Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matt 11:29	Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
Matt 11:30	For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.
Eph 4:20	But you did not so learn Christ,
Eph 4:21	If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus,
John 6:57	As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

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. 7:14-15; Matt. 11:25-26; 14:22-23; 26:39; Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16.

Isa 7:14	Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and will bear a son, and she will call his name Immanuel.
Isa 7:15	He will eat curds and honey until he knows how to refuse evil and choose good.
Matt 11:25	At that time Jesus answered and said, I extol You, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.
Matt 11:26	Yes, Father, for thus it has been well-pleasing in Your sight.
Matt 14:22	And immediately He compelled the disciples to step into the boat and to go before Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.
Matt 14:23	And after He sent the crowds away, He went up to the mountain privately to pray. And when night fell, He was there alone.
Matt 26:39	And going forward a little, He fell on His face and prayed, saying, My Father, if it is

- possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.
- Mark 1:35 And rising very early in the morning, while it was still night, He went out and went away to a deserted place, and there He prayed.
- Luke 5:16 But He Himself often withdrew in the wilderness and prayed.
- 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—John 1:17; Rom. 5:17; 2 Tim. 2:1; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Gal. 2:20; Rom. 8:37; 12:1-2.
- John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.
- Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
- 2 Tim 2:1 You therefore, my child, be empowered in the grace which is in Christ Jesus;
- 2 Cor 5:14 For the love of Christ constrains us because we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died;
- 2 Cor 5:15 And He died for all that those who live may no longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised.
- Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
- Rom 8:37 But in all these things we more than conquer through Him who loved us.
- Rom 12:1 I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service.
- Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

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—the testimony of Jesus—Num. 6:1-2; Psa. 73:25-26; Rev. 1:2, 9-13; 19:10; cf. Num. 2:2:

- Num 6:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
- 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,
- Psa 73:25 Whom do I have in heaven but You? / And besides You there is nothing I desire on earth.
- Psa 73:26 My flesh and my heart fail, / But God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.
- Rev 1:2 Who testified the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, even all that he saw.
- Rev 1:9 I John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.
- Rev 1:10 I was in spirit on the Lord's Day and heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet,
- Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,
- Rev 1:13 And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.
- Rev 19:10 And I fell before his feet to worship him. And he said to me, Do not do this. I am your fellow slave and a fellow slave of your brothers who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of the prophecy.
- Num 2:2 The children of Israel shall encamp each by his own standard with the ensigns of their fathers' households; they shall encamp facing the Tent of Meeting on every side.
- A. Abstaining from wine and anything related to its source signifies abstaining from all kinds of earthly enjoyment and pleasure—6:3-4; cf. Psa. 104:15; Eccl. 10:19:
- Num 6:3 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.

- Num 6:4 All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grape vine, from the seeds even to the skin.
- Psa 104:15 Even wine that cheers man's heart, / Oil that makes his face shine, / And bread that sustains man's heart.
- Eccl 10:19 They make a feast for laughter, and wine makes life merry, and money is the answer to everything.
1. A Nazarite is altogether separated from anything of earthly pleasures—Luke 2:46-49; 2 Cor. 6:14—7:1; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15.
 - Luke 2:46 And after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them and questioning them.
 - Luke 2:47 And all those who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers.
 - Luke 2:48 And when they saw Him, they were astounded; and His mother said to Him, Child, why have You treated us like this? Behold, Your father and I, being greatly distressed, have been seeking You.
 - Luke 2:49 And He said to them, Why is it that you were seeking Me? Did you not know that I must be in the things of My Father?
 - 2 Cor 6:14 Do not become dissimilarly yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership do righteousness and lawlessness have? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness?
 - 2 Cor 6:15 And what concord does Christ have with Belial? Or what part does a believer have with an unbeliever?
 - 2 Cor 6:16 And what agreement does the temple of God have with idols? For we are the temple of the living God, even as God said, "I will dwell among them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people."
 - 2 Cor 6:17 Therefore "come out from their midst and be separated, says the Lord, and do not touch what is unclean; and I will welcome you";
 - 2 Cor 6:18 "And I will be a Father to you, and you will be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty."
 - 2 Cor 7:1 Therefore since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and of spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
 - James 4:4 Adulteresses, do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever determines to be a friend of the world is constituted an enemy of God.
 - 1 John 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him;
 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—Matt. 9:17; S. S. 1:2; 4:10; Judg. 9:13; 2 Tim. 4:6; Phil. 2:17.
 - Matt 9:17 Neither do they put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out, and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.
 - S.S. 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth! / For your love is better than wine.
 - S.S. 4:10 How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride! / How much better is your love than wine, / And the fragrance of your ointments / Than all spices!
 - Judg 9:13 But the vine said to them, Shall I leave my new wine, which cheers God and men, and go to wave over the trees?
 - 2 Tim 4:6 For I am already being poured out, and the time of my departure is at hand.
 - Phil 2:17 But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice, and I rejoice together with you all.
- 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—Num. 6:5; Rom. 13:1-2a; Eph. 5:21, 23; 6:1; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5:
- Num 6:5 All the days of his vow of separation no razor shall pass over his head. He shall be holy until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to Jehovah; he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow long.
 - Rom 13:1 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.

- Rom 13:2a So then he who resists the authority opposes God's ordination, ...
- Eph 5:21 Being subject to one another in the fear of Christ:
- Eph 5:23 For a husband is head of the wife as also Christ is Head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the Body.
- Eph 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- Heb 13:17 Obey the ones leading you and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not groaning; for this would be unprofitable to you.
- 1 Pet 5:5 In like manner, younger men, be subject to elders; and all of you gird yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.
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.

Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;

Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
 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"—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—Phil. 2:8-9; Eph. 5:18-21.

Phil 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of a cross.

Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

Eph 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

Eph 5:19 Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

Eph 5:20 Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father,

Eph 5:21 Being subject to one another in the fear of Christ:
 4. It is a great blessing to be under the Lord's headship—even to be under someone, some thing, or some environment—3:1; 4:1; 6:20.

Eph 3:1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you, the Gentiles-

Eph 4:1 I beseech you therefore, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called,

Eph 6:20 For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.
 5. In submission there is power—Judg. 16:17.

Judg 16:17 And he told her all his heart and said to her, No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazarite to God from my mother's womb. If I were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become weak and be like all men.
- 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. 6:7:
- Num 6:7 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—Matt. 12:48-50; Phil. 2:21; 1 Cor. 13:4-8, 13; 2 Tim. 1:7.

Matt 12:48 But He answered and said to him who spoke to Him, Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?

Matt 12:49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, Behold, My mother and My brothers!

Matt 12:50 For whoever does the will of My Father who is in the heavens, he is My brother and sister and mother.

Phil 2:21 For all seek their own things, not the things of Christ Jesus.
 1 Cor 13:4 Love suffers long. Love is kind; it is not jealous. Love does not brag and is not puffed up;
 1 Cor 13:5 It does not behave unbecomingly and does not seek its own things; it is not provoked and does not take account of evil;
 1 Cor 13:6 It does not rejoice because of unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;
 1 Cor 13:7 It covers all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
 1 Cor 13:8 Love never falls away. But whether prophecies, they will be rendered useless; or tongues, they will cease; or knowledge, it will be rendered useless.
 1 Cor 13:13 Now there abide faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.
 2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.

2. The problem between Paul and Barnabas was caused by the natural life with natural relationships—Lev. 2:11; Acts 15:35-39; Col. 4:10.

Lev 2:11 No meal offering that you present to Jehovah shall be made with leaven, for you shall not burn any leaven or any honey as an offering by fire to Jehovah.
 Acts 15:35 And Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and announcing the word of the Lord as the gospel with many others also.
 Acts 15:36 Now after some days Paul said to Barnabas, Let us return now and visit the brothers in every city in which we announced the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing.
 Acts 15:37 And Barnabas intended to take John, who is called Mark, along with them also;
 Acts 15:38 But Paul did not consider it suitable to take with them this one who withdrew from them in Pamphylia and did not go with them to the work.
 Acts 15:39 And there was a sharp contention, so that they separated from each other; and Barnabas, taking Mark along, sailed away to Cyprus.
 Col 4:10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, greets you, as well as Mark, the cousin of Barnabas, (concerning whom you received commandments, If he comes to you, receive him),

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—Lev. 10:1-11; Gal. 5:25; Phil. 3:3; Rom. 1:9; 8:4; Zech. 4:6.

Lev 10:1 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer, and put fire in them and laid incense on it, and they presented strange fire before Jehovah, which He had not commanded them.
 Lev 10:2 And fire came out from before Jehovah and consumed them, and they died before Jehovah.
 Lev 10:3 Then Moses said to Aaron, This is what Jehovah spoke, saying, In those who come near to Me I will be sanctified, / And before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron was silent.
 Lev 10:4 And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said to them, Come near; carry your brothers from before the sanctuary to the outside of the camp.
 Lev 10:5 So they came near and carried them in their tunics to the outside of the camp, just as Moses had said.
 Lev 10:6 Then Moses said to Aaron and to his sons Eleazar and Ithamar, Do not dishevel the hair of your heads, and do not tear your garments, that you may not die and that He may not be angry with all the assembly. But let your brothers, the whole house of Israel, weep for the burning which Jehovah has kindled.
 Lev 10:7 And you shall not go out from the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, lest you die; for the anointing oil of Jehovah is upon you. And they did according to the word of Moses.
 Lev 10:8 Then Jehovah spoke to Aaron, saying,
 Lev 10:9 Drink no wine or strong drink, neither you nor your sons with you, when you come into the Tent of Meeting, that you may not die; it shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations,

Lev 10:10 Both to make a distinction between the holy and the common, and between the unclean and the clean;

Lev 10:11 And to teach the children of Israel all the statutes which Jehovah has spoken to them through Moses.

Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Phil 3:3 For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh,

Rom 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,

Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.

Zech 4:6 And he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says Jehovah of hosts.

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—Num. 6:6-9:

Num 6:6 All the days that he separates himself to Jehovah he shall not come near a dead person.

Num 6:7 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.

Num 6:8 All the days of his separation he is holy to Jehovah.

Num 6:9 And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him so that he defiles the head of his separation, then he shall shave his head on the day he becomes clean; on the seventh day shall he shave it.

1. The most hateful thing in the eyes of God is death—Rev. 3:4; Lev. 11:31.

Rev 3:4 But you have a few names in Sardis who have not defiled their garments, and they will walk with Me in white because they are worthy.

Lev 11:31 These are unclean to you among all the swarming things; whoever touches them when they are dead shall be unclean until the evening.
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)—5:2; cf. 1 John 5:16a.

Lev 5:2 Or if anyone touches any unclean thing, whether the carcass of an unclean animal or the carcass of unclean cattle or the carcass of unclean swarming things, and it escapes his notice, and he is unclean, then he will be guilty.

1 John 5:16a If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin not unto death, he shall ask and he will give life to him, to those sinning not unto death. ...
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—Rom. 8:6.

Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.
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—v. 11; Eph. 6:18.

Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
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—Num. 6:9-14a; cf. 1 Sam. 1:11; 2:11.

Num 6:9 And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him so that he defiles the head of his separation, then he shall shave his head on the day he becomes clean; on the seventh day shall he shave it.

Num 6:10 And on the eighth day he shall bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting,

- Num 6:11 And the priest shall offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering, and make expiation for him because he sinned by reason of the dead person. And he shall sanctify his head that same day.
- Num 6:12 And he shall separate to Jehovah the days of his separation and shall bring a male lamb a year old for a trespass offering, but the former days shall be void because his separation was defiled.
- Num 6:13 Now this is the law of the Nazarite when the days of his separation are fulfilled: He shall be brought to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting.
- Num 6:14a And he shall present his offering to Jehovah: ...
- 1 Sam 1:11 And she made a vow and said, O Jehovah of hosts, if You will indeed look upon the affliction of Your female servant and remember me and not forget Your female servant, 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.
- 1 Sam 2:11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child ministered to Jehovah before Eli the priest.

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, 28; 2:28, 35; 3:20; 7:15:
- 1 Sam 1:11 And she made a vow and said, O Jehovah of hosts, if You will indeed look upon the affliction of Your female servant and remember me and not forget Your female servant, 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.
- 1 Sam 1:28 Therefore I, for my part, have lent him to Jehovah; all the days that he lives, he is lent to Jehovah. And he worshipped Jehovah there.
- 1 Sam 2:28 And I chose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be My priest, to go up to My altar, to burn incense, and to wear the ephod before Me. And I gave the house of your father all the offerings by fire of the children of Israel.
- 1 Sam 2:35 And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in My heart and in My mind; and I will build him a sure house; and he will go before My anointed continually.
- 1 Sam 3:20 And all Israel, from Dan to Beer-sheba, knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of Jehovah.
- 1 Sam 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:
- 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.
 - Hannah's prayer indicates that God's move with His answer to Hannah's prayer (1:10-17) 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.
- 1 Sam 1:10 And she was bitter in soul and prayed to Jehovah and wept much.
- 1 Sam 1:11 And she made a vow and said, O Jehovah of hosts, if You will indeed look upon the affliction of Your female servant and remember me and not forget Your female servant, 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.
- 1 Sam 1:12 And while she continued praying a long time before Jehovah, Eli watched her mouth.
- 1 Sam 1:13 And Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. So Eli thought that she was drunk.
- 1 Sam 1:14 And Eli said to her, How long will you be drunk? Put away your wine from you.
- 1 Sam 1:15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord. I am a woman oppressed in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before Jehovah.

- 1 Sam 1:16 Do not take your female servant for a worthless woman; for out of the greatness of my anxiety and provocation I have been speaking all this time.
- 1 Sam 1:17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant your request that you have requested from Him.
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—7:3.
- 1 Sam 7:3 Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, If you are returning with all your heart to Jehovah, remove the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from your midst, and direct your heart to Jehovah and serve only Him; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines.
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—1:11, 28a.
- 1 Sam 1:11 And she made a vow and said, O Jehovah of hosts, if You will indeed look upon the affliction of Your female servant and remember me and not forget Your female servant, 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.
- 1 Sam 1:28a Therefore I, for my part, have lent him to Jehovah; all the days that he lives, he is lent to Jehovah. ...
- b. Samuel ministered as a God-honoring, God-pleasing priest to replace the stale and degraded priesthood—2:30, 35; cf. Judg. 9:9, 13; Deut. 34:7.
- 1 Sam 2:30 Therefore Jehovah the God of Israel declares, I surely said that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever; but now Jehovah declares, Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who spurn Me will be lightly esteemed.
- 1 Sam 2:35 And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in My heart and in My mind; and I will build him a sure house; and he will go before My anointed continually.
- Judg 9:9 But the olive tree said to them, Shall I leave my fatness, because of which God and men are honored by me, and go to wave over the trees?
- Judg 9:13 But the vine said to them, Shall I leave my new wine, which cheers God and men, and go to wave over the trees?
- Deut 34:7 And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor had his freshness left him.
- c. Samuel ministered as a prophet to speak the word of God when the word of Jehovah was rare and visions were not widespread—1 Sam. 3:1-10, 19-21.
- 1 Sam 3:1 And the boy Samuel ministered to Jehovah before Eli. Now the word of Jehovah was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.
- 1 Sam 3:2 And at that time Eli lay in his place, and his eyesight had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see.
- 1 Sam 3:3 And the lamp of God had not yet gone out. And Samuel lay in the temple of Jehovah, where the Ark of God was.
- 1 Sam 3:4 Then Jehovah called to Samuel. And he said, Here I am.
- 1 Sam 3:5 And he ran to Eli and said, Here I am, for you called me. And he said, I did not call. Go back and lie down. And he went and lay down.
- 1 Sam 3:6 And Jehovah called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel rose up and went to Eli and said, Here I am, for you called me. And he said, I did not call, my son. Go back and lie down.
- 1 Sam 3:7 Now Samuel did not yet know Jehovah, and the word of Jehovah had not yet been revealed to him.
- 1 Sam 3:8 Then Jehovah called Samuel again, the third time. And he rose up and went to Eli and said, Here I am, for you called me. Then Eli perceived that it was Jehovah calling the boy.

- 1 Sam 3:9 And Eli said to Samuel, Go and lie down, and if He calls you, you shall say, Speak, O Jehovah; for Your servant is listening. And Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- 1 Sam 3:10 Then Jehovah came and stood by and called as at the other times, Samuel! Samuel! And Samuel said, Speak, for Your servant is listening.
- 1 Sam 3:19 And Samuel grew, and Jehovah was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.
- 1 Sam 3:20 And all Israel, from Dan to Beer-sheba, knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of Jehovah.
- 1 Sam 3:21 And Jehovah continued to appear in Shiloh, for Jehovah revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of Jehovah.
- 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—7:15-17.
- 1 Sam 7:15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.
- 1 Sam 7:16 And he went year by year in circuit to Bethel and Gilgal and Mizpah, and he judged Israel in all those places.
- 1 Sam 7:17 Then he would return to Ramah, for his house was there. And he judged Israel there and built an altar to Jehovah there.
- 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—8:6; 12:20-25; 15:11.
- 1 Sam 8:6 But the matter displeased Samuel when they said, Give us a king to judge us. Then Samuel prayed to Jehovah.
- 1 Sam 12:20 And Samuel said to the people, Do not be afraid. You have done all this evil, yet do not turn away from following Jehovah, but serve Jehovah with all your heart.
- 1 Sam 12:21 And do not turn away, for your turning away would be after vain idols, which cannot profit or deliver you, for they are vanity.
- 1 Sam 12:22 For because of His great name Jehovah will not forsake His people, for Jehovah has been pleased to make you a people for Himself.
- 1 Sam 12:23 Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I would sin against Jehovah by ceasing to pray for you, but I will instruct you in the good and right way.
- 1 Sam 12:24 Only, fear Jehovah and serve Him in truth with all your heart, for consider what great things He has done for you.
- 1 Sam 12:25 But if you still do wickedly, both you and your king will be consumed.
- 1 Sam 15:11 I repent that I made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not fulfilled My words. And Samuel was angry, and he cried to Jehovah all night long.
4. Samuel was a man according to God's heart—God's heart was duplicated in him, and he was pure and single—cf. Matt. 5:8; 6:22-23; 2 Tim. 2:22.
- Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- Matt 6:22 The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is single, your whole body will be full of light;
- Matt 6:23 But if your eye is evil, your whole body will be dark. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!
- 2 Tim 2:22 But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
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—cf. Matt. 16:24; Luke 9:23-25.
- Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
- Luke 9:23 And He said to them all, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.
- Luke 9:24 For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-

- life for My sake, this one shall save it.
- Luke 9:25 For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world but loses or forfeits 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 (cf. 2 Cor. 3:16-18), and his living and working were for the carrying out of whatever was in God's heart.

2 Cor 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

2 Cor 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
 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.

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—Judg. 13:3-5; 1 Cor. 10:6:
- Judg 13:3 And the Angel of Jehovah appeared to the woman and said to her, Now you are barren and have borne no children; but you will conceive and bear a son.
- Judg 13:4 And now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink nor to eat anything unclean;
- Judg 13:5 For you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy will be a Nazarite to God from the womb; and he will begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.
- 1 Cor 10:6 Now these things occurred as examples to us, that we should not be ones who lust after evil things, even as they also lusted.
1. His origin was a miracle initiated by the appearing of the Angel of Jehovah—Judg. 13:3.

Judg 13:3 And the Angel of Jehovah appeared to the woman and said to her, Now you are barren and have borne no children; but you will conceive and bear a son.
 2. Samson was sanctified in his mother's womb to be a Nazarite—vv. 3, 5.

Judg 13:3 And the Angel of Jehovah appeared to the woman and said to her, Now you are barren and have borne no children; but you will conceive and bear a son.

Judg 13:5 For you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy will be a Nazarite to God from the womb; and he will begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.
 3. He grew up and was clean and pure according to God's ordination—vv. 4-5.

Judg 13:4 And now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink nor to eat anything unclean;

Judg 13:5 For you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy will be a Nazarite to God from the womb; and he will begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.
 4. Samson was empowered by the Spirit of God as the holy, economical Spirit—v. 25; 14:5-6, 19.

Judg 13:25 And the Spirit of Jehovah began to move him at Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Judg 14:5 So Samson went down with his father and mother to Timnah. And as they came to the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion roared against him.

Judg 14:6 And the Spirit of Jehovah rushed upon him, and he tore it apart as one might tear a kid apart with his bare hands. And he did not tell his father and mother what he had done.

Judg 14:19 Then the Spirit of Jehovah rushed upon him; and he went down to Ashkelon and struck thirty men among them; and he took their clothing and gave the changes of clothing to those who had explained the riddle. And his anger burned, and he went up to his father's house.

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—v. 1:
 - Judg 14:1 And Samson went down to Timnah, and he saw a woman in Timnah from the daughters of the Philistines.
 - a. He was not genuine in seeking for a spouse; rather, his contacting of women was to indulge his lusts—vv. 1-3, 10-17; 16:1-20a.
 - Judg 14:1 And Samson went down to Timnah, and he saw a woman in Timnah from the daughters of the Philistines.
 - Judg 14:2 And he went up and told his father and mother and said, I have seen a woman in Timnah from the daughters of the Philistines. Now therefore get her for me as a wife.
 - Judg 14:3 But his father and mother said to him, Is there no woman among the daughters of your brothers or among all my people, that you must go and get a woman of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said to his father, Get her for me, for she pleases me.
 - Judg 14:10 And his father went down to the woman; and Samson held a feast there, for so the young men used to do.
 - Judg 14:11 And when they saw him, they brought thirty companions to be with him.
 - Judg 14:12 And Samson said to them, Let me now put forth a riddle to you. If you fully explain it to me within the seven days of the feast and find it out, I will give you thirty fine linen garments and thirty changes of clothing;
 - Judg 14:13 But if you cannot explain it to me, you shall give me thirty fine linen garments and thirty changes of clothing. And they said to him, Put forth your riddle, let us hear it.
 - Judg 14:14 And he said to them, / Out of the eater came forth food, / And out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not explain the riddle after three days.
 - Judg 14:15 Then on the fourth day they said to Samson's wife, Entice your husband to explain the riddle to us; otherwise we will burn you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us here in order to impoverish us? Is it not so?
 - Judg 14:16 So Samson's wife wept before him and said, You only hate me, and you do not love me: You have put forth a riddle to the children of my people, but you have not explained it to me. And he said to her, Look, I have not explained it to my own father and mother. Should I then explain it to you?
 - Judg 14:17 And she wept before him the rest of the seven days that they had the feast. But on the seventh day he explained it to her, for she pressed him. Then she explained the riddle to the children of her people.
 - Judg 16:1 And Samson went down to Gaza; and there he saw a harlot and went in unto her.
 - Judg 16:2 And this was told to the Gazites, saying, Samson has come here. So they surrounded him and set an ambush for him all night long in the gate of the city. And they were quiet all night long, saying among themselves, We will stay here until the light of morning; then we will slay him.
 - Judg 16:3 But Samson lay only until midnight; then he rose at midnight and grasped the doors of the gate of the city and the two posts, and he plucked them up along with the bar; and he put them on his shoulders and brought them up to the top of the mountain that is in front of Hebron.
 - Judg 16:4 Then after this he fell in love with a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.
 - Judg 16:5 And the lords of the Philistines came to her; and they said to her, Entice him, and find out how it is that his strength is so great, and how we can prevail against him and bind him so that we may afflict him; and we each will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.
 - Judg 16:6 So Delilah said to Samson, Tell me please, How is it that your strength is so great, and how could you be bound so that you could be afflicted?
 - Judg 16:7 And Samson said to her, If they bind me with seven new cords that are not dried out, I will become weak and be like any other man.

Judg 16:8 So the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven new cords that were not dried out, and she bound him with them.

Judg 16:9 And there was an ambush staying with her in the inner chamber; and she said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson! And he snapped the cords, as when a strand of tow is snapped when it touches fire. So his strength was not known.

Judg 16:10 Then Delilah said to Samson, You have just mocked me and told me lies; now tell me please, How can you be bound?

Judg 16:11 And he said to her, If they bind me up with new ropes with which no work has been done, I will become weak and be like any other man.

Judg 16:12 So Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them; and she said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson! And there was an ambush staying in the inner chamber. But he broke them off his arms like a thread.

Judg 16:13 Then Delilah said to Samson, Until now you have mocked me and told me lies; tell me how you can be bound. And he said to her, If you weave the seven locks of my head with the web and fasten them with the pin onto the wall, I will become weak and be like any other man.

Judg 16:14 So while he slept, Delilah took the seven locks of his head and wove them into the web; and she fastened them with the pin. Then she said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson! And he awoke from his sleep and plucked up the pin of the loom and the web.

Judg 16:15 Then she said to him, How can you say, I love you, when your heart is not with me? These three times you have mocked me and have not told me how it is that your strength is so great.

Judg 16:16 And after she pressed him with her words every day and urged him, his soul was tired to death.

Judg 16:17 And he told her all his heart and said to her, No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazarite to God from my mother's womb. If I were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become weak and be like all men.

Judg 16:18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent word and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up once more, for he has told me all his heart. And the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and they brought the silver in their hand.

Judg 16:19 And she put him to sleep in her lap and called for a man; and she had him shave off the seven locks of his head. And she began to afflict him, and his strength left him.

Judg 16:20a Then she said, The Philistines are upon you, Samson! And he awoke from his sleep and said, I will go out as at other times and shake myself free. ...

- 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—cf. 2 Tim. 2:22.
2 Tim 2:22 But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

7. A Nazarite does not need the Spirit of God rushing upon him (Judg. 14:6, 19); rather, a Nazarite needs a heart that is a reflection of God's heart.

Judg 14:6 And the Spirit of Jehovah rushed upon him, and he tore it apart as one might tear a kid apart with his bare hands. And he did not tell his father and mother what he had done.

Judg 14:19 Then the Spirit of Jehovah rushed upon him; and he went down to Ashkelon and struck thirty men among them; and he took their clothing and gave the changes of clothing to those who had explained the riddle. And his anger burned, and he went up to his father's house.