NUMBERS

Walking with God Through the Wilderness

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

Experiencing Life's Greatest Honor

The greatest honor in life
is fully enjoying the presence of God!

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

Genesis 3:8-9

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.
And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it:
for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof…
And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 21:22-27

The greatest honor in life
is fully enjoying the presence of God!

Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.
Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep:
O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.
How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God!
therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house;
and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.
For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.
O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee;
and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.
Psalms 36:7-12

The greatest honor in life
is fully enjoying the presence of God!

Thou wilt shew me the path of life:
in thy presence is fulness of joy;
at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.
Psalms 16:11

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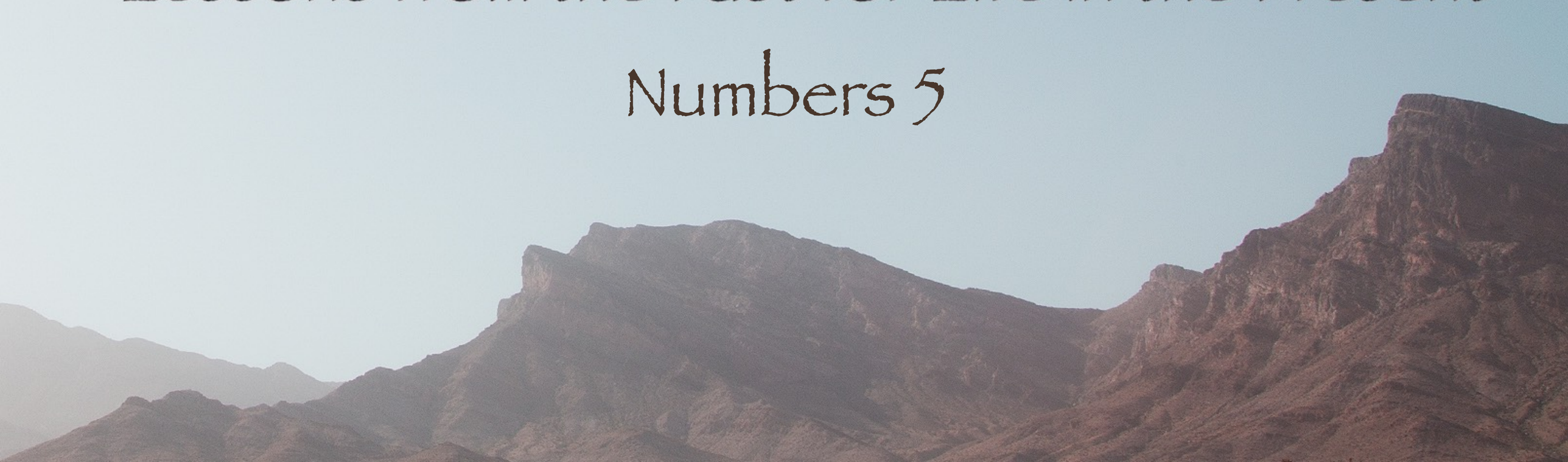
Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

Numbers 5



Benjamin
Manasseh
Ephraim
Gad
Simeon
Reuben
Judah
Issachar
Zebulon
Dan
Asher
Naphtali
Levi (CENTER):
1. MOSES, AARON AND SONS
2. KOHATH
3. GERSHON
4. MERARI

DENVER
BRONCOS
CRUZ AZUL
AZUL!
CEMENTO

Benjamin
Manasseh
Ephraim
Gad
Simeon
Reuben
Judah
Issachar
Zebulon
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Levi (CENTER):
1. MOSES, AARON AND SONS
2. KOHATH
3. GERSHON
4. MERARI

God's Presence in Israel's Camp

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Depart and go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will give it.' And I will send My Angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people."

And when the people heard this bad news, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. For the Lord had said to Moses, "Say to the children of Israel, 'You are a stiff-necked people. I could come up into your midst in one moment and consume you. Now therefore, take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do to you.' " So the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by Mount Horeb. - Exodus 33:1-6

God's Presence in Israel's Camp

Then Moses said to the Lord, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people."

And He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth."

So the Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name." - Exodus 33:12-17

If you want to fully enjoy
the presence of God in your life you must…

Remove the sins that defile you,

Confess your sins and make restitution,

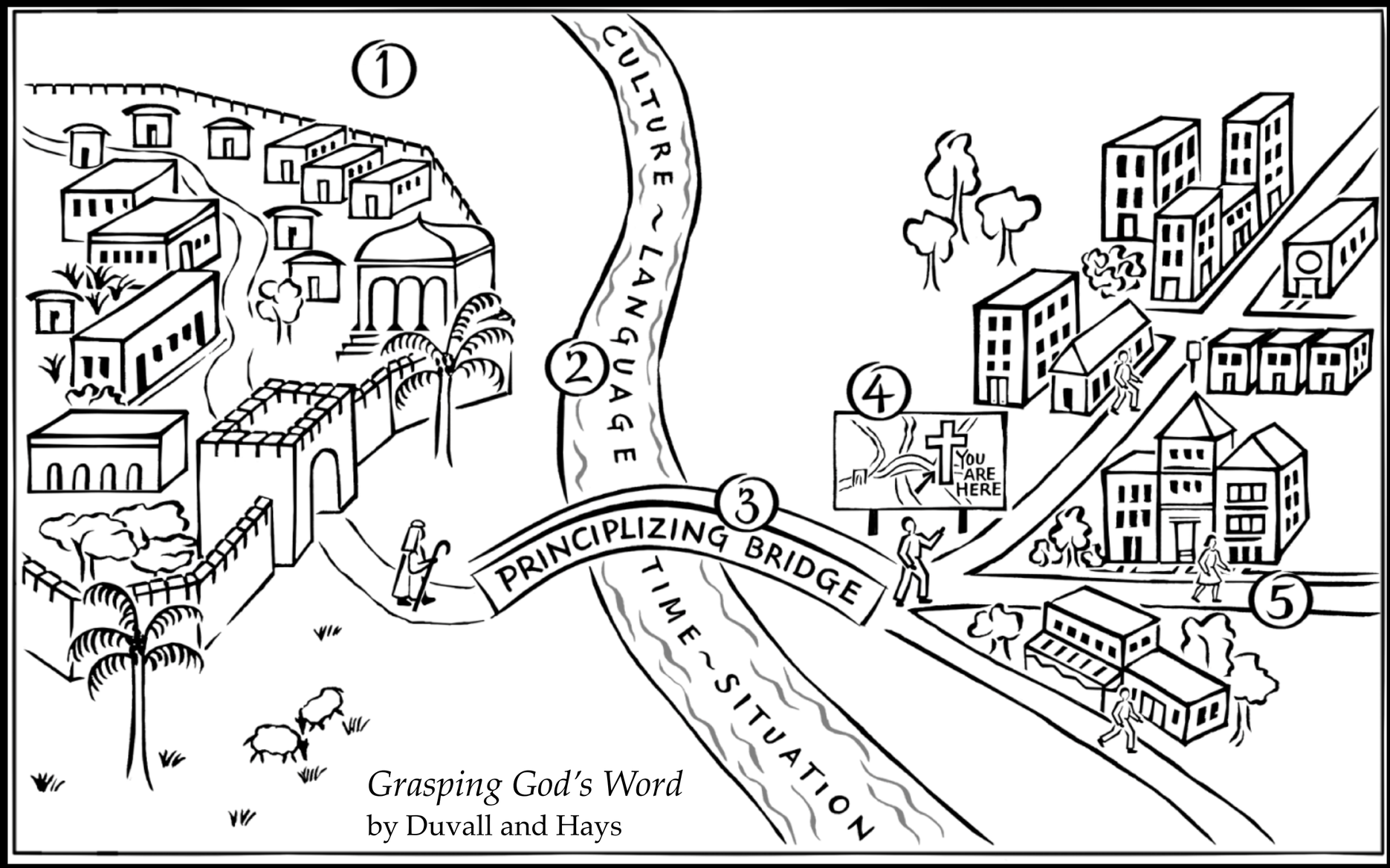
Walk in a faithful relationship
with your spouse and with God.

You will never fully enjoy the presence of God in your life if you…

Tolerate sins that defile you,

Cover sins that deny God and defraud others,

Participate in sins that destroy your faithful relationship to your spouse and God.



Step 1: Grasp the text in their town. What did the text mean to the original audience?
Step 2: Measure the width of the river to cross. What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?
Step 3: Cross the principlizing bridge. What is the theological principle in this text?
Step 4: Consult the biblical map. How does our theological principle fit with the rest of the Bible?
Step 5: Grasp the text in our town. How should individual Christians today live out the theological principles?

"And the Lord spake unto Moses saying," (5:1)

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "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. 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."
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. - Numbers 5:1-4

1. In order to fully enjoy the presence of God in your life, you must remove the sins that defile you.

Who must be removed from Israel's Camp?

People with skin diseases.

People with abnormal bodily fluid discharges.

People who had touched a dead body.

Why must these people be removed from Israel's Camp?

GOD DWELLS IN THE CAMP!

Physical and spiritual diseases are infectious and can spread.

***Leviticus 13-15 provides many more of the details related to this topic.

What truly defiles a person?

And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding?
Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man. - Matthew 15:16-20

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

1. The things that defile us are deeper than our actions.
2. God is holy and for us to dwell in His presence, we must pursue holiness.
3. Identify sins that would defile you and separate yourself from them.

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus is God who by faith can transform the unclean into the clean.

The Leper

And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him. And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them. But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities. - Luke 5:12-15

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus is God who by faith can transform the unclean into the clean.

The Woman with the Issue of Blood

And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanched. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me. And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately. And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Luke 8:43-48

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus is God who by faith can transform the unclean into the clean.

The Dead

And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house: For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him….While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master. But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole. And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden. And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat. And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done. - Luke 5:37-40 & 49-56

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus is our Great High Priest who knows every hidden sin.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. - Hebrews 4:12-13

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus is our Great High Priest who understands every trial and temptation.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. - Hebrews 4:14-16

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:1-4)

Jesus went outside the camp and suffered so we could be welcomed into the camp.

We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. - Hebrews 13:10-16

"And the Lord spake unto Moses saying," (5:5)

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "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, 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. 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. Every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel, which they bring to the priest, shall be his. And every man's holy things shall be his; whatever any man gives the priest shall be his.' " - Numbers 5:5-10

2. In order to fully enjoy the presence of God in your life, you must confess sins and make restitution.

The sin is a common sin that any man or woman could commit?

The sin is described as missing the mark in relationship to others.

The sin is described as breaking faith or being unfaithful to God.

What must be done with sin?

The appropriate sin offering must be provided.

The situation must confessed and restitution must be made - Plus 20%.

Why would the payment need to be made to the Priest if there were no relatives?

The penalty and payment for sin must always be made.

***Leviticus 5-6 provides many more of the details related to this topic.

2. In order to fully enjoy the presence of God in your life, you must confess sins and make restitution.

Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. - Matthew 5:23-24

2. In order to fully enjoy the presence of God in your life, you must confess sins and make restitution.

And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; <u>Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.</u> And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Luke 19:1-10

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

1. Sin involves missing the mark in our relationship with God and others.
2. Sin is breaking faith with God.
3. Sin is costly to the everyone involved.
4. Delayed obedience is disobedience.
5. A child of God cannot have fellowship with God and be out of fellowship with their brother or sister in Christ.

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:5-10)

Because of who we sinned against, the wages of sin are always costly.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord..
Romans 6:23

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:5-10)

Jesus is our Advocate.

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. - I John 2:1-2

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:5-10)

Jesus provided the atoning sacrifice for sin through His death.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. - Romans 3:23-26

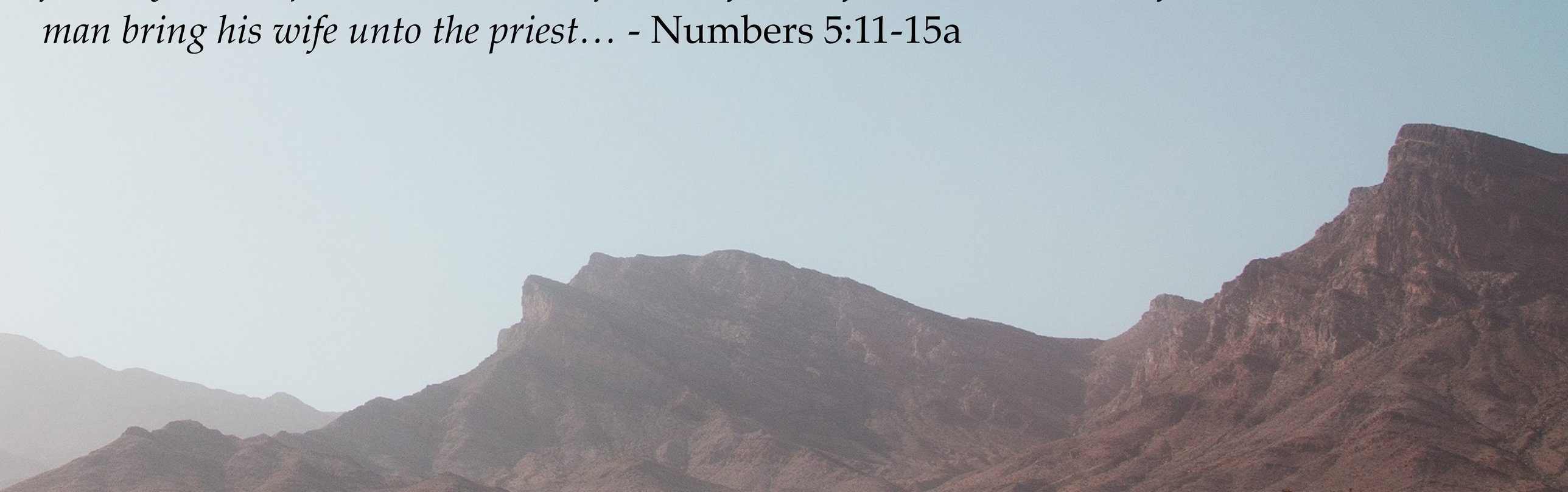
Christological Connections (Numbers 5:5-10)

Jesus provided the atoning sacrifice for sin once and for all.

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.
Hebrews 10:11-14

"And the Lord spake unto Moses saying," (5:11)

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man's wife go aside, and commit a trespass against him, And a man lie with her carnally, and it be hid from the eyes of her husband, and be kept close, and she be defiled, and there be no witness against her, neither she be taken with the manner; And the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not defiled: Then shall the man bring his wife unto the priest… - Numbers 5:11-15a



3. In order to fully enjoy the presence of God in your life, you must walk in a faithful relationship with your spouse and God.

The husband had a spirit of jealousy towards his wife. (Proverbs 6:20-34)

Trust is the soil in which relationships can grow.

The husband will take the wife to the Priest for this unique "trial".

God is the righteous all-knowing judge who never makes mistakes or misses evidence.

If the wife is guilty, the results will be a curse.

If the wife is innocent, the results will be a blessing.

Trust Bank

Withdraws

Deposits

The Adultery/Jealousy Test

Husband takes wife to the Priest with grain offering for jealousy
1/10th Ephah of Barley Flour with no oil or incense. (15)

Priest presents woman to the Lord (16–22a)
Takes holy water in clay jar and adds dust from tabernacle floor to the water.
Loosens woman's hair and places the submission/reminder offering in her hands.
The Priest holds the bitter water and puts the woman under an oath. (16-22a)

The Lord make thee a curse and an oath among thy people, when the Lord doth make thy thigh to rot, and thy belly to swell; And this water that causeth the curse shall go into thy bowels, to make thy belly to swell, and thy thigh to rot: And the woman shall say, Amen, amen.

The Adultery/Jealousy Test

Priest writes the curse on a scroll, then washes off words into the water.
Prepares the water of cursing/bitter suffering.
Takes the reminder offering from her hands
Waves offering before the Lord.
Brings to the alter and burns one handful on altar as memorial offering (23-26a)

Woman drinks water with dust and words of the curse.
If guilty - Barrenness, miscarriage, accursed.
If not guilty - Clear from guilt, able to conceive. (26b-28)

Lessons from the Past for Life in the Present

1. God takes the marriage covenant very serious.
2. Breaking trust in a marriage is a serious sin.
3. If you are struggling in your marriage, seek help.
4. God is our final judge.
5. Be sure your sin will find you out.
6. The righteous are bold as a lion, but the wicked flee when no man pursues.

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:11-31)

Jesus is the ultimate Judge who knows all things and judges justly.

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls. - I Peter 2:21-25

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:11-31)

Jesus drank the bitter cup that we deserved.

And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. - Luke 22:39-46

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:11-31)

Jesus allowed His body to be broken and His blood to be shed
so that we could participate in the New Covenant.

And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you. - Luke 22:14-20

Christological Connections (Numbers 5:11-31)

Jesus is a jealous husband who desires a faithful bride.

Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? - James 4:4-5

If you want to fully enjoy
the presence of God in your life you must…

Remove the sins that defile you,

Confess your sins and make restitution,

Walk in a faithful relationship
with your spouse and with God.

How can I fully enjoying the presence of God?

G -God created us to be with Him.

O -Our sins separate us from God.

S -Sins cannot be removed by good deeds.

P -Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again.

E -Everyone who trusts Jesus alone has eternal life.

L -Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.

How can I fully enjoying the presence of God?

Do you understand what Christ has done for you?

Is there anything that would keep you from trusting Christ as your Lord and Savior today?

How can I fully enjoying the presence of God?

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. - Matthew 5:8

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. - Ephesians 4:29-32

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:16