

Life-Study of Numbers Summaries - Messages 11-15

Blessed by God

If we overcome natural affection, earthly pleasure, rebellion, and unexpected death and stay away from them, we will be in a position to receive **God Himself as our blessing**. The unique blessing in the whole universe is God Himself. **Anything besides God is vanity**. In the blessing in Numbers 6 is neither an Old Testament blessing nor a New Testament blessing. Rather, it is the eternal blessing of the Triune God, which is the Triune God dispensing Himself in His divine trinity into us for our enjoyment. This is God's eternal blessing. **The Father blesses us, the Son shines upon us, and the Holy Spirit lifts up His countenance upon us**. As a result, we are kept, we receive grace, and we have peace.

Offerings

The Christian life is a touring life; it is a life of daily taking a tour in the tabernacle, the typified Triune God. Numbers 7 speaks of the offering of six wagons and twelve oxen. This offering was for the transporting of the tabernacle and the altar. **God, according to His eternal economy, will not do anything by Himself. He must move and work through man**. Why has the Lord not come yet? It is not the One in the wagon who is slow; the oxen are slow. This indicates that the transportation we offer Him is slow. We need to offer ourselves to God to match His need for His move. This offering is our coordination with God.

Presenting of the Levites

Numbers 8 shows the presenting of the Levites, the serving ones of the priesthood. All the Levites had to be first cleansed. Every day, early in the morning, we are cleansed anew through the sprinkling, the applying, of the redeeming blood of Christ. All the natural strength signified by the hair on the body, was to be cut off. The Levites were to also wash their clothes and cleanse themselves signifying dealing with their conduct and their person. After the Levites were cleansed, they were then presented to God.

God's Provision

The first item of the divine provision is the ointment for the anointing of the tabernacle and all its furnishings and the altar with all its utensils. The ointment typifies the consummated Triune God after passing through all the processes. **In the entire Bible this ointment is one of the greatest provisions God has prepared for His redeemed**. For us to be anointed means that the processed Triune God is put into us and upon us, even mingled with us. For us to be anointed by God means that we are "painted" with Him, that God Himself is put in us and on us. **The more the ointment, the completed Triune God, is applied to us, the more we become God-men**. Since God has prepared such a great provision for us, we should offer ourselves to the Lord to receive His provision. To receive the application of this ointment, we need to be willing to surrender to the Lord, placing our entire being into His hands and saying, "O Lord, do whatever You like to do."

The Passover

No matter how busy God's people were and no matter where they were, they were required to participate in the Passover once a year. We should not think that partaking of the Lord's table has nothing to do with God's move or with our move with God in His activity. **The Lord's table has much to do with God's move on earth. Therefore, we must keep the Lord's table**. The Passover signifies a new start and should remind us that we need a new start. It also reminds us that we are a people who should have died under God's righteous judgment and that we belong not to ourselves but to the One who died for us. This is the significance of the Passover and also of the Lord's table. Both the Passover and the Lord's table are feasts. **Whenever we participate in the Passover or in the Lord's table, we partake of a feast to enjoy Christ in the presence of God. This enjoyment is a mutual satisfaction to God and us**.