

Wednesday, 9/24

**Read:** Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 121

**Ask yourself or one another:** How does your understanding of the Songs of Ascents help your understanding of this blessing?

**Meditate on the goodness of God:** "He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold . . . [He] will neither slumber nor sleep." (vv. 3-4)

**Pray:** "Lord, forgive us for doubting your goodness. Renew us in the gospel truth that You are indeed good and trustworthy. Work in us we pray that we might lift our eyes to You and give You praise."

Thursday, 9/25

**Read:** Numbers 6:22-27; 7:1-89

**Ask yourself or one another:** Why do all the tribes participate in the dedication of the altar? How does this relate to the blessing? Are they blessed based on their offering or the other way around? What about you/us?

**Sing:** *The Barocha*

**Pray:** Ask God to show us how we are His Body together and teach us how Christ is our only sufficiency.

Friday, 9/26

**Read:** Numbers 6:22-27; 8:1-26

**Ask yourself or one another:** What does atonement mean? How do these ritual cleansings point us to the cross?

**Review the names of the sons of Israel.**

**Pray:** Ask God to reveal His holiness to you and to us as His people. Beg Him to teach us what it means to be holy as He is holy.

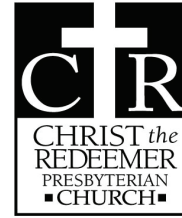
Saturday, 9/27

**Read:** Numbers 9:1-10:10 in preparation for tomorrow's service

**Ask yourself or one another:** What was the Passover about? What is involved in the people's observance of it? Why is it so hard to wait? Discuss times when you have had to wait on God.

**Sing:** *The Barocha*

**Pray:** "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand; Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fire and the cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through; strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side; songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee." (Williams)



# BLESSED BY GOD

Sermon Notes from 9/21/08

**Numbers 6:22-27**

Rev. Douglas D. Warren

Book Overview

**Numbers/Into the Wilderness:** God has prepared the Promised Land for Israel as an inheritance where they are to dwell together with Him in their midst enjoying unprecedented intimacy and delight. While the first generation brought up out of Egypt failed to trust Him and so died in the wilderness, they are to press on in faith and obey His Word in every regard so they will live in His blessing.

## Principles for Possession and Enjoyment of the Land

1. Perfect obedience is necessary for life and blessing
2. The Lord organizes His army for the possession of her inheritance.
3. It is impossible for fallen people to walk with the righteous God.
4. God Himself prepares His people to receive His inheritance.

Section Outline

The second section of the book includes chapters five and six:

5:1-6:27	<b>Ordering the lives within the camp—</b>
5:1-4	Defilement leads outside the camp (disease/death)
5:5-10	Defilement leads outside the camp (wronging brothers)
5:11-31	Law of Jealousy (wronging spouse)
6:1-21	Nazirite vow (special union with God)
6:22-27	<b>Blessed in His name</b> (All His people are to be blessed)

Text

The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'If a man or woman wants to make a special vow, a vow of separation to the LORD as a **Nazirite**, <sup>3</sup>he must abstain from wine and other fermented drink and must not drink vinegar made from wine or from other fermented drink. He must not drink grape juice or eat grapes or raisins. <sup>4</sup>As long as he is a Nazirite, he must not eat anything that comes from the grapevine, not even the seeds or skins. <sup>5</sup>"During the entire period of his vow of separation no razor may be used on his head. He must be holy until the period of his separation to the LORD is over; he must let the hair of his head grow long. <sup>6</sup>Throughout the period of his separation to the LORD he must not go near a dead body. <sup>7</sup>Even if his own father or mother or brother or sister dies, he must not make himself ceremonially unclean on account of them, because the symbol of his separation to God is on his head. <sup>8</sup>Throughout the period of his separation he is consecrated to the LORD. <sup>9</sup>"If someone dies suddenly in his presence, thus defiling the hair he has dedicated, he must shave his head on the day of his cleansing-- the seventh day. <sup>10</sup>Then on the eighth day he must bring two doves or two young pigeons to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>11</sup>The priest is to offer one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering to make atonement for him because he sinned by being in the presence of the dead body. That same day he is to consecrate his head. <sup>12</sup>He must dedicate himself to the LORD for

the period of his separation and must bring a year-old male lamb as a guilt offering. The previous days do not count, because he became defiled during his separation. <sup>13</sup> "Now this is the law for the Nazirite when the period of his separation is over. He is to be brought to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>14</sup> There he is to present his offerings to the LORD: a year-old male lamb without defect for a burnt offering, a year-old ewe lamb without defect for a sin offering, a ram without defect for a fellowship offering, <sup>15</sup> together with their grain offerings and drink offerings, and a basket of bread made without yeast-- cakes made of fine flour mixed with oil, and wafers spread with oil. <sup>16</sup> "The priest is to present them before the LORD and make the sin offering and the burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> He is to present the basket of unleavened bread and is to sacrifice the ram as a fellowship offering to the LORD, together with its grain offering and drink offering. <sup>18</sup> "Then at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, the Nazirite must shave off the hair that he dedicated. He is to take the hair and put it in the fire that is under the sacrifice of the fellowship offering. <sup>19</sup> "After the Nazirite has shaved off the hair of his dedication, the priest is to place in his hands a boiled shoulder of the ram, and a cake and a wafer from the basket, both made without yeast. <sup>20</sup> The priest shall then wave them before the LORD as a wave offering; they are holy and belong to the priest, together with the breast that was waved and the thigh that was presented. After that, the Nazirite may drink wine. <sup>21</sup> "This is the law of the Nazirite who vows his offering to the LORD in accordance with his separation, in addition to whatever else he can afford. He must fulfill the vow he has made, according to the law of the Nazirite."

<sup>22</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup> "Tell Aaron and his sons,

This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

<sup>24</sup> "The **LORD** bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the **LORD** make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the **LORD** turn his face toward you and give you peace.'

<sup>27</sup> So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

*Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you think and pray through the following questions:*

How do you usually think of blessing? How does this challenge that?

What is the significance of God's name in the blessing?

Why can we see God's face and live? How is that evident in us?

## Taking Gathered Worship Home

Will you join me in reading and studying Numbers together?

Each week we will have a set of passages to read to help us work together in reading through this whole book and digging into what it means and how we are to apply it in our lives individually, as families, and as a congregation. Let's wade into the Wilderness together.

**Read:** Numbers 6:1-27

**Ask yourself or one another:** What were the main points of the sermon? How do they apply to us as a congregation? How do they apply to me? What am I going to do about it? How does the gospel of Christ empower me (us) to do so? Review Application.

**Sing:** *The Barocha* (words in *Order of Worship*)

**Pray:** "Lord Jehovah, You are the source of all blessing. All good things come from You and we give You thanks. Teach us to desire You more than the things You give. Help us to know the fullness of Your name dwelling in us. Make us reflect Your glory as instruments of Your blessing. In Christ's name we pray, amen."

**Read:** Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67

**Review/Memorize the names of the sons of Israel:**

Rueben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin.

**Ask yourself or one another:** What is one of the reasons that God blesses us (v. 7)? Which comes first? How is that worked out in your life?

**Pray:** Ask God to make us a people who delight in praising Him.

**Read:** Numbers 6:22-27; Matthew 16:13-20

**Ask yourself or one another:** How does God work through His people? How are the keys of the kingdom related to the priestly blessing? How is the Church today's Israel of God? What does that mean in terms of your daily life? Weekly life?

**Sing:** *The Barocha*

**Pray:** "Lord, thank you for the gift of Your Church. Thank you for the priests who pointed the people to Christ then and the elders and deacons who do so now. Bless them we pray [name them]."

Sunday, 9/21

Monday, 9/22

Tuesday, 9/23