

NAZARITE VOWS

02/21/12



SCRIPTURE LIST

Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:1-21

Shophetim (Judges) 13:1-25

Luka (Luke) 1:8-17

[click](#)

THE NAZARITE VOW

[click](#)

The Nazarite Vow is a special vow taken by an Israelite man or woman.

[click](#)

It is a voluntary vow of dedication to Yahweh.

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The vow is a decision, action, and desire on the part of an Israelite whose desire is to yield themselves to Yahweh completely.

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There is no Torah command requiring the Nazir to take the vow.

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FEATURES OF THE NAZARITE VOW

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The vow is voluntary.

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The vow can be done by either men or women.

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The vow has a specific time frame.

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The vow has specific requirements and restrictions.

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At the vow's conclusion a sacrifice is offered.

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NAZARITES FROM BIRTH

Three individuals were Nazarites from birth:

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Shemu'el (1 Samuel 2:8-28)



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Shimshon (Judges 13:1-5)



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Yochanan Ben Zechariah (Luke 1:13-17)



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WORD STUDY

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SEPARATE

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Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:2 *“Speak to the children of Yisrael, and say to them, ‘When a man or woman does separate, by making a vow of a Nazirite, to be separate to Yabweh,*

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Separate = פלל

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To distinguish (literally or figuratively); great, difficult, wonderful; accomplish, hard, hidden, things too high, marvelous (things, work), miracles, perform, separate, make singular, (be, great, make) wonderful (things, works), wondrous (things, works).

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VOW

click

Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:2 “*Speak to the children of Yisrael, and say to them, ‘When a man or woman does separate, by making a vow of a Nazirite, to be separate to Yahweh,*

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Vow = נדר, נדר, נדר

click

to promise (positively, to do or give something to Yahweh); to make a vow; a promise (to Yahweh); a thing promised.

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NAZIR

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Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:2 “*Speak to the children of Yisrael, and say to them, ‘When a man or woman does separate, by making a vow of a Nazirite, to be separate to Yahweh,*

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Nazarite = נזיר, נזר

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To hold aloof, that is, (intransitively) abstain (from food and drink, from impurity; specifically to set apart (to sacred purposes), that is, devote: - consecrate, separate self.

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SEPARATE

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Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:2 “*Speak to the children of Yisrael, and say to them, ‘When a man or woman does separate, by making a vow of a Nazirite, to be separate to Yahweh,*

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Separate = נזר

To separate, that is, consecrated (as prince, a Nazirite); an unpruned vine (like an unshorn Nazirite), a vine undressed.

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Also

נזר הנזר

To abstain, to fall away from, to devote oneself

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הנזר

To separate, to consecrate, to abstain

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SEPARATION – CROWN

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Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:7 ‘*He does not make himself unclean for his father, or for his mother, for his brother or his sister, when they die, because his separation to Elohim is on his head.*

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נִזְר

Diadem, crown

The Nazarite wore the diadem of his Elohim upon his head in the growth of his hair, and was Set-apart to Yahweh during the whole period of his consecration, he was to approach no dead person during that time, not even to defile himself for his parents, or his brothers and sisters, when they died.

He or she was to guard most scrupulously against other defilements, not only like ordinary Israelites, but also like the priests.

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THE POSITION OF THE NAZARITE

The position of the Nazarite was a condition of life consecrated to Yahweh, resembling the set-apart relation in which the priests stood to Yahweh.

This position differed from the priesthood solely in the fact that it involved no official service at the sanctuary, and was not based upon a divine calling and institution, but was undertaken spontaneously for a certain time and through a special vow.

The object was simply the realization of the idea of a priestly life, with its purity and freedom from all contamination from everything connected with death and corruption.

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Amoz (Amos) 2:11 “*And I raised up some of your sons as prophets, and some of your young men as Nazirites. Not so? O you children of Yisrael?*” declares Yahweh.

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CONCLUSIONS

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The Nazarite vow is voluntary.

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The Nazarite is set-apart to Yahweh completely for a specified period of time.

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At the end of the vow the Nazarite must perform a sacrifice in the Temple.

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A Nazarite vow cannot be take now because of a lack of the priesthood and a Temple.