

Numbers 6:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This is the law of the Nazarite who hath vowed, and of his offering unto the LORD for his separation, beside that that his hand shall get: according to the vow which he vowed, so he must do after the law of his separation.

Analysis

The summary statement establishes that the prescribed offerings are the minimum for a Nazirite vow—basic requirements before the Lord. However, it allows for exceeding this baseline according to ability, showing that while God sets standards, generosity beyond requirement is commended. The language 'according to his vow which he vowed' emphasizes personal commitment—the Nazirite chose this consecration voluntarily. This reflects the Reformed understanding that God commands obedience but also receives voluntary expressions of love beyond bare requirement.

Historical Context

Wealthy Nazirites could offer more than the minimum, while poor Nazirites needed only to fulfill the basic requirements. This mirrors the graduated scale of certain offerings throughout Leviticus, ensuring that economic status didn't prevent participation in worship while still allowing the wealthy to give generously.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the allowance for offerings beyond the minimum challenge Christians to generous devotion?
2. What does the voluntary nature of the Nazirite vow teach about chosen consecration versus mere duty?
3. In what ways should economic ability affect the expression, but not the genuineness, of our worship?

Interlinear Text

קָרְבָּן זֶה אֲתָּה תֹּוֹב תְּהִזֵּיר	H2063 This is the law	H8451	הַנְזִיר אֲשֶׁר רִדְךָ	H5139	H834	וְאֲשֶׁר רִדְךָ	H5087	וְאֲשֶׁר רִדְךָ	H7133
unto the LORD	H3068	H5921	for his separation	H5145	H905	shall get	H5381		
beside that that his hand	H3027	H6310	according	H5088	H834	which he vowed	H3651		
so he must do	H6213	H5921	This is the law	H8451	H5145				