

Numbers 6:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All the days of the vow of his separation there shall no razor come upon his head: until the days be fulfilled, in the which he separateth himself unto the LORD, he shall be holy, and shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow.

Analysis

The uncut hair served as the visible sign of the Nazirite vow, representing glory given to God rather than personal vanity. Hair in ancient culture symbolized strength and vitality (as with Samson), so allowing it to grow unchecked was a public declaration of dependence on God's strength rather than one's own. The requirement to be 'holy' (Hebrew 'qadosh') emphasizes separation unto God.

Historical Context

In the ancient world, hairstyles often denoted social status and military prowess. The Nazirite's distinctive appearance would have constantly reminded both himself and others of his special consecration to the Lord.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What visible markers in your life demonstrate your commitment to Christ?
2. How can you redirect attention from yourself to God in areas where you're naturally talented?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר רְאשָׁוֹן בְּמִצְמָה כָּל
H3605 All the days H3117 of the vow H5088 of his separation H5145 נִזְרָה
H834 there shall no razor H8593 תְּעַר
H3808 H5674 come H5144 יַעֲבֹר רְאשָׁוֹן בְּמִצְמָה כָּל

עַל רְאשָׁוֹן עַד מִלְּאָת בְּמִצְמָה כָּל אֲשֶׁר יַעֲבֹר
H5921 of his head H5704 be fulfilled H4390 All the days H3117 נִזְרָה
H834 in the which he separateth H5144 יַעֲבֹר רְאשָׁוֹן עַל רְאשָׁוֹן עַד מִלְּאָת בְּמִצְמָה כָּל אֲשֶׁר יַעֲבֹר

לִיהְיוֹת קָדוֹשׁ לִיהְיוֹת הַקָּדוֹשׁ שְׁעָרָיו
himself unto the LORD he shall be holy H1961 grow and shall let the locks
H3068 H6918 H1431 H6545 לִיהְיוֹת קָדוֹשׁ לִיהְיוֹת הַקָּדוֹשׁ שְׁעָרָיו

רְאשָׁוֹן שְׁעָרָיו
of the hair of his head
H8181 H7218

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 1:11 (References Lord): And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

Judges 16:17 (Parallel theme): That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.

Judges 13:5 (Parallel theme): For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

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