

## Jesus Accomplishes the Work of God's Delight!

- ❖ Jesus was/is with Us! (John 1:14; Matt. 28:20)
- ❖ Jesus is the True **Way to Peace** ...
  - *He's Our..* Sin Offering, Burnt Offering & Peace Offering
- ❖ Jesus Offered his Life as the Perfect Grain Offering
- ❖ Jesus is God's Provision to Make our Prayers Smell Good
- ❖ God Speaks to Us by the Living Word (Repent & Believe)

## All of Us Share in the Work of God's Delight!

### 1 Peter 2:4–9

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a *spiritual house*, to be **a holy priesthood**, to *offer spiritual sacrifices* acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a *chosen race*, a **royal priesthood**, a *holy nation*, a *people for his own possession*, **that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

- You were chosen...
- You are part of God's holy Priesthood...
- Finding Your Vocation...

### Key Idea:

God has called us to share in the treasure of spreading the smile of His delight to others.

Use up the gifts he has given you to gain this treasure!

<sup>i</sup> Duguid, I. M., & Hughes, R. K. (2006). Numbers: God's presence in the wilderness (p. 93). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

<sup>ii</sup> Ashley, T. R. (1993). *The Book of Numbers* (p. 164). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

## In the Wilderness: The Book of Numbers

[#8 in the Series] **Getting Ready to Fight for the Promised Land: Part 6, Sharing in the Work of God's Delight!** – Numbers 1:1–10:36

### Sermon Outline – May 17, 2015

#### Children's Sermon/Introduction

- ❖ Does giving your life away feel like a good thing?

#### Matthew 13:44

“The kingdom of heaven is **like treasure** hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

#### We Were Made for the Treasure of God's Glorious Love!

Now I know that the Father looks on me with pleasure, and his face lights up every time he sees me because he sees me through Jesus. The Father sees me in his Son whom he loves.”<sup>i</sup>

#### Last Week's Key Idea:

Jesus, (the living Word), absorbed our curse so we could enjoy the light of God's smile, the same smile He gives to Jesus.

#### Today's Key Idea:

God not only gives us the smile of His delight, He also calls us to share in the joyful work of spreading His delight to others!

#### Getting Israel Ready to Fight for the Promised Land... Sharing in the Work of God's Delight!

#### BIG PICTURE: EVERYONE HAS A PART!

ISRAEL NUMBERED AND ORDERED (1–2)

LEVITES NUMBERED AND ORDERED (3–4)

CONSECRATION OF ISRAEL'S CAMP (5:1–7:27)

THE BLESSINGS OF GOD (6:22–8:4)

1. 'AARON'S' BLESSING (6:22–27)

2. OFFERINGS AT THE TABERNACLE'S CONSECRATION (7:1–88 Why...?)

Numbers 7:1a (Cf. Ex. 40:17, 34–35; Lev. 8–9)

*On the day* when Moses had finished setting up the tabernacle and had anointed and consecrated it... (See the timeline on the insert)

3. MOSES HEARS THE LORD FROM OVER THE MERCY SEAT (7:89; Cf. Ex. 25:21–22)

4. THE SEVEN LAMPS (8:1–4)

CONSECRATION OF THE LEVITES (8:5–26)

...A KINGDOM OF PREISTS!

**Exodus 19:5–6**

Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, *you shall be my treasured possession* among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; <sup>6</sup> and *you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation*. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

Notes:

***What did Israel Give to God? Why?*****Where Did Israel Get these Gifts?**

(Cf. Exodus 3:22; 12:35–36)

**Key Point:**

We give to God what we have been given by God.

**Matthew 22:21b (NLT)**

[Jesus] said, “*give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.*”

**Carts with Oxen...**

<sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, <sup>5</sup> “Accept these from them, that they may be *used in the service of the tent of meeting*, and *give them to the Levites*, to each man according to his service.” <sup>6</sup> So Moses took the wagons and the oxen and gave them to the Levites. <sup>7</sup> *Two wagons* and four oxen he gave to *the sons of Gershon*, according to their service. <sup>8</sup> And *four wagons* and eight oxen he gave to *the sons of Merari*, according to their service, under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. <sup>9</sup> **But** to *the sons of Kohath* he gave *none*...

**The Work at the Altar...**

<sup>10</sup> And *the chiefs* offered *offerings for the dedication of the altar* on the day it was anointed; and the chiefs offered their offering before the altar. <sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, “*They shall offer their offerings, one chief each day, for the dedication of the altar.*”

**Items to Use at the Altar:**

- ✓ 1 silver plate whose weight was 130 shekels,
- ✓ 1 silver basin of 70 shekels, (*both full of fine flour mixed with oil...*)
- ✓ 1 golden dish (spoon?) of 10 shekels, (*full of incense*)

**Animals to Offer on the Altar:**

- ✓ *Burnt offering*: 1 bull, 1 ram, 1 male lamb a year old
- ✓ *Sin offering*: 1 male goat
- ✓ *For the sacrifice of Peace offerings*: 2 oxen, 5 rams, 5 male goats, and 5 male lambs a year old.

<sup>84</sup> This was *the dedication offering for the altar* on the day when it was anointed, from the chiefs of Israel...

**Key Picture:**

All 12 tribes of Israel offered the wealth God had given them back to God as a joyful participation in the ministry of the Tent of Meeting.

**What is the Ministry of the Tent of Meeting?  
(The Way to God’s Smile of Delight)**

- ❖ Each Tribe Helped Move God’s Tent (Levites)
- ❖ Each Tribe Had a Share in God’s Way to Peace (*Sin* Offering, *Burnt* Offering & *Peace* Offering)
- ❖ Each Tribe Offered their Life to God (Grain & Oil)
- ❖ Each Tribe Had a Part in God’s Provision for our Prayers (Incense)

**Numbers 7:89 – God Speaks with Moses**

“The outcome of the leaders’ offering was the fulfillment of God’s promise of Exod. 25:22: fellowship and communion between God and Moses, the people’s representative.” <sup>ii</sup>

**A God Given Vocation...****(God did not Ask for Volunteers)**

- ❖ The 12 Tribes Shared in the Work through Gifts...
- ❖ The Levites were Cleansed to Guard & Carry God’s Tent
- ❖ Aaron & Sons were Chosen & Consecrated to Serve as Priests
- ❖ Moses was God’s Chosen Mediator

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*Further Meditation on this Gospel Picture*