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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - The second census was of males 30 to 50 years old and able to do the prescribed ministries.
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Kohathites were given the charge of the most holy things in the tabernacle.
      - Aaron and his sons, the priests, were charged with covering all of the holy things and then they were carried by the Kohath clan of the Levites. The Levites could not touch any of the holy things. They could only carry them by the poles inserted through the rings of the object itself or frames made for that purpose.

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- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Kohathites were given the charge of the most holy things in the tabernacle.
      - Aaron and his sons were to take down the screen (which we also know as the veil of the temple) and cover the ark of the covenant with it. On top of that a goatskin covering and then a blue cloth. The Kohathites then carried the ark by the poles passed through rings in the ark of the covenant.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Kohathites were given the charge of the most holy things in the tabernacle.
      - A blue cloth was placed over the table of the Presence (Showbread). The utensils used in this service plus the showbread was placed on top of this cloth. This was then covered with a scarlet cloth and that covered by a goatskin covering. The table was also carried by poles that were placed in it.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Kohathites were given the charge of the most holy things in the tabernacle.
    - The lampstand was covered with a blue cloth and the lampstand with all its utensil was place in a covering of goatskin and placed on a frame made it carry it.
    - The incense altar was covered with a blue cloth and then goatskin covering and carried by poles.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Kohathites were given the charge of the most holy things in the tabernacle.
    - Aaron's son Eleazar was given specific supervision over this operation with personal attention given to the oil for lighting the lamp, the fragrant incense the grain offering and the anointing oil.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The second census of the Levites 4:1-49
  - Detailed descriptions of the preparation for moving the Tabernacle.
    - The Gershonites had charge over all of the fabric of the structure of the tabernacle and were under the direction of Aaron's son Ithamar.
    - The Merarites were charged with the frame and fasteners of the tabernacle and were also under the supervision of Ithamar.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- A people reflecting the holiness of God 5:1-31
  - Physically 5:1-4
    - People with a contagious physical condition were placed outside the camp. This addressed not only the ceremonial uncleanness of their condition but the physical threat to the health of a community living in close quarters.
  - Spiritually 5:5-10
    - Spiritual cleansing through confession, sacrifice and restitution.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- A people reflecting the holiness of God 5:1-31
  - Judiciously 5:11-31
    - Adultery was punishable by death Leviticus 20:10
    - Women were protected from the unfounded rage of a jealous husband by the provision of the ritual to establish guilt or innocence when accused of adultery.
    - If she were found to be guilty the sin would be exposed and penalty exacted.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- A people reflecting the holiness of God 5:1-31
  - Judiciously 5:11-31
    - Even if guilty, the woman would not be put to death but suffer the physical effects of the ritual and “become a curse among the people.” A person could only be put to death at the testimony of two or three eyewitnesses. Deuteronomy 17:6
    - If his wife turned out to be innocent, the man was not treated as a false witnesses since he did not knowingly make a false accusation. Otherwise he would have been put to death under the law of the false witness. Deuteronomy 19:18-19

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow

- The Vow
  - A special vow to a special time of total separation to the Lord for a specific period of time.
- Specific obligations of the vow.
  - Abstinence from wine and strong drink. Extended to a prohibition from any product of the grapevine.
  - No haircuts
  - No contact with a dead (human) body. This would have been significant since he or she would not be able to participate in the preparation of a relative for burial.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow

- Ending the Vow
  - Inadvertently
    - If someone dies suddenly and come in contact with the person who has made the vow the vow is nullified and the time of the vow is not counted.
      - Head shaved on the seventh day of cleansing
      - Prescribed sacrifices offered on the 8<sup>th</sup> day.
      - Lamb brought for a guilt offering and the vow is reinstated.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow
  - Ending the Vow
    - Completion of the term of the vow
      - Bring to the entrance of the tent of meeting
        - One male lamb a year old without blemish for a burnt offering
        - One ewe lamb a year old with blemish as a sin offering
        - One ram without blemish as a peace offering
        - Basket of unleavened bread for a grain offering
        - Drink offerings

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow
  - Ending the Vow
    - Completion of the term of the vow
      - The Completion rites
        - Priests offer the offerings as prescribed by the law
        - The Nazirite shaved his head at the tent of meeting and the hair placed on the fire under the peace offering.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow
  - Ending the Vow
    - Completion of the term of the vow
      - The Completion rites
        - Shoulder of the ram boiled and along with one unleavened loaf out of the basket and one unleavened wafer placed in the hands of the Nazirite and the priest will wave the before the LORD.
        - After the priests take their portion of the sacrifice, the Nazirite vow is ended and the person may drink wine.
        - The Nazirite may vow other additional gifts and if he does, he is obligate to offer them.

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow
  - Although the vow here was for a limited period of time and voluntarily entered into by the person himself, the most notable Nazirites from the referenced in the Bible were designated as such from birth.
    - Samuel
      - <sup>11</sup> And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head."  
1 Samuel 1:11 (ESV)

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow

- Although the vow here was for a limited period of time and voluntarily entered into by the person himself, the most notable Nazirites from the referenced in the Bible were designated as such from birth.
- Samson (the only other time the term Nazirite is used in the Bible)
  - <sup>3</sup> And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. <sup>4</sup> Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, <sup>5</sup> for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.” Judges 13:3-5 (ESV)

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow

- Although the vow here was for a limited period of time and voluntarily entered into by the person himself, the most notable Nazirites from the referenced in the Bible were designated as such from birth.
- John the Baptist
  - <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>14</sup> And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. Luke 1:13-15 (ESV)

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The Nazarite Vow

- Mention in the New Testament:

- <sup>18</sup> After this, Paul stayed many days longer and then took leave of the brothers and set sail for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow. Acts 18:18 (ESV)
    - Paul's arrest in Jerusalem some time later was in the context of participating in the completion of the Nazirite vow by four men. This was at the urging of the believers in Jerusalem who were still following many customs of the Jewish law. Acts 21:17-28

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## Preparation for the Departure from Sinai (1:1-10:10)

- The blessing of the people by the priests

- <sup>24</sup> The LORD bless you and keep you;
    - <sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
    - <sup>26</sup> the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
- Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV)

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