

It is really amazing as you deal with people in Christian work, how excited you find people about ~~ϕ~~ being selected for a particular task, being given something that they think of as an honor. How excited they become about it. How much it means to them, and how disappointed people ~~ϕ~~ feel over little tiny things that they fail to be asked to do, or little tiny honors that they fail to be given. And these things eat away in our hearts, in our emotions, and in a period of years they can do tremendous damage. So we should examine ourselves. God isn't going to give us an ordeal ~~ϕ~~ like this now in our wilderness journey. He's not going to give us certainty in all these things, and He's not going to reach in and prove by some such test ~~that~~ as He did in the wilderness journey. ^{to} Prove these matters. But He desires us to examine ourselves whether we truly are in the faith. Now of course if we truly have believed in Christ, if we truly have looked to Him for salvation, we are saved. And our salvation cannot be lost, but our activities, our service to Him, the satisfaction that we will have through all ~~ϕ~~ eternity, for truly serving Him effectively can be tremendously interfered with by our not sufficiently carefully, and sincerely and thoroughly examining ourselves whether we truly are in the faith in the depths of our being.

Let's move on then to capital H. =

H. Chapter 6. Special Consecration, the Nazirite. Here we have this chapter -- all but the last 6 vs. of it -- devoted to the making of the Nazirite vow and the ending of the period for which the Nazirite^{this} vow was made. Now ~~the~~ Nazirite vow is a special setting one apart. It is a separation in a certain specific way from the mass of the people, and this is spoken of here in vs. 2: (Read vs. 2) " . . . to separate themselves unto the Lord" and this word "separate" at the end of the verse might perhaps better be translated " to become a Nazirite" unto the Lord because it is same root as the word Nazirite. This sounds as if the people already knew about it. There may have been such a type of special consecration already known to them, but I don't think it prove it. It may have been introduced at this point. But the important thing is not whether it is here introduced for the first time,