

Torah: B'midbar (Numbers) 4:21 – 5:10
Haftarah: Shoftim (Judges) Judges 13:2-25
B'rit Hadashah: Luke 2:39-52

	<i>yr. 1 4:21-5:10</i>	<i>yr 2 5:11-6:27</i>	<i>yr 3 7:1-89</i>
1	4:21 – 24	5:11 – 15	7:1 – 11
2	4:25 – 28	5:16 – 26	7:12 – 23
3	4:29 – 33	5:27 – 6:4	7:24 – 35
4	4:34 – 37	6:5 – 8	7:36 – 47
5	4:38 – 49	6:9 – 15	7:48 – 59
6	5:1 – 4	6:16 – 21	7:60 – 71
7	5:5 – 10	6:22 – 27	7:72-89

and HaShem spoke to Moses saying / speak to the sons of Israel and say to them / when the wife of a man goes astray and displays infidelity to him	<i>va'yedaber ADONAI el-Moshé le'mor daber el-b'ney Yis'raél ve'amar'ta alehem ish ish kiy-tis'teh ish'to u'ma'aláh bo má'al</i>	וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: דַּבֵּר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם אִישׁ אִישׁ כִּי-תִשָּׂטֵה אִשְׁתּוֹ וּמַעַלָּהּ בּוֹ מַעַל:
--	--	---

This, the second portion in the book of B'midbar/Numbers, is the longest parshah in the Torah. The census continues with the sons of Aharon who were not counted in the previous census of the able-bodied men fit for military service. Their duties in the service of the Tabernacle include not only ritual service, but physical responsibility for assembly/disassembly and portage. The procedure for a jealous husband is given, as well as the Nazirite vow. The priestly blessing is introduced, along with the details of the offerings from each tribe for the dedication of the Altar.

Chapters 5 and 6 constitute an insertion of several laws into the account of the preparations for the march through the wilderness. Their common denominator is the prevention and elimination of impurity from the camp of the Israelites lest the Lord abandon His sanctuary and people.

The Haftarah begins the story of Shimshon (Samson), who was a Nazirite from birth. Although the length of time for this temporary vow is not stated in Torah, it was usually much shorter.

Year 1 Aliyah Highlights

1. **Nu. 5:11-15 The Case:** The unfaithful wife (*so-tah* – שֹׂטָה) is a common prophetic image for Israel's infidelity to HaShem (Hos. 2:4-22, Jer. 3:8, Eze. 23:37). Infidelity (*ma'al* – מַעַל) refers to idolatry: straying after other/non gods.
2. **Nu. 5:16-26 The Procedure:** Oath, Sacrifice, Ordeal. Only the husband can press charges and bring the offering. Community involvement is inferred. The sages say that the priest would tell of the affair of Re'uven with Bilhah (Ge. 35:22), and Y'hudah with Tamar (Ge. 38:15) – who both confessed and inherited life in the world to come.
3. **Nu. 5:27-6:4 Summation and subscript:** A summation of the ritual, resumptive subscript (Le. 7:37, 11:46-57, Le. 12:7b, 13:59, 14:32, 14:54-57) and postscript (v. 31) are given. The vow of a Nazir (נָזִיר) is available to men, and women with the consent of her father or husband, as with all vows (Nu. 30:4). The Nazir is to abstain from the fruit of the vine.
4. **Nu. 6:5-8** "Throughtout the period..." (repeated 4 times!) the Nazir is the equivalent of a lay-priest. He/she is not to cut their hair, or approach a corpse.
5. **Nu. 6:9-15** Accidental contamination requires an offering and a restart. A Nazir can participate in all relational/community activities. At the completion of the vow, a purification offering is brought.
6. **Nu. 6:16-21** The priesthood presents the offerings, and the Nazir shaves and burns the hair.

7. **Nu. 6:22-27** One of the main duties of the priest is to channel blessing in the name of HaShem to the people (De. 10:8, 21:5). It is HaShem who is the source of blessing, not the priests (v. 27. Ps. 118:26. Le. 10:3)

Theme

Question: What do the Tabernacle tasks of Gershon, Merari and K'hat, unclean people, confessing sin, the wayward wife, the vow of a Nazir, the Aharonic blessing, and the repetition of the exact same details of twelve gifts have in common?

Answer: Shalom! When things are in their Proper Order, peace will reign. It's all about the last word of the Aharonic blessing: SHALOM. From the BEGINNING, God was all about creating order from chaos.

Daily Devotional questions for reflection and application

1. (4:22) Are you counted as one of His people? Has He "lifted" your head and seen your face? (Psa 3:(3)4, Psa 24:7, Psa 121:1-8, Luk 21:28, Joh 12:32)
2. (4:38) To be "numbered" implies 1) being visited, 2) examined, 3) cared for, 4) appointed a task, 5) invested in. Are you "in?" (Deu 7:6-9, Isa 43:1, 2Co 1:4, 1Co 1: 26-30, Joh 15:16)
3. (5:2) Are there impurities in your life that need to be removed so that God's presence can dwell richly in you? (Isa 52:11, Tit 3:3-5, Col 3:5-10, Phil 4:12-13)
4. (5:12) Do you struggle with sin, knowing that sin leads to death? (Gen 3:13, 1Ti 2:14, Pro 6:32, Pro 4:14-15, Joh 8:44, Mat 6:9-13, Joh 14:15, 2Co 11:2-3, Pro 23:23, Joh 8:32)
5. (7:1) Is Yeshua preparing you for the wedding of Messiah and His bride, when he will dwell in the congregation of the righteous? (Jer 33:10-11, Amos 9:11, Eph 5:25-27, Tit 2:14, Isa 61:10, Rev 19:7-10)
6. (7:42) Do you recognize your unique and important value to the Kingdom of God? (Gal 3:28, Eph 2:8-10, 1Co 14:26, 1Co 12:14-26, 1Pe 4:7)
7. (7:89) Moshe and the prophets "heard" God's voice. Do you converse with God? How do you hear His voice? (Eze 2:2, 43:6, Heb 1:1-2, Joh 12:49-50, Joh 16:13, Rev 22:16, Job 4:12-16, Zec 4:4-9, Joh 3:31-34)