

Questions Posed for Study

Question: Does the Bible have a double standard on hair?

**It is about separation!
(Numbers 6:1 - 8)**

Intro: We seem to have this idea that historically men, or most men wore their hair long and flowing which is not the case, especially among Jews. God's Word does have somewhat to say on this subject. Unfortunately, due to ignorance concerning the Bible and Christ, Christ coming from Nazareth, many have assumed He was a Nazirite and assumed He had long hair. Nothing could be further from the truth. It would always be wise for anyone to gain their understanding, not from outside sources from the Word of God, rather, search the Scriptures and get one's information directly from the Word of God. And we shall look at this subject from the Scriptures to lay to rest the error of many paintings depicting Jesus with long hair.

I. The Nazirite vow & the New Testament – I Corinthians 11:14 – 16.

- A. In a nutshell, the Nazirite vow was a vow of _____ from worldliness and the disciplining of one's _____ for the purpose of getting closer to God.
1. The word Nazirite is derived from the Hebrew word 'nazir' meaning to _____ or separate one's self in living apart from the world and unto God.
 2. There were those times when God would _____ someone to take a Nazirite vow.
 3. Someone may _____ take the vow of a Nazirite.
 4. This would typically be a life performed for a certain length of time or a lifetime.
- B. The vow includes:
1. The making of a _____ swearing of an oath of service to God – **Numbers 6:2.**
 2. _____ from drinking wine and fermented liquor, including vinegar which was derived from either wine or any fermented liquor, and to abstain from eating grapes fresh or dried, or anything that comes from the vine – **Numbers 6:3 – 4.**
 3. They would let their hair grow uncut for the _____ of the vow – **Numbers 6:5.**
 4. For the entire time of the vow being in force, they must not _____ any corpse and is to remain ritually _____ and cannot defile his ritual cleanliness even in the event a parent or sibling's death – **Numbers 6:7.**
- C. There doesn't always appear that there is _____ or specific purpose for which one takes this vow. Meaning anyone could take the vow, though God did appoint some.

1. Unlike _____, where there usually is a purpose such as for a person, for health reasons, for showing we mean business in searching out the will of God in a matter.
2. In the book of Judges, God appointed Sampson's _____ to abstain from strong drink and unclean things as declared in the Law of Moses. **(Judges 13:1 – 5, 14.)**
(This was obviously a short duration – the length of her pregnancy)
3. Here God gives a _____ reason in **verse 5** for Sampson's being called to live the Nazirite vow. **(to begin to deliver Israel)**
4. For the task of delivering Israel, God was going to _____ in Sampson extraordinary strength to deal with Israel's enemies. (With the loss of his hair, he lost his power.)
5. God wanted a _____ vessel in which invest
6. There is a parallel between the Jewish priest and those who took the vow of a Nazirite.
 - a. Like the priest, both were to _____ a strict outward ritual of purity that signified an inner purity of heart.
 - b. Certainly the Christian life is also to be lived as a _____ to the inner working of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God in creating a pure heart that manifests itself outwardly in a pure life lived for God.

D. While the vow of a Nazirite was primarily Old Testament, Paul in good faith followed the Apostle James' counsel to show good faith and solidarity with his Jewish brethren, completed a vow- period – **Acts 21:18 – 26.**

1. God does have the _____ that we would live a separated life from the world unto Him – **II Corinthians 6:14 – 18 & 7:1.**
2. The point of **Matthew 5:13 – 16** is that the work God is doing _____ will have a profound change on our outward _____ concerning what is moral and immoral, what is righteous and what is evil.
3. When the flesh reigns there is little to no _____ of our relationship with God through faith in Christ. **Galatians 5:17.**
4. On the other hand, if we live our lives under the direction and conviction of the Holy Spirit of God and the Word of God, our lives become a _____ to the life-transforming power of God wherein we find the fullness of life. **Galatians 5:18 & 22.**
 - a. **II Corinthians 5:9 – 11 & 14 – 17.**
 - b. So, while there are differences between taking the vow of a Nazirite and the yielding of our lives to be lived honoring and glorifying God, the correlation is uncanny. **Romans 12:1 – 3.**
 - c. It was a big deal to take a vow of the Nazirite and it is a big deal to fully surrender our lives to live them in a way that glorifies God.