

Chapter 6

Confecration, 14. and oblation of Nazareites. 22. A fette forme how the Priest shal bleffe the people.

And our Lord spake vnto Moyfes, faying: ²Speake to the children of Ifrael, and thou shalt say to them: Man, or woman, when they shall make a vow to be sanctified, and shall consecrate themselves to the Lord: ³they shall abstaine from wine, & euery thing, that can make one drunke, vinegar of wine, and of any other potion, and whatsoever is pressed out of the grape, they shall not drinke: new grapes and drie they shall not eate ⁴all the daies wherein they are by vow consecrated to the Lord: whatsoever may be of the vineyard, from the reifen to the kernel they shall not eate. ⁵At the time of his separation a rasour shall not passe ouer his head vntil the day be expired, that he is consecrated to the Lord. He shall be holie, ^awhiles the bush of haire on his head doth grow. ⁶At the time of his confecration he shall not enter in to the dead, ⁷neither shall he be contaminated, no not on his fathers and mothers and brothers and sisters corps, because the confecration of his God is vpon his head. ⁸At the daies of his separation he shall be holie to the Lord. ⁹But if anie man die suddenly before him, the head of his confecration shall be polluted: which he shall shaueth forthwith in the same day of his purgation, and againe the feuenth day: ¹⁰and in the eight day he shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons to the priest in the entrie of the couenant of testimonie. ¹¹And the priest shall offer one for sinne, and the other for an holocaust, and shall pray for him, because he hath sinned by occasion of the dead: and he shall sanctifie his head that day: ¹²and shall consecrate to the Lord the daies of his separation, offering a lambe of a yeare old for sinne: yet so that the former daies be made frustrate, because his sanctification was polluted.

^a VVhen Samson was deprived of these haire he lost his strenght. *Iudic. 16.*

¹³ This is the law of confecration. When the daies, that by vow he had determined, shal be expired: he shal bring him to the doore of the tabernacle of couenant, ¹⁴ and shal offer his oblation to the Lord, a male lambe of a yeare old without spotte for an holocaust, and an ewe lambe of a yeare old without spotte for finne, and a ramme without spotte, for a pacifique hofte, ¹⁵ a basket also of vnleauened breades that are tempered with oile, and wafers without leuen anointed with oile, and the libamentes of euerie one: ¹⁶ which the priest shal offer before the Lord, and shal offer as wel for finne, as for an holocaust. ¹⁷ But the ramme he shal immolate for a pacifique hofte to the Lord, offering withal the baskette of azymes, and the libamentes that by custome are dew. ¹⁸ Then shal the Nazareite be shauen before the dore of the tabernacle of couenant, from the bush of the haire of his confecration: and he shal take his haire, and lay them vpon the fire, that is put vnder the sacrifice of pacifiques. ¹⁹ And a shoulder of the ramme boyled, and one cake without leuen out of the baskette, and one wafer vnleuened, and he shal deliuer them into the handes of the Nazareite, after that his head be shauen. ²⁰ And receiuing them againe from him, he shal eleuate them in the sight of the Lord: and being sanctified they shal be the priestes, as the breaft, which was commanded to be seperated, and the shoulder. After these thinges the Nazareite may drinke wine. ²¹ This is the law of the Nazareite, when he shal vow his oblation to the Lord in the time of his confecration, besides those thinges which his hand shal find, according to that which he had vowed in his minde, so shal he do to the fulfilling of his sanctification. ²² And our Lord spake to Moyfes, faying: ²³ Speake to Aaron and his sonnes: ^a) Thus shal you bleffe the children of Ifrael, and you shal fay to them: ²⁴ Our Lord bleffe thee, and keepe thee. ²⁵ Our Lord shew his face to thee, and haue mercie vpon thee. ²⁶ Our Lord turne his countenance vnto thee, and geue thee peace.

^a A special and determinate forme of bleffing.

27 And ^a)they shal inuocate my name vpon the children of Ifrael, and I wil bleffe them.

ANNOTATIONS

2 VVil confecrate themfelues.) To fuch as of their owne accord, would bind them felues by vow to certaine thinges not cōmanded, God prefcribeth a Rule containing three fpecial obferuations: not to drincke wine, or anie thing that may make drunck; not to cut their haire; and not to touch a dead corps. He appointeth likewife rites in making this profeffion, and calleth the profeffed *Nazareites*, that is, *fegregated* or *feparated* from the ordinarie ftate of people; though it was, for moft part, but for a time, to be limited by the parties them felues, and in fome perpetual, as in Samfon. *Iudic. 13.* Now vvhat do *Nazareites* fignifie, faith S. Gregorie (*li. 33. c. 23. Moral.*) *but thofe that abftaine, and containe voluntarily from things othervvife lavvful?* As from eating flefh, either for certaine daies and times, or altogether; from Mariage; from proprietie in worldlie goodes; and the like.

*S. Aug. q. 52.
in lib. Iudic.*

God prefcribeth the rule of Nazareites, & the rites of their confecration.

The fame was a figure of vowes both temporal and perpetual.

^a VVhen the priefte vttereth the wordes God geueth the effect.