

Chapter 6

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

And our Lord fpake vnto Moyfes, faying: ² Speake to the children of Ifrael, and thou fhalt fay to them: Man, or woman, when they fhall make a vow to be fanctified, and ³ wil confecrate them felues to the Lord: ⁴ they fhall abfteine from wine, & euerie thing, that can make one drunke, vinegar of wine, and of any other potion, and whatfoeuer is preffed out of the grape, they fhall not drinke: new grapes and drie they fhall not eate ⁵ al the daies wherein they are by vow cōfsecrated to the Lord: whatfoeuer may be of the vineyard, from the reifen to the kernel they fhall not eate. ⁶ Al the time of his feparation a rafour fhall not paffe ouer his head vntil the day be expired, that he is confecrated to the Lord. He fhall be holie, ^awhiles the bush of haire on his head doth grow. ⁷ Al the time of his confecration he fhall not enter in to the dead, ⁸ neither fhall he be contaminated, no not on his fathers and mothers and brothers and fifters corps, becaufe the confecration of his God is vpon his head. ⁹ Al the daies of his feparation he fhall be holie to the Lord. ¹⁰ But if anie man die fodenly before him, the head of his confecration fhall be polluted: which he fhall shaue forthwith in the fame day of his purgation, and againe the feuenth day: ¹¹ and in the eight day he fhall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons to the prieft in the entrie of the couenant of teftimonie. ¹² And the prieft fhall offer one for finne, and the other for an holocaust, and fhall pray for him, becaufe he hath finned by occafion of the dead: and he fhall fanctifie his head that day: ¹³ and fhall confecrate to the Lord the daies of his feparation, offering a lambe of a yeare old for finne: yet fo that the former daies be made fruſtrate, becaufe his fanctification was polluted. ¹⁴ This is the

^a VWhen Samfon was depriued of theſe haireſ he loſt his ſtrength. *Iudic. 16.*

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 fpotte for an holocaust, and an ewe lambe of a yeare old without fpotte for finne, and a ramme without fpotte, for a pacifique hofte, ¹⁵ a basket alfo 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 cuftome 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 facrifice 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 fight of the Lord: and being fanctified they shal be the priestes, as the breaft, which was commanded to be feparated, and the shoulder. After thefe 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, befides thofe thinges which his hand shal find, according to that which he had vowed in his minde, fo shal he do to the fulfilling of his fanctification. ²² And our Lord fpake to Moyfes, faying: ²³ Speake to Aaron and his fonnes: ^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. ²⁷ And ^b) they shal

^a A fpECIAL and determinate forme of bleffing.

^b VVhen the priest vttereth the wordes God geueth the effect.

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 ſpecial obferuations: not to drinke 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 professed *Nazareites*, that is, *fegregated* or *feparated* from the ordinarie ftate of people; though it was, for moſt part, but for a time, to be limited by the parties them felues, and in ſome perpetual, as in Samfon. *Iudic. 13.* Now vvhat do *Nazareites* ſignifie, faith S. Gregorie (*li. 33. c. 23. Moral.*) *but thofe that abſtaine, and containe voluntarily from things othervvife lavvful?* As from eating fleſh, either for certaine daies and times, or altogether; from Mariage; from proprietie in worldlie goodes; and the like.

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

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

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