### Numbers

## Chapter 5

1Thereafter, the Lord spoke to Moses and said:  
  
 2‘Give these instructions to the children of IsraEl...  
  
 ‘Tell them to drive everyone out of the camp who has leprosy or gonorrhea, and anyone who’s made himself unclean [by touching a dead] person, 3whether they’re males or females... Drive them out of the camp so they don’t dirty the place where I dwell among them.’  
  
4And that’s what the children of IsraEl did; they drove them out of the camp, just as the Lord told Moses.  
  
  
5Then the Lord spoke to Moses and said:  
  
 6‘Speak to the children of IsraEl and tell them this:  
  
 ‘Any man or woman who has committed any of the sins that are common to mankind, or has in any way overstepped [My] Commandments and erred, 7must confess the sin he committed and make restitution for his sin.  
  
 ‘He [must pay] the price to restore [everything] to whomever he’s sinned against… And add 1/5th more to it.  
  
 8‘Now, if a man isn’t in debt to anyone for his sins against them, a sin-offering must still be paid to Jehovah, and he must offer a ram to the Priest as the payment for his sins.  
  
 9‘When it comes to the first fruitage of all the holy things among the children of IsraEl, everything that they offer to Jehovah must be [given to] the Priest for himself… 10All the holy things that men [offer] or choose to donate must be given to the Priest, and it will be his as a gift.’  
  
  
11Then the Lord spoke to Moses and said:  
  
 12‘Speak to the children of IsraEl and tell them this:  
  
 ‘Whenever a wife rebels against [her husband] and tries to dominate and rule over him, 13and then someone goes to bed with her and has sex with her behind her husband’s back... If she hides her filth and there’s no proof of it, and [the other man] doesn’t take her, 14and [her husband] thereafter develops a jealous spirit and suspects that she’s dirtied herself – or even if he’s developed a jealous spirit when she hasn’t dirtied herself – 15he must bring his woman to the Priest, along with the gift of a quart of barley meal.  
  
 ‘He must not pour any oil or frankincense on the barley meal, for it’s a sacrifice of jealousy… It’s a sacrifice of memory and of recalling sins to mind.  
  
 16‘Then the Priest must take [the woman] to stand before Jehovah, 17and the Priest must pour clean running water into a clay pot, then take some of the dirt that’s on the floor of the Tent of Proofs and throw it into the water... 18Thereafter, the Priest must stand the woman before Jehovah, uncover her head, and place the sacrifice of memory (the sacrifice of jealousy) into her hands.  
  
 ‘Next, the Priest must take the water that brings a curse into his hands, 19and the Priest must make the woman swear [in reply to the words]:  
  
 ‘If you aren’t guilty and no one has reclined with you, and if you haven’t sinned and dirtied yourself, and if you haven’t [been disrespectful] to your husband; [then, swear that you’re innocent] before this water that brings the curse.  
  
 20‘But if you have sinned and dirtied your marriage, and [if you’ve allowed] someone to lie with you other than your husband...’  
  
 21‘Then the Priest must make the woman swear [to accept] the oaths of this curse.  
  
 ‘The Priest must say to her:  
  
 ‘May Jehovah bring a curse upon you by the oath [you’ve sworn] in the midst of your people.  
  
 ‘May Jehovah cause your [sexual parts] to rot away and your belly to swell.  
  
 22‘May this water that brings the curse enter your womb and cause your belly to swell and your [sexual parts] to rot away.’  
  
 ‘And the woman must say:  
  
 ‘May it be so... May it be so.’  
  
 23‘Thereafter, the Priest must write these curses on a scroll, then rinse them away with the water that brings the curse. 24And he must make the woman drink the water that brings the curse.  
  
 25‘Next, the Priest must take the sacrifice of jealousy from the woman’s hands and carry it to the Altar to present it before Jehovah. 26Then the Priest must take a handful of the sacrificial [grain] and offer it on the Altar as a reminder, and he must make the woman drink the water.  
  
 27‘For, this is what will happen:  
  
 ‘If she has dirtied herself and her husband hasn’t been able to [prove] it, the water that brings the curse will enter her and cause her belly to swell and her [sexual parts] to rot away. And thereafter, the woman must be cursed among her people.  
  
 28‘But if the woman hasn’t dirtied herself and has remained chaste, she must be declared free of guilt and thereafter give birth to a [child].’  
  
29This is the law of jealousy [that covers the cases in which] a married woman sins and dirties herself, 30or where a man develops a jealous spirit and becomes jealous of his woman.  
  
He should take his woman before Jehovah, and the Priest must make her follow this law. 31And whereas the man will be cleared from his sin [of jealousy], the woman must be responsible for hers.