

The Law of the Nazirite
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Numbers 6 - Vow of the Nazirite

The Nazirite vow was a voluntary vow (all vows are voluntary) of separation to God, and included the disallowance of specific things forbidden by the Lord during the time of the vowers separation.

These included:

- abstaining from all things produced by the grapevine, especially wine and vinegar
- allowing no hair on ones head to be cut, i.e. "no razor shall come upon his head"
- not going near a dead body, even if it is the body of the man's parents or siblings

If a man who has taken this vow as an offering to the Lord touches a dead body during the time of his consecration, all the days up to that day of his consecration are considered nullified - he will have to start all over again. And, because he touched a dead body during the time of this volunteered separation, and failed to keep God's requirements for the time of this separation, he must bring sacrifices to atone for what he has done. He has sinned.

v. 9-11

"And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him, and he defiles his consecrated head...he shall bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of meeting; and the priest shall offer one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering, and make atonement for him, because he sinned in regards to the corpse"

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