NUMBERS 5 vs 1

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In the preface to this Book of Moses we read: The titles of the five books of Moses, which we use in our Bibles, are all borrowed from the Greek translation of the Seventy, the most ancient version of the Old Testament what we know of. But the title of this book we only turn into English; in all the rest we retain the Greek word, for which difference I know no reason, but that the Latin translators have done the same. Otherwise this book

but that the Latin translators have done the same. Otherwise this book might as well have been called: **Arithmoi**. Where we get our word: **arithmetic.** The Greek title = the numbering; as it shows the promise of God to Abraham that his children would be as the stars of heaven. In this book are two numberings: one at Mount Sinai in Arabia – chapter 1; and the

other on the plains of Moab 39 years later. -- Matthew Henry.

Ceremonially Unclean Persons Isolated,

¹ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ² who has a discharge Command the children of Israel that they put out

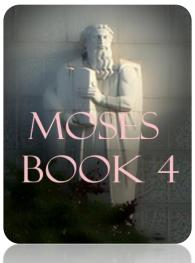
of camp every leper, everyone and whoever becomes defiled by a corpse. ³ You will put out both male and female; you will put them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camps in the midst of which I dwell. ⁴ And the children of Israel did so, and put them outside the camp; as the Lord spoke to Moses, so the children of Israel did.



⁵ Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶ Speak to the children of Israel: When a man or woman commits any sin that men commit in unfaithfulness against the Lord, and that person is guilty, ⁷ then he will confess the sin which he has committed. He will make restitution for his trespass in full, plus one-fifth of it, and give it to the one he has wronged. ⁸ But if the man has no relative to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for the wrong must go to the Lord for the priest, in addition to the ram of the atonement with which atonement is made for him. ⁹ Every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel, which they bring to the priest, will be his. ¹⁰ And every man's holy things will be his; whatever any man gives the priest will be his.

Concerning Unfaithful Wives,

¹¹ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹² Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: If any man's wife goes astray caught and is unfaithful to him, ¹³ and a man lies with her carnally, and it is hidden from the eyes of her husband, and it is concealed that she has defiled herself, and there was no witness against her, nor was she --



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¹⁴ if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, who has defiled herself; or if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, although she has not defiled herself—15 then the man will bring his wife to the priest. He will bring the offering required for her, one-tenth of an ephah of barley meal; he will pour no oil on it and put no frankincense on it, because it is a grain offering of jealousy, an offering for remembering, for bringing crime to remembrance.

¹⁶ And the priest will bring her near, and set her before the Lord. ¹⁷ The priest will take holy water in an earthen vessel, and take some of the dust that is on the floor of the Tent and put it into the water. 18 Then the priest will stand the woman before the Lord, uncover the woman's head, and put the offering for remembering in her hands, which is the grain offering of jealousy. And the priest will have in his hand the bitter water that brings a curse. ¹⁹ And the priest will put her under oath, and say to the woman, If no man has lain with you, and if you have not gone astray to uncleanness while under your husband's authority, be free from this bitter water that brings a curse.

²⁰But if you have gone astray while under your husband's authority, and if you have defiled vourself and some man other than your husband has lain with you -- 21 then the priest will put the woman under the oath of the curse, and he will say to the woman -the Lord make you a curse and an oath among your people, when the Lord makes your thigh rot and your belly swell; ²² and may this water that causes the curse go into your stomach, and make your belly swell and your thigh rot.

Then the woman will say, Amen, so be it.

²³ Then the priest will write these curses in a book, and he will scrape them off into the bitter water. ²⁴ And he will make the woman drink the bitter water that brings a curse, and the water that brings the curse will enter her to become bitter. 25 Then the priest will take the grain offering of jealousy from the woman's hand, will wave the offering before the Lord, and bring it to the altar; ²⁶ and the priest will take a handful of the offering, as its memorial portion, burn it on the altar, and afterward make the woman drink the water. 27 When he has made her drink the water, then it will be, if she has defiled herself and was unfaithful to her husband, the water that brings a curse will enter her and become bitter, and her belly will swell, her thigh will rot, and the woman will become a curse among her people. ²⁸ But if the woman has not defiled herself, and is clean, then she will be free and may conceive children.

²⁹ This is the law of jealousy, when a wife, while under her husband's authority, goes astray and defiles herself, 30 or when the spirit of jealousy comes upon a man, and he becomes jealous of his wife; then he will stand the woman before the Lord, and the priest will execute all this law upon her. 31 Then the man will be free from crime, but that woman will bear her guilt.