

Numbers 5:5-7 and the Restoration of a Broken Relationship

Num 5:5-7 NIV

5 The LORD said to Moses, 6 "Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD, that person is guilty 7 and must confess the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution for his wrong, add one fifth to it and give it all to the person he has wronged.

"When a man or woman" -- this passage applies to everyone

"wronging another in any way" -- it addresses all types of sins

"and so is unfaithful to the Lord" -- every sin against another person is actually a sin against God

"that person is guilty and must confess the sin" -- a thorough delineation of the offense must be stated by the offender with an acknowledgement of his guilt

"He must make full restitution" – the offender must make his victim whole

"add one fifth to it" – the offender must pay a penalty of 20% to the person he has wronged