

## Leviticus Chapter 8

---

V: 1-3 The 1<sup>st</sup> seven chapters of Leviticus deal with the sacrifices, through which the people have access to God.

- Moses has been receiving instruction from the Lord about all the sacrifices; all of which pertained to the construction of the Tabernacle, the furnishing, and the priestly garments – now it all comes together to actually take place.
- All the priests, the elements of the sacrifice and the people are to be gathered before the Lord at the door of the Tabernacle – this was a public ceremony.

**Psalm 96:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering, and come into His courts. <sup>9</sup>O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before Him, all the earth.”

- At God’s instruction, Moses will be fulfilling the priestly role, officiating throughout these proceedings.
- The first order of business is dealing with the sin of the High Priest and his sons.
- Prior to presentation there is preparation.
  1. Moses spent 40 years in Pharaoh’s courts, then another 40 years in the wilderness learning to be a shepherd.
  2. King David was a shepherd boy long before he was king.
  3. The Apostles spent three years of intensive discipleship with Jesus before they were presented, or turned loose upon the world.
  4. According to Galatians Ch. 1, Paul after his conversion, spent 3 years in the deserts of Arabia before being sent out into public ministry.
  5. Jesus Himself spent 30 years being submitted to His earthly parents before being presented to the nation of Israel in His public ministry.

We’re exhorted not to despise the day of small things:

**Zechariah 4:10** “For who hath despised the day of small things?...”

V: 4-5 Moses was obedient, which is a constant characteristic demonstrated and manifested in his life.

**“Moses did as the Lord commanded him...” 9X’s** (4, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 29, 34, 36)

- Moses relied upon the authority of the Word of God.

*“... this is the thing which the Lord commanded to be done...”*

**Psalm 119:105** “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

V: 6 Aaron and his sons are being prepared to serve God – and this is the first step.

**Psalm 24:3-4** <sup>3</sup>“Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place? <sup>4</sup>He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.”

- The first thing is that they must be washed:

Paul speaking of Jesus and the bride of Christ:

**Ephesians 5:26** “That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.”

**John 15:3** “Now you are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.”

**Psalm 119:9** “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word.”

**Psalm 119:11** “Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee.”

- God’s word has a cleansing and purifying effect in our lives, and it will keep us from sin if we let it.
- *“This book / Bible will keep us from sin; sin will keep us from this book.”*
- This is why we need a steady diet of God’s word, because we are in need of continual cleansing and washing.
- This is just one of the many reasons to have a regular reading program, and to press through books like Leviticus and Isaiah, and others that may seem difficult – God’s word does not return void, it will accomplish His purposes – we just need to be diligent to keep reading, keep pressing on!

**John 14:26** “But the comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

- The Holy Spirit won’t be able to bring to your remembrance that which you have not put in to remember.

V: 7-9 After being washed; now he is to be clothed. We see that there are 7 things that he will “put on” – in preparation for ministry / service unto the Lord.

- These 7 things were all first described in Exodus Ch. 28; and they were listed in a slightly different order

V: 7 A coat / tunic – fine linen; cool, no sweat.

**Isaiah 61:10** “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...”

*“Clothed with the robe.”*

- The color of the robe was sky blue – reminding them of heaven. Along the bottom hem of the robe were alternating golden pomegranates and bells. A reminder of the fruit and gifts of the Spirit – both necessary to minister unto the Lord.
- *“Girded with the girdle.”* – basically a sash which functioned as a belt, not unlike what we read about as Paul describes the full armor of God:

The belt of truth:

**Ephesians 6:14** “Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,..”

- The ephod: Symbol of priestly authority. As we serve the Lord, our authority is in and from the Word of God – “what does God’s word have to say about that?”

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup>“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup>That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

**1 Peter 1:2-3** <sup>2</sup>“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, <sup>3</sup>according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”

- The curious girdle of the ephod: the vesture that would hold the ephod in place.

V: 8 The breastplate, with the Urim and the Thummim: (lights & perfections) Used to determine the will of God.

As believer’s we’re called:

**Romans 12:2** “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.”

**Psalms 19:7-9** <sup>7</sup>“The law of the Lord is perfect (thummim), converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening (urim) the eyes. <sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.”

- Thummim: perfection, complete, lacking nothing – all that we need is there.

- Urim: enlightened, seeing as God sees, having God's understanding.

V: 9 The mitre and the golden plate – “**Holiness Unto The Lord**”. As believers, we are to have the mind of Christ:

**Philippians 2:5** “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”

**1 Peter 1:15-16** “<sup>15</sup>But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.”

V: 10-12 The anointing with the oil, the anointing of the Holy Spirit:

- The Tabernacle and all the furnishings; anointed with oil – **made holy**.
- The brazen altar, the laver, all the implements & tools; anointed with oil – made holy.
- He “*poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head...*”.

**Psalms 133** “<sup>1</sup>Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! <sup>2</sup>It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; <sup>3</sup>As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.”

- The man: likened unto our Great High Priest – Jesus the Christ - “anointed” – Machiach – Messiah - Christ – anointed:

**Isaiah 61:1** “The spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord hath (christened) anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

**Psalms 45:7** “Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed (christened) thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”

- As believers; the Holy Spirit comes upon us (**1 Cor. 3:16**), then flows from us (**Acts 1:8**) as we too are anointed with the Holy anointing oil of God. As we too are sanctified and set apart for His use.

V: 13 Aaron's sons, the regular priests were given three simple things:

1. A coat / tunic, a plain linen robe – the robe of righteousness.
2. Girded with girdles, a belt worn around the waist that allowed them to tuck in their robes, enabling them to move and serve freely.
3. Bonnets, or a hat – a covering for their head, symbolizing their submission to authority.

- We're to be robed in the righteousness of Christ, we're to serve, and we're to be submitted to those whom the Lord sets over us.
- There is no authority without being under authority.

V: 14-17 **The sin offering for the priests:** the priest, like everyone else has to deal with their sin.

V: 14 Serving the Lord involves being willing to confess our sins:

- Here Aaron and his sons do just that, laying their hands upon the head of the bullock imparting their sins to the animal.

**1 John 1:8-9** <sup>8</sup>“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

V: 15 The substitutionary death of the young male bull – pointing towards Jesus who would sacrifice Himself and die for our sin.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

- To sanctify the altar, to make reconciliation or a temporary atonement upon it, a kofar.

V: 16 All the best was given to the Lord, and consumed upon the altar.

V: 17 The rest of the bullock, along with it's hide (covering) and his dung – were all burnt outside the camp as they had been commanded.

- Interesting that the skin / hide had the same value as the dung.

**Isaiah 64:6** “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

- Our righteousness, our covering, our flesh, the skin of the animal – valued the same as the dung – all burnt outside the camp.

*It starts with our righteousness, then we see it in every part of our lives:*

**Philippians 3:7-8** <sup>7</sup>“But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. <sup>8</sup>Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.”

V: 18-21 Now the ram for the **burnt offering**, the offering of consecration.

- This symbolized a total commitment by the priest – no half hearted ministry to our God!

**Romans 12:1** “I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

- Once again - Confession – and again if needed!

V: 19 Wherever there is sin, there is death.

**Romans 6:23** “For the wages of sin is death...”

V: 22-30 **Peace offering**: the complete and total consecration of the man.

V: 20-24 Moses is to put some of the ram’s blood on the tip of their right ear, upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the big toe of their right foot, then sprinkle blood upon the altar itself.

**Psalms 19:14** “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.”

- Part of this ordination ceremony, part of their consecration was to understand that their ears were consecrated unto the Lord – if they were going to serve the Lord they had to be able to hear the word of God, and to do this their ears must be consecrated.
- These hands are now consecrated to God, so be careful what you take up with them in doing the work of the Lord – represented by their hands.
- The same with their feet, their walk with the Lord was important. Consider where you would set foot, walk circumspectly – knowing that even your feet are consecrated unto the Lord.

Later Jesus was tell us the same thing in a different way:

**Matthew 5:29-30** “<sup>29</sup>And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.”

**Ephesians 5:15** “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,”

V: 25-27 The fat; the best part of the animal, the kidneys, the rump and the shoulder – all the best parts of the animal.

- The bread, unleavened – sinless, anointed with oil (filled with the Spirit) all pointing to the sinless bread of life, filled with the Spirit – our Lord Jesus.
- All these things were put into the priests hands which had previously been empty.

**James 1:17** “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

- They didn’t wash themselves, they didn’t dress themselves, and now they can only offer to God that which He had given to them – the “wave offering.”

V: 28-30 Their time to work will come, but this isn’t that time – Moses burns the offerings.

- Moses then take both the anointing oil, and some of the blood and anoints Aaron and his sons.

**Psalms 133** “<sup>1</sup>Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! <sup>2</sup>It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; <sup>3</sup>As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.”

- The blood and the oil would be sprinkled upon the garments, they would undoubtedly stain those garments and serve as a constant reminder:
  1. The blood is what purified or cleansed the altar (V:15), the blood made atonement for their sins, the blood represents forgiveness.
  2. The oil, representing the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The result being sanctification.

V: 31-32 They were given of the meat to boil and consume it with the bread – they were to partake of this offering just as Jesus instructed us:

**John 6:53** “Then Jesus said unto them, verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.”

- Part of the preparation process in being used of God is that we must be partakers of Jesus.

**Philippians 3:10** “That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.”

V: 33-35 The last part in preparation for service unto God is just being alone with God.

- They were to spend 7 days, 7 being the number of completion; 7 days set apart, on retreat with God – separated from everything else, just focused on the things of the Lord.

**Psalms 51:10-14** <sup>10</sup>“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. <sup>13</sup>Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. <sup>14</sup>Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.”

- It was a matter of life and death; “they ye die not...”

V: 36 And they were obedient!

- 
1. Going through this chapter, it is obviously about the ordination of Aaron and his sons. We've seen elements of forgiveness through the laying on of their hands onto the sin offerings and the presumed forgiveness.
  2. Obviously one of the principal characters in this scenario is Aaron, the brother of Moses.
  3. Anybody remember the whole golden calf incident? If Moses hadn't interceded, Aaron and the people would have perished.
  4. There might have been a question, would Aaron still be allowed to be involved in the priesthood, was he disqualified, could he be of any use – would God use him?
  5. This chapter certainly resolves these questions.