



KEYWORD: *Holiness*

PURPOSE: To instruct the nation of Israel how she must live and worship as God's chosen people in response to his holiness and in order that He might dwell among them.

OUTLINE

1. The Way to God Through Appropriate Worship (1-16)
 - i. Enjoying God's Presence (1-7)
 - ii. Entering God's Service (8-10)
 - iii. Encountering God's Design (11-15)
 - iv. Ensuring God's Forgiveness (16)
2. The Walk with God Through Obedient Lifestyle (17-27)
 - i. Enacting God's Word (17-26)
 - ii. Enamored by God's Grace (27)

Entering God's Service

Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. Then fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces. (Lev 9:22-24)

Entering God's Service

Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. (Lev 10:1-2)

Entering God's Service

Then Moses said to Aaron, "It is what the Lord spoke, saying,

'By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy,
And before all the people I will be honored.' "

So Aaron, therefore, kept silent. (Lev 10:3)

HOW TO GLEAN FROM THE BIBLE

T – Then (Author, History, Geography, Customs)

E – Eternal (The Principle or Truth that Stands Forever)

N – Now (Application of the Truth in the Present)

Approach the text prayerfully

Expect to work hard (Prov 2:1-22; Job 28)

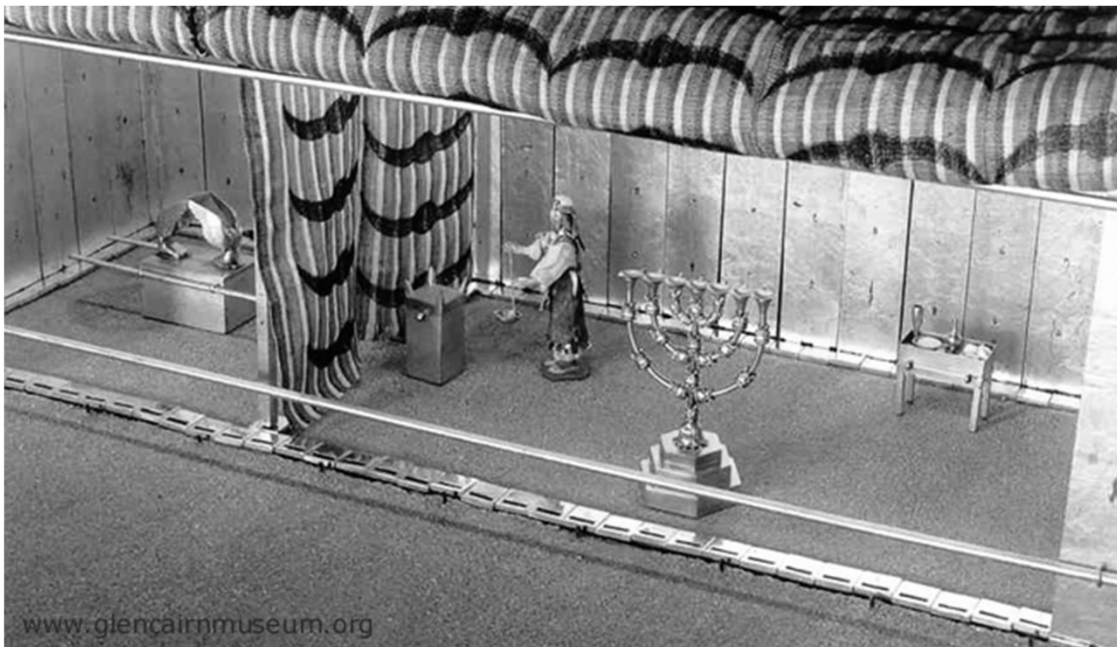
Consider why the Spirit of God placed this text for you?

Entering God's Service

1. Context (Lev 8-10)
 - a. Israel at Sinai
 - b. Narrative followed by Instructions
 - c. God gave detailed instructions for priests (Exod 28-30, 39)
 - d. Following the week of ordination
 - e. Role of priests – to minister to God, to atone for people
2. Nadab and Abihu
 - a. 2 older sons of Aaron (Exod 6:23)
 - b. Nobles/spiritual leadership of Israel (Exod 24:1; 9-11)

Entering God's Service

3. Nadab and Abihu (Lev 10:1-2)
 - a. Performed priestly duties
 - b. Incense offering on golden altar
 - c. Offered Strange Fire before YHWH



Entering God's Service

3. Nadab and Abihu (Lev 10:1-2)
 - a. The fire from the presence of YHWH consumed them
 - b. They died before YHWH
4. Immediate Explanation (Lev 10:3)
 - a. YHWH provides an answer
 - b. YHWH demands Holiness
 - c. YHWH defends Honor

What is the Strange Fire?

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus

- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:1)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:5)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:7)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:21)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:26)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (Exod 39:31)

Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was completed; and the sons of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses; so they did. (Exod 39:32)

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus

So the sons of Israel did all the work according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses. And Moses examined all the work and behold, they had done it; just as the Lord had commanded, this they had done. So Moses blessed them. (Exod 39:42-43)

Thus Moses did; according to all that the Lord had commanded him, so he did. (Exod 40:16)

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus (40:17-21)

Now in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. Moses erected the tabernacle and laid its sockets, and set up its boards, and inserted its bars and erected its pillars. He spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Then he took the testimony and put it into the ark, and attached the poles to the ark, and put the mercy seat on top of the ark. He brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up a veil for the screen, and screened off the ark of the testimony, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus (40:22-25)

Then he put the table in the tent of meeting on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the veil. He set the arrangement of bread in order on it before the Lord, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Then he placed the lampstand in the tent of meeting, opposite the table, on the south side of the tabernacle. He lighted the lamps before the Lord, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus (40:26-30)

Then he placed the gold altar in the tent of meeting in front of the veil; and he burned fragrant incense on it, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Then he set up the veil for the doorway of the tabernacle. He set the altar of burnt offering before the doorway of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the meal offering, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. He placed the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar and put water in it for washing.

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Exodus (40:31-33)

From it Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet. When they entered the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, they washed, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. He erected the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and hung up the veil for the gateway of the court. Thus Moses finished the work.

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Leviticus 8

- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:4)
- This is the thing which the Lord has commanded to do. (8:5)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:9)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:13)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:17)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:21)
- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (8:29)

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Leviticus (8:34-36)

“The Lord has commanded to do as has been done this day, to make atonement on your behalf. “At the doorway of the tent of meeting, moreover, you shall remain day and night for seven days and keep the charge of the Lord, so that you will not die, for so I have been commanded.” Thus Aaron and his sons did all the things which the Lord had commanded through Moses.

Answering Tough Questions

1. Retracing Steps – Leviticus 9

Moses said, "This is the thing which the Lord has commanded you to do, that the glory of the Lord may appear to you." (9:6)

- just as the Lord has commanded. (9:7)

- just as the Lord had commanded Moses. (9:10)

Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. (10:1)

Importance of God's Commands

Examples from the Bible

- i. Adam and Eve (Gen 3:1-7)
- ii. Korah, Dathan and Abiram (Num 16)
- iii. Moses and Aaron (Num 20:8-12)
- iv. Residents of Beth-shemesh (1 Sam 6:19-21)
- v. Uzzah (2 Sam 6:1-11)
- vi. Ananais and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)
- vii. Judgment at the White Throne (Rev 20:11-15)

Holiness of GOD

“It’s dangerous to assume that because a person is drawn to holiness in his study that he is a thereby a holy man. There is irony here. I am sure that the reason I have a deep hunger to learn of the holiness of God is precisely because I am not holy. I am a profane man – a man who spends more time out of the temple than in it. But I have had just enough of a taste of the majesty of God to want more. I know what it means to be forgiven man and what it means to be sent on a mission. My soul cries for more. My soul needs more.” ~ R.C. Sproul

Lessons for Present Day Christians

- i. Cultivate reverence and Fear of the Lord
- ii. Pay attention to God’s Commands
- iii. Remember God’s Discipline
- iv. Honor God’s Holiness
- v. Serve God with reverence and godly fear
- vi. Draw near to God through Christ

