

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

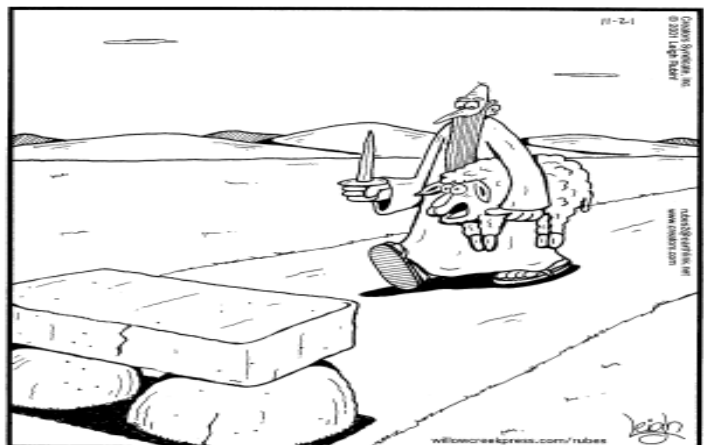
1) 03 Sept 2017	Exodus 1-4	Reluctance
2) 10 Sept	Exodus 5-10	Confrontation
3) 17 Sept	Exodus 11-12	Liberation
4) 24 Sept	Exodus 13-14	Victory
5) 01 Oct	Exodus 15-18	Sufficient
6) 08 Oct	Exodus 19-24	Commanded
7) 15 Oct	Exodus 25-31	Equipped
8) 22 Oct	Exodus 32-34	Rebellion
9) 29 Oct	Exodus 35-40	His Presence
10) 05 Nov	Leviticus 1-7	Set Before
11) 12 Nov	Leviticus 8-15	Set Apart
12) 19 Nov	Leviticus 16-22	Set Free
13) 26 Nov	Leviticus 23-27	Set Futures

INTRODUCTION

- In this lesson, we see that God and only God prescribes how He will be worshipped. We do not get to decide any of those factors.
- We also see various regulations on what is clean and unclean from what foods to eat, to childbirth, and to leprosy – all specifying what constitutes a holy people, holy space, holy items, and holy time.

Passage	Comments
Leviticus 8:1-36	<p>The Mandatory Consecration of Aaron and His Sons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-4. The Lord spoke to Moses and gave several commands to be followed, beginning with “assemble ALL the congregation” for them to witness the consecration of the 1st High Priest, Aaron, and all the other Levitical priests. The commands included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The washing, dressing, and anointing of Aaron and his sons vv6-13 2. The anointing of the tabernacle & the altar vv10-11 3. The purification of the altar through blood vv14-15 4. A burnt offering for a soothing aroma vv18-21 5. An ordination and a wave offering for another soothing aroma with blood put on the right big toe, right thumb, and right ear lobe vv22-30 6. All the priests were sequestered for 7 days within the tabernacle so they would not die (some speculate that the ARK had some kind of radiation, biological, or electrical properties the priests had to first get familiar with or acclimated to) vv31-36 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall that God repeatedly warned the Israelites not to touch or even look at some of the holy artifacts for fear of death ... Ex 19:21; Num 4:15, 20 • Recall when the Lord killed over 50,000 for peering into the ARK 1Sam 6:19 • ...and Uzzah died for touching the ARK, for only the priests had that privilege 2Sam 6:6-7 • Some even speculate the multi-layered garments and special head ware the priests wore had some kind of protective properties, for even having a wardrobe malfunction warranted death.... Lev 10:6 • How do we consecrate people for ministry today?
What is the significance of putting blood on the right big toe, the right thumb, and right ear lobe?	<p>The true meaning of this practice seems to be forever lost in history. We can only speculate. A possible comparison is when Peter asked to be fully washed, while Jesus said just the washing of your feet was sufficient to be fully cleaned, signifying we are in need of daily repentance..... John 13:10</p> <p>Clarke's Commentary: This practice “intended to signify they should dedicate all their faculties and powers to the service of God; their ears to the hearing and study of his law, their hands to diligence in the sacred ministry and to all acts of obedience, and their feet to walking in the way of God's precepts”</p>

Passage	Comments
9:1-24	<p>The Sacrifices Required for God to Appear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-6. “For today the Lord will appear to you” – Aaron and his sons had to meticulously prepare specific offerings to cleanse themselves (atone for their sins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What do we need to do to allow God to “show Himself strong” in our lives (Ps 68:28)? <input type="checkbox"/> Obey; <input type="checkbox"/> Be legalistic; <input type="checkbox"/> Be humble; <input type="checkbox"/> Be generous <input type="checkbox"/> Repent; <input type="checkbox"/> Be forgiving; <input type="checkbox"/> Others? _____ • vv23-24. The glory of God appeared to ALL, then fire came out from the Lord and consumed the sacrifice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ When supernatural miracles pick up again in Revelation, Satan tries to duplicate this fete when the ‘2nd beast’ makes fire come down from heaven to deceive people by means of miracles Rev 13:13-14 ♦ Remember – The best Satan can do is called “lying wonders” 2Thes 2:9
10:1-20	<p>The Sin of Nadab & Abihu – Not Taking God Seriously</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-4. The sons of Aaron offered strange fire to the Lord and died as a result. They possibly got complacent or didn't take God seriously Jer 48:10 • vv6-9. The Levites not only had to wear the right underwear and avoid any wardrobe malfunction, but they also had to avoid drinking on the job and not leave the sanctuary for a prescribed period of time – or die. What a high-pressure job. See lesson on Exodus 25-31 • vv10-11. God is concerned about us knowing the difference between what is holy & profane, & between the clean and unclean. Should we be concerned today with such differences? What would these be? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ God changed the rules slightly when He proclaimed all foods are now clean to eat (Mrk 7:19) & Gentiles are now accepted into God's Kingdom (Acts 10) ♦ Yet, we are still warned not to be yoked with unbelievers. What does this mean? 2Cor 6:14 ♦ And, we are to distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him, and act accordingly. What would our actions be in such cases? .. Mal 3:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid the unruly & divisive. Rom 16:17; Titus 3:10 <input type="checkbox"/> Show no hospitality to false teachers.. 2John 1:10 <input type="checkbox"/> Do not marry an unbeliever 2Cor 6:14 <input type="checkbox"/> Do not hang around unrepentant sinners... Pr 14:7 <input type="checkbox"/> Other considerations for dealing differently with the wicked and the righteous?



“Maybe we should call off the ceremony. I don't think I'm quite ready for a trip to the altar.”

Passage	Comments
11:1-47	<p>Dietary Laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember. Prior to the Flood, men and animals were both vegetarians (Gen 1:29-30; 3:18). After the Flood God allowed animals to be eaten (Gen 9:1-3). And even before the Flood, it was clear which animals were classified as “clean” (Gen 7:1-8) • In essence, clean animals to eat from the land, air, or sea were not scavengers such as pigs, vultures, crabs, or roaches. Many clean animals were basically veggie eaters (e.g., cows) or they captured and ate live prey (fish), with exceptions (e.g., eagles, sharks, camels). • v32. Cleanliness was paramount. Even dishes, which got contaminated with dead bugs had to be washed. • vv44-47. Be holy, for I am holy. The purpose of such dietary regulations was to consecrate God's people as holy (or segregated) from all others who had unhealthy hygienic practices. • Definition of Perfect Health: The slowest possible rate at which one can die
12:1-8	<p>Laws of Purification for Childbirth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice the woman was isolated from community events for 40 days if she delivered a boy, 80 days for a girl <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Scripture is silent as to why this is so, and, at this time, there is no known medical reason for it either ♦ BUT, this does not imply that boys are of more worth or less worth than girls, for the same sacrifice is offered for both. And notice the order of the offerings: 1st, the burnt offering, and 2nd, the sin offering. For actual sins, as depicted in Lev 5:6-8, the sin offering precedes the burnt offering {...makes the brain hurt} ♦ Also note that having a baby is not a sin. The problem is in the discharge of bodily fluids such as blood, which are contaminants since we now live in a fallen world. The isolation period seems to be a protection against spreading communicable diseases. • v3. Circumcision on the 8th day. The medical reason for this is it takes about 8 days for a baby to develop the clotting factors required for a safe operation.
13:1-59	<p>The Test for Leprosy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv45-46. Leprosy was one of the most dreaded diseases. It came in many forms. The worst case would make the infected like feared zombies. They would be, in essence, the walking dead. They couldn't work, couldn't socialize with friends or family, but were isolated away from all others. When approaching anyone, they were to cry out “Unclean, Unclean”!
14:1-57	<p>Cleansing from Leprosy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-32. The offering was two living, clean birds, some cedar wood, with scarlet and hyssop, which were to be brought for his cleansing; and, when clean, two male lambs, one ewe lamb, three tenth deals of flour, and one log of oil; but if the person was poor, then he was to bring one lamb, one tenth deal of flour, one log of oil and two turtle doves, or young pigeons • Matthew 8:1-4. Jesus instantaneously healed a leper and told him to “show yourself to the priest and present the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” The priests would have immediately realized that a God-ordained, Moses-like prophet was in their midst, because of verifiable testimony presented by eye witnesses within the crowd that was present.

Passage	Comments		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv33-57. God puts the plague of leprosy in a house. Why would God do this? If God put such a plague on a person or a structure, why wouldn't He remove it? Instead, the house had to be totally destroyed (v45). The purpose seems to be depicted in v57 as a teaching moment to define what is clean and safe and what is unclean and possibly deadly to the community. 		
15:1-33	<p>Cleansing from Bodily Discharges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jews did a lot of bathing and washing of linen and garments to cleanse themselves of bodily discharges • God's divine presence in the assembly demanded a high order of holiness and physical and moral purity. • God guarded His people while at home and abroad, asleep and awake, by day and by night. He attended to their food, He attended to their clothing, He attended to their most minute and private concerns. If some trifling spot appeared upon a person, it had to be instantly and carefully looked into. In brief, nothing was overlooked which could affect the well-being or purity of those with whom Jehovah had associated Himself. He took an interest in their most trivial affairs. He carefully attended to everything connected with them, whether publicly, socially, or privately. 		
Type of Discharge	Unspecified	Seminal	Blood
Example	Severe diarrhea	Nocturnal or during sex	Menstrual
Gender	Male/Female	Male/Female	Female
Time Unclean	Till evening	Till evening	7 days or as long as she bleeds
Actions on affected people & materials	Wash body, bedding, furnishings, clothes, and wooden dishes; Clay vessels were broken		
Offering	After 7 days, 1 turtle dove or pigeon for sin offering; 1 bird for guilt offering		

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS

- We must admit that these Levitical rituals, like the rest of Scripture, were written for our learning, so we do need to dig deep at times.
- We are to be holy as God is holy. Is this even possible? YES, it is. Jesus showed the way. We cannot be perfect as God is, but we can be as holy → that is, segregated for His purpose, consecrated, dedicated, and anointed for service.
- HOW? Through willful and intentional desire and discipline to be obedient to do what we know is right – otherwise, it is sin. [Jms 4:17](#)

NEXT WEEK: Leviticus 16-22. Laws against perversion, such as incest, homosexuality, bestiality, adultery, and infanticide (child sacrifice) are addressed.

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson

