

Lesson #6

PREPARATION FOR LESSON: read *Exodus 31:18 - 32:25; Leviticus 6, 7, 16:1-28, 19, 25, 26*

BACKGROUND

Author and Date: written by Moses during his lifetime 1400 - 1300 BC; the instruction is given over a period of 1 month

Theme: holiness; the word is used 87 times, in one form or another

Purpose: To tell the Levites how to use the tabernacle; what to do and how to do it.
To teach the Jews how to be holy as a nation and as individuals.

OUTLINE

- I. Their holiness thru Sacrifices 1 - 10
 - Sacrifices 1-7
 - Priests 8-10
- II. Their holiness thru separation 11-27
 - Laws 11-22
 - Feast days 23-25
 - Promises and Warnings 26-27

DEFINITIONS

God's Anger is His response to wrong, evil, disobedience or injustice.

In the Old Testament, He separated Himself **from** the wrong and sent consequences **for** the wrong.

Mercy seat the lid of the ark; God could show mercy because an animal died in place of the nation.

Propitiation means God does not have to separate Himself from His people, because an animal died for their disobedience

Yom Kippur Day of Covering

The high priest offered an animal sacrifice for the nation and took some of its blood into the Most Holy Place.

In the Old Testament it was a Day of Covering because animal sacrifices only **covered** their sin.

In the New Testament, Jesus came as the Lamb of God who **takes away** the sin of the world.

KEY IDEAS

The 613 Jewish Laws: a contract between God and the Jews; what He expected in their morals, faith and relationships.

- if they **obey**, there will be blessings; the most important is their companionship with God.
- if they **disobey**, there will be consequences

God will separate Himself from them and their enjoyment of Him will be broken.

They will lose physical blessings; for willful, defiant or rebellious disobedience, they will be killed.

example: 3000 die for their sin of idolatry and immorality when they refuse to repent Ex. 32:28

Clarification of 2 laws

Do not kill means individuals are *not to commit murder* to satisfy their justice. But juries, courts and governments do have authority to decide if individuals should live or die based on guidelines of justice.

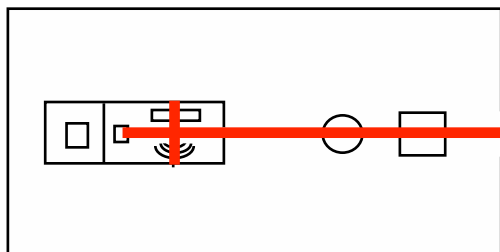
Eye for an eye: if a person knocks out your tooth, you may not take his life. The maximum penalty you can demand is the loss of his tooth. This was a law of **protection** when people demanded punishment that did not fit the crime.

The Tabernacle: everything is a picture of Jesus John 1:14

LOCATION: the center of the camp; a picture that God wanted to be central in their life

FURNITURE: was made of wood and overlaid with gold; wood pictures Jesus' humanity; gold, His deity

- Altar of burnt offerings (bronze): Jesus dying for us
- Basin (bronze): Jesus cleansing us, forgiving our disobedience
- Table with bread: Jesus is essential to our life; He sustains us and gives us life
- Menorah: Jesus, the One who gives us direction and guidance
- Altar of incense: Jesus as Priest, praying for us
- Ark: Jesus as the Presence of Deity who is with us



The entire area is 150' long by 75' wide

The fence is made of white linen cloth

The tabernacle is 45' by 15'; divided into 2 rooms

The Holy Place, the Most Holy Place

The roof has 4 coverings as protection from sun, rain and wind

God's visible presence: the Shechinah glory

is in the flame of fire over the ark

is in the cloud over the tabernacle



KEY IDEAS (continued)

The Tabernacle

COLORS: **red** represents blood, showing Jesus came as God's Lamb; **blue**, His deity and heavenly character; **purple**, His royalty as King; **white**, His purity and ministry as Priest

More Pictures of Jesus:

Silver pictured **redemption** or salvation by Jesus; **bronze** is **judgment** by Jesus; **gold** is Jesus' **deity** and **glory**

In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle was a picture of God living with His people.

In the New Testament, **Jesus** became flesh and "tabernacled" with us. John 1:14

In the Old Testament, animal offerings allowed God to forgive sin by **covering** it.

In the New Testament, **Jesus** came as God's Lamb to **take away** the sin of the world. John 1:29

In the Old Testament, animal offerings allowed God to only forgive sins of carelessness, forgetfulness, unawareness.

In the New Testament, **Jesus'** payment forgives all our sins, even willful, defiant or rebellious sins. 1 John 1:9

In the Old Testament, the ministry of the Jewish priest each day, made it possible to have God's forgiveness.

If we trace the steps of the priest on that day, we see God arranged it to create a picture of the cross.

It is the sacrifice of **Jesus** that makes it possible for us to have God's presence, forgiveness and mercy.

In the Old Testament, only the head priest could enter God's presence 1 time a year.

Jesus' death and resurrection made it possible that anyone at anytime can enter God's presence thru Jesus.

The Levites: all are descended from Levi, the 3rd son of Jacob

Aaron is descended from 1 of the 3 sons of Levi

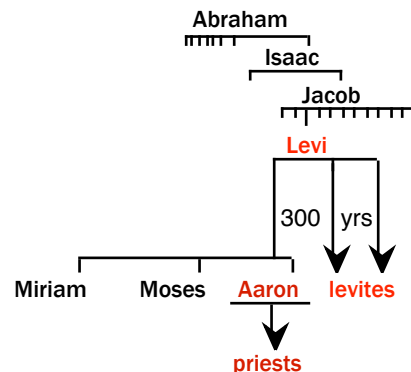
Only Aaron & his descendants can serve as Jewish priests

The other descendants of Levi are responsible

for the maintenance of the tabernacle

to take it down & set it up when traveling

do the work connected with the sacrifices



The 5 Offerings in Leviticus are a picture of Jesus in His humanity from God the Father's point of view

Burnt: total obedience of Jesus to His Father, in His death

Grain: total obedience of Jesus to His Father, in His life; an offering without blood

He had to be who He **was**, in order to do what He did.

Peace: Jesus making peace between the Father and us; instead of alienation, there can be reconciliation.

Sin: Jesus paying the penalty for sin; He was separated from the Father.

Trespass: Jesus forgiving our sin (also called the guilt offering).

APPLICATION: the pictures of the sin and burnt offerings are explained in the New Testament

In the Old Testament, when a person wanted God's forgiveness, he had to bring 2 perfect animals to the tabernacle.

He took the **sin offering**, laid his hand on the head of the animal and in picture form,

his **sin** was transferred to the animal and the animal died in his place.

He took the **burnt offering** animal, placed his hand on the head of it and in picture form,

the **perfection** of the animal was transferred to him

But animals are not adequate to either take away sin or give perfection; sin could only be covered.

Jesus came as God's Lamb, to be the sin offering. The sin of everyone was "dumped" on Jesus and He was separated from the Father. He was separated, so if we choose, we do not have to be separated from the Father.

*For God took the sinless Christ and poured onto Him our sins. (Literal Greek: God made Jesus to be the **sin offering**)*

Then in exchange, He poured God's goodness into us. 2 Corinthians 5:21 LB

When we accept Jesus' payment, our disobedience (unholiness) is transferred to the account of Jesus.

In exchange, His holiness is transferred to our account.

