

Consecration of Priests

Leviticus Chapter 8

Consecration - the devoting or setting apart of anything to the worship or service of God.
(anoint, ordain, sanctify, dedicate, honor, set apart, exalt)

Lev 8:1 **1) Preparing for Consecration** vs 1-13

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Lev 8:2 "Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments and the anointing oil and the bull of the sin offering, and the two rams and the basket of unleavened bread,

Lev 8:3 and assemble all the congregation at the doorway of the tent of meeting."

- This assembly was probably representative. 2 million plus people wouldn't have been able to gather at the tent of meeting. (tribe, family, household)

Lev 8:4 So Moses did just as the LORD commanded him. When the congregation was assembled at the doorway of the tent of meeting,

- Ch 8,9,10 you will see the word "*commanded*" twenty times. The Lord is ordering these things. These are not optional.
- Also, you will see that Moses performs these priestly duties until Aaron and sons are installed as priests. Then in chapter 9 they take over the duties.
- Exodus 29 is the command to separate them out for God's purpose. "Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them to minister as priests to Me"
- 1 Peter 2:5,9 tells us we are a priesthood "*you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ...But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR {God's} OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*"
- This is God's command. This is what God wants done, and this is the way God wants it done

Lev 8:5 Moses said to the congregation, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded to do."

Lev 8:6 Then Moses had Aaron and his sons come near and washed them with water.

WASHED

- Moses brings Aaron and his Aaron's sons to the bronze laver and washes them.
- Washing with water in the scripture is usually a picture of the cleansing of the mind by the Scripture Word. (Drinking water is usually pictures a filling of the Holy Spirit)
- Psalm 199:9 "*How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.*"
- Ephesians 5:26 "*That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,*"
- Titus 3:5 "*...according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*"
- Revelation 1:5+6 "*Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him [be] glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*"
- This washing was public which meant it was humbling. This humble state is a prerequisite for God's servant.
- This washing was a one time event. After this only his hands and feet were needed to be washed. (sounds a little like baptism)

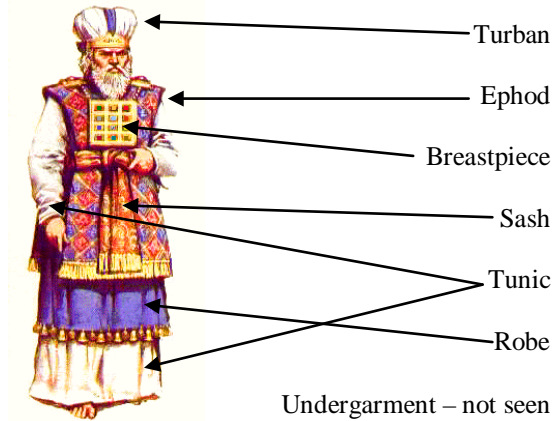
Lev 8:7 He put the tunic on him and girded him with the sash, and clothed him with the robe and put the ephod on him; and he girded him with the artistic band of the ephod, with which he tied {it} to him.

CLOTHED

Lev 8:8 He then placed the breastpiece on him, and in the breastpiece he put the Urim and the Thummim.

Lev 8:9 He also placed the turban on his head, and on the turban, at its front, he placed the golden plate, the holy crown, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

- Moses dresses Aaron. (verse 13 he dresses Aaron's sons)
- Exodus 28 was a study in the various elements of these garments.



- These garments are given to him. And he wears these by grace. He did not earn these. These are given to him not by his performance but by God's choosing.
- Psalm 132:9 "Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness, And let Your saints shout for joy"
- Isaiah 61:10 "He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness"
- Ephesians 6:10-11 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God" This is God's armor.

Lev 8:10 Moses then took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it, and consecrated them.

ANOINTED

- This was the anointing oil that was holy and not to be duplicated for any other purpose. The priests were to smell distinct.

Lev 8:11 He sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times and anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the basin and its stand, to consecrate them.

Lev 8:12 Then he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him, to consecrate him.

- Moses then anoints the items of the tabernacle. He does this by sprinkling.
- Moses then anoints Aaron. He does this by pouring it upon him.
- The anointing oil is a picture of the Holy Spirit. Things are sprinkled, People are poured upon.
- Psalm 133 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, Coming down upon the beard, {Even} Aaron's beard, Coming down upon the edge of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon Coming down upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing--life forever."

Lev 8:13 Next Moses had Aaron's sons come near and clothed them with tunics, and girded them with sashes and bound caps on them, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

- Moses does the same for Aaron's sons.

Lev 8:14
The Sin
Offering

2) Preliminary Sacrifice for Consecration vs 14-21

- Moses will do all the sacrificing for Aaron and his sons.

Then he brought the bull of the sin offering, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull of the sin offering.

Lev 8:15 Next Moses slaughtered {it} and took the blood and with his finger put {some of it} around on the horns of the altar, and purified the altar. Then he poured out {the rest of} the blood at the base of the altar and consecrated it, to make atonement for it.

Lev 8:16 He also took all the fat that was on the entrails and the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat; and Moses offered it up in smoke on the altar.

Lev 8:17 But the bull and its hide and its flesh and its refuse he burned in the fire outside the camp, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

- Moses officiates as the priest.
- Aaron and sons lay hands on the sacrifice to symbolically identify their sin to the bull.
- This sin offering is to confess that they have not given their best and have fallen short of God's Standard.
- The inward parts are more acceptable than the outward parts to God.
- This was performed as commanded by the Lord in Exodus 29 + Leviticus 4.

Lev 8:18 Then he presented the ram of the burnt offering, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.

Lev 8:19 Moses slaughtered {it} and sprinkled the blood around on the altar.

Lev 8:20 When he had cut the ram into its pieces, Moses offered up the head and the pieces and the suet in smoke.

Lev 8:21 After he had washed the entrails and the legs with water, Moses offered up the whole ram in smoke on the altar. It was a burnt offering for a soothing aroma; it was an offering by fire to the LORD, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

- Moses officiates as the priest.
- Aaron and sons lay hands on the sacrifice to symbolically identify to the ram.
- This burnt offering is to confess that they will dedicate their total commitment to the Lord God.
 - This dedication is not possible without blood.
- This was performed as commanded by the Lord in Exodus 29 + Leviticus 1.

Lev 8:22
The Ram of
Ordination

3) Sacrifice for Consecration vs 22-29

Then he presented the second ram, the ram of ordination, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.

Lev 8:23 Moses slaughtered {it} and took some of its blood and put it on the lobe of Aaron's right ear, and on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot.

Lev 8:24 He also had Aaron's sons come near; and Moses put some of the blood on the lobe of their right ear, and on the thumb of their right hand and on the big toe of their right foot. Moses then sprinkled {the rest of} the blood around on the altar.

- The 2nd ram slaughtered and its blood is not sprinkled on an altar at first, but on the priests. Their right ears, their right thumbs, their big toes on their right foot.
- This was the consecration ram. The blood determines their life from this point on.
 - Right Ear - They would now hear differently
 - Right Thumb - They would now work differently
 - Right Toe - They would now walk differently.
- This consecration offering is to confess that they will live a life of holiness.

Lev 8:25 He took the fat, and the fat tail, and all the fat that was on the entrails, and the lobe of the liver and the two kidneys and their fat and the right thigh.

Lev 8:26 From the basket of unleavened bread that was before the LORD, he took one unleavened cake and one cake of bread {mixed with} oil and one wafer, and placed {them} on the portions of fat and on the right thigh.

Lev 8:27 He then put all {these} on the hands of Aaron and on the hands of his sons and presented them as a wave offering before the LORD.

- The first wave offering
- This was for Aaron and his sons acknowledging possession.

Lev 8:28 Then Moses took them from their hands and offered them up in smoke on the altar with the burnt offering. They were an ordination offering for a soothing aroma; it was an offering by fire to the LORD.

Lev 8:29 Moses also took the breast and presented it for a wave offering before the LORD; it was Moses' portion of the ram of ordination, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

- This is the second wave offering
- This was for Moses acknowledging he himself is the Lord's possession.

Lev 8:30 **4) Fulfillment of Consecration** vs 30-36

So Moses took some of the anointing oil and some of the blood which was on the altar and sprinkled it on Aaron, on his garments, on his sons, and on the garments of his sons with him; and he consecrated Aaron, his garments, and his sons, and the garments of his sons with him.

- God required a mixture of blood and oil to be sprinkled upon the priests.
- Blood that cleanses. (Jesus Sacrifice)
- Oil that perfumes. (Holy Spirit)
- *"Yes, brethren, we need to know that double anointing, the blood of Jesus which cleanses, and the oil of the Holy Spirit which perfumes us. It is well to see how these two blend in one. . . It is a terrible blunder to set the blood and the oil in opposition, they must always go together."* (Spurgeon)
- These priests will forever be consecrated for the Lord, never to be common again.

Lev 8:31 Then Moses said to Aaron and to his sons, "Boil the flesh at the doorway of the tent of meeting, and eat it there together with the bread which is in the basket of the ordination offering, just as I commanded, saying, 'Aaron and his sons shall eat it.'

Lev 8:32 "The remainder of the flesh and of the bread you shall burn in the fire.

- This is the fellowship meal. Eating together was more than just eating but sharing life. Those that someone would eat with would become like them.
- These priests would eat with the Lord.
- The next day, the remainder to be burnt up. The Lord desires fresh fellowship not fellowship that relies on yesterday's leftovers.

Lev 8:33 "You shall not go outside the doorway of the tent of meeting for seven days, until the day that the period of your ordination is fulfilled; for he will ordain you through seven days.

- Exodus 29:35-36 explain that Moses does this for seven days. *"Thus you shall do to Aaron and to his sons, according to all that I have commanded you; you shall ordain them through seven days. Each day you shall offer a bull as a sin offering for atonement, and you shall purify the altar when you make atonement for it, and you shall anoint it to consecrate it."*

Lev 8:34 "The LORD has commanded to do as has been done this day, to make atonement on your behalf.

Lev 8:35 "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."

- The consecration ceremony took seven days.
 - It was not Quick
 - It required Thought
 - It required Work
 - It required an Every Day Discipline

Lev 8:36 Thus Aaron and his sons did all the things which the LORD had commanded through Moses.

- Aaron and his sons did ALL the things which the Lord had commanded.

Why did the Lord do this, this way?

Imagine if you were a common Israelite. What would you think if this wasn't done this way and it was more of a private selection?

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