

Exodus 28-29 - “The Calling and Clothing of the Priests”

We’ve been looking through the tabernacle and many of its features. We recall that this is the goodness of God in restoring and recreating a space where He would meet with His people. What was lost in the Garden of Eden is now being restored in and through the Tabernacle. And many of the features of the Tabernacle pointed to Jesus. This is true of the sacrifices done at the Tabernacle, and it’s true of the priests who served in the Tabernacle. And it’s the priests and their garments that we’re going to focus on tonight.

1. The Calling – 28:1-4

28:1-4 - “Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron’s sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ² And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. ³ So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron’s garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest. ⁴ And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, an ephod, a robe, a skillfully woven tunic, a turban, and a sash. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister to Me as priest.

Now why a priesthood? God had set up this whole legal system and religious system some 1500 years before His Son Jesus would come to this world. And this whole function of the law and the priest was to establish how people were to approach God. It caused us to see that He is great and holy, and we are not. We can’t just come on our own merits, or by our own means. We need to follow His way.

This would establish the idea that God brings people into fellowship with Him through a Mediator. A mediator of His choosing. This will ultimately point to the true High Priest – Jesus Christ!

- When Jesus comes to the world, this should not be a surprise to anyone or cause anyone to be out of sorts with the idea that Jesus would be the way to the Father. God has always chosen the way to approach Him, and has established this means for 1500 years before Christ.

Aaron, Moses’ brother was chosen to serve as priest, along with his 4 sons. Now why were they the one’s chosen? Simply because God chose them. 2 of them aren’t going to last long (Nadab and Abihu – Leviticus 10:1-2) because they

began to profane the work of the Lord. But these priests aren't there because they are perfect, they're there by the grace and mercy of God.

- I'm glad for that because we've been brought into the priesthood of God through Jesus Christ.
- **1 Peter 2:5**, *"you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."*
- This has nothing to do with us being good or deserving, this is simply the great grace of God.

Now these garments were to be **holy garments**. What made them holy? Simply that they were set apart for the purpose of being devoted to God. Something isn't holy because it's beautiful and religious, it's beautiful because it's set apart for the Lord! Notice, it says that these are to be for **glory and for beauty**.

- God doesn't just choose beautiful things, He chooses ordinary things, and ordinary people and makes them holy. And there is beauty in holiness!
- This all stems from worshipping a God who is beautiful. We don't know what God looks like so we're not talking about the appearance of beauty, though I'm sure we could make a case for that, but He's beautiful in that He is good and praiseworthy.
- **Psalms 27:4**, *"One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple."*
- **Psalms 29:2**, *"Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."*
- "Like the priests, we, as the priesthood of believers, are to be set apart to walk in the beauty of holiness before God—not with clothing, but in the beauty of a life devoted to God." ¹

Notice what we read in verse 3, Moses was to speak to the **gifted artisans**. These were ones that had a God given skill in the tailor business. God gifts each of us to serve Him. Sometimes we can think our gifting or our calling is not very meaningful or purposeful. But we're called to give what we have.

- I'm sure these tailors were thinking, what good is this skill ever going to be in the ministry? And yet, here they are getting called to the plate with a very important task.

¹ Merida, T. (2014). *Exalting Jesus in Exodus* (Ex 28–29). Holman Reference.

And notice what we see repeated 4x in this chapter (3x in these first 4 verses), **minister to Me**... (28:1, 3, 4, 41). That's important. All we do is to be done for the Lord. When we have that perspective, no job is menial or mundane. This role as a priest was not to be self-serving; it was not to be self-promoting. They were to minister to God!

And we can often get caught up in doing things **for** the Lord, but when we minister **to** the Lord, it shifts our focus once again to the One who deserves all our service and all of our life. So don't just minister **for** the Lord, minister **to** the Lord. Do it as an act of worship and devotion to Him!

~~— **Colossians 3:23–24**, "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."~~

2. The Ephod – 28:5-14

28:5-8 - ***“They shall take the gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and the fine linen, ⁶ and they shall make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, artistically worked. ⁷ It shall have two shoulder straps joined at its two edges, and so it shall be joined together. ⁸ And the intricately woven band of the ephod, which is on it, shall be of the same workmanship, made of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen.***

The ephod was like a vest, open at its sides and fastened together on the shoulders. It sat over the priestly robe.

28:9-14 - ***“Then you shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel: ¹⁰ six of their names on one stone and six names on the other stone, in order of their birth. ¹¹ With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, you shall engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel. You shall set them in settings of gold. ¹² And you shall put the two stones on the shoulders of the ephod as memorial stones for the sons of Israel. So Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord on his two shoulders as a memorial. ¹³ You shall also make settings of gold, ¹⁴ and you shall make two chains of pure gold like braided cords, and fasten the braided chains to the settings.***

There were to be two onyx stones fastened to the shoulder of the ephod. On these onyx stones would be engraved the names of the sons of Israel.

- Shoulders are often seen as the part of the body that really carries the burden. We might say to someone, *put your shoulder into it*, as a way of saying to put some effort into what you're doing.

The high priest was to remember that he was representing the people of Israel before the Lord; ***Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord***. Being high priest wasn't just for his own benefit, he was serving the nation of Israel.

- This is what our High Priest did for us. He bore our burdens by carrying the cross to Calvary. He came to represent us before God!. He came to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28).

These names were engraved on these precious stones. God has us engraved on His palms. We're not created to be erased, we're engraved.

- **Isaiah 49:15–16**, *"Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you. ¹⁶ See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me."*

3. The Breastplate – 28:15-30

28:15-21 - *"You shall make the breastplate of judgment. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, you shall make it. ¹⁶ It shall be doubled into a square: a span shall be its length, and a span shall be its width. ¹⁷ And you shall put settings of stones in it, four rows of stones: The first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and an emerald; this shall be the first row; ¹⁸ the second row shall be a turquoise, a sapphire, and a diamond; ¹⁹ the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; ²⁰ and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold settings. ²¹ And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name; they shall be according to the twelve tribes.*

I love that God puts their names on gemstones. Though these were people that frequently messed up, He saw them as gems for what they would become.

- It's the same with you and me. Gemstones don't start out particularly beautiful, they need to go through a process. It's a process of refining, polishing, buffing out imperfections. It's a process that God takes us through knowing that the end result causes us to shine bright like a diamond!

One thing I hope you're catching here is that God loves colours. We're seeing them everywhere. In the tabernacle, on the garments of the priest; these gemstones would be radiating a glorious shine.

“Strikingly, the stones mentioned in verses 17–19 appeared in the garden of Eden (Ezek 28:13) and in Revelation (Rev 21:19–20). This should not surprise us given what we have learned about the tabernacle. It pointed backward and forward. From glory to glory, we see the story of God dwelling with His people.”²

The picture given to John in Revelation is this:

- **Revelation 21:19–20**, *"The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,²⁰ the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst."*
- These 12 foundations were all adorned with the same gems in the breastplate of the high priest.

Now we're not able to determine all these jewels with precision or give some spiritual meaning to all these. Some things are just going to have to be figured out in heaven.

- Jasper – clear like a diamond
- Sapphire – blue
- Chalcedony – sky-blue
- Emerald – green
- Sardonyx – red and white
- Sardius – blood red
- Chrysolite – clear with golden hue
- Beryl – sea-green
- Topaz – yellowish green
- Chrysoprase – green
- Jacinth – violet
- Amethyst – purple

We're going to be experiencing sights and sounds in heaven like we've never experienced before. It's going to be grand!

² Merida, T. (2014). *Exalting Jesus in Exodus* (Ex 28:1–43). Holman Reference.

28:22-29 - “You shall make chains for the breastplate at the end, like braided cords of pure gold. ²³ And you shall make two rings of gold for the breastplate, and put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate. ²⁴ Then you shall put the two braided chains of gold in the two rings which are on the ends of the breastplate; ²⁵ and the other two ends of the two braided chains you shall fasten to the two settings, and put them on the shoulder straps of the ephod in the front. ²⁶ “You shall make two rings of gold, and put them on the two ends of the breastplate, on the edge of it, which is on the inner side of the ephod. ²⁷ And two other rings of gold you shall make, and put them on the two shoulder straps, underneath the ephod toward its front, right at the seam above the intricately woven band of the ephod. ²⁸ They shall bind the breastplate by means of its rings to the rings of the ephod, using a blue cord, so that it is above the intricately woven band of the ephod, and so that the breastplate does not come loose from the ephod. ²⁹ “So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel on the breastplate of judgment over his heart, when he goes into the holy place, as a memorial before the Lord continually.

Earlier we saw that the names of the tribes of Israel were to be carried on the shoulders of the high priest as part of the ephod. Now he’s bearing these names on the breastplate, or over his heart.

- In ministry we’re not just to serve others, we’re to love them. It’s only when we see people as God sees them (as precious gems) that we will be able to serve them in love.

28:30 - And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron’s heart when he goes in before the Lord. So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the Lord continually.

Urim and Thummim means lights and perfections. It was used to discern God’s will. This is why it’s called the breastplate of judgment (28:15).

We’re not sure how the high priest used these, whether he rolled them like dice or if he just selected one from its pouch and one was a ‘yes’ and the other a ‘no’.

We do know that this was not to be their go to for discerning God’s will. They were to walk obediently to the Word of God.

- So many people today want a clear yes or no response for decisions they’re trying to make. This is why there’s such a market for psychic hotlines,

dream analysts, or fortune-tellers. But typically, God just calls us to live according to His Word and these other decisions will begin to fall into place.

- ie. 1 Thess 4:3-5; 5:16-18
- "But if we had a simple infallible method of determining the will of God such as the Urim and Thummim, we probably wouldn't pray as much, search the Scriptures as much, or humble ourselves as much as we do today as we seek God's direction. But seeking and doing God's will is the way we grow in the Lord, and sharing in the process is as much a blessing as knowing the results." ³

4. The Robe – 28:31-35

28:31-35 - “You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue. ³² There shall be an opening for his head in the middle of it; it shall have a woven binding all around its opening, like the opening in a coat of mail, so that it does not tear. ³³ And upon its hem you shall make pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet, all around its hem, and bells of gold between them all around: ³⁴ a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe all around. ³⁵ And it shall be upon Aaron when he ministers, and its sound will be heard when he goes into the holy place before the Lord and when he comes out, that he may not die.

The robe was under the ephod and was the basic covering of the priest. It was of one seamless piece. Jesus wore a seamless robe and this reflected the high priest's robe and pictured Jesus' perfect character without fault (John 19:23).

There were pomegranates all around the hem. It pictured the fruitfulness of ministry that the high priest was to be engaged in. The bells in between the pomegranates showed and sounded that the high priest was faithfully at work in the tabernacle.

- It should be this way in our priestly walk. We should be moving about with fruitfulness and faithfulness as we minister to the Lord and for His people.

5. The Turban, Tunic and Sash – 28:36-39

28:36-38 – “You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD ³⁷ And you shall put it

³ Wiersbe, W. W. (1998). *Be delivered* (p. 156). Chariot Victor Pub.

on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban. ³⁸ So it shall be on Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the Lord.

The priest would wear a turban; it was a wound linen headpiece. But what was on that turban is of special importance. On that turban was a gold plate with the words: ***Holiness to the Lord*** engraved upon it.

- What a great thing that would be. It would be a constant reminder that he was to be holy before God. He was to be set apart not just in his actions, but in his thinking too. Quite often the battles are won or lost in the mind.
- And so, the high priest was to be taking every thought captive to the obedience of God. He was to be moving ahead in a way that honored the Lord and caused him to be seen as a worker approved of God.
- There was to be a distinction and reverence in the way He approached God.

Now sometimes we look at holiness as a restrictive, burdensome quality. Like it's so righteous I can't do anything or have any fun. But it's sin that takes away and destroys. You never gain anything in sin. Holiness however enriches a life. It's life lived for God, God's way! Holiness leads to happiness and not the opposite. People's lives were enriched when they encountered the holiness of Jesus!

28:39 - *“You shall skillfully weave the tunic of fine linen thread, you shall make the turban of fine linen, and you shall make the sash of woven work.*

The sash would of course go around the waist and help secure the ephod.

6. Other Priests Garments – 28:40-43

28:40-43 - *“For Aaron's sons you shall make tunics, and you shall make sashes for them. And you shall make hats for them, for glory and beauty. ⁴¹ So you shall put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests. ⁴² And you shall make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness; they shall reach from the waist to the thighs. ⁴³ They shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they come into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place, that they do not incur iniquity and die. It shall be a statute forever to him and his descendants after him.*

Only Aarons sons could serve as high priests. As they ministered in their roles, they were to do so with great reverence. They too had a guide of what they were to wear. When they weren't acting as a high priest, their wardrobe was a little less complicated but they still had to follow God's blueprint for what to wear and do so in a way that honored God. (being properly covered).

- When we're serving, there should be no room for the flesh to get in the way!

They were to wear **linen trousers**... (28:42)

Ezekiel 44:18, *"They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen trousers on their bodies; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat."*

- Ministry is not to be a sweat. If we're experiencing more perspiration than inspiration, then we're not doing things God's way.

And when they followed this, their service would be done **for glory and beauty** as well (28:40).

7. Dedication of the Priests – 29:1-37

29:1-9 - ***“And this is what you shall do to them to hallow them for ministering to Me as priests: Take one young bull and two rams without blemish, ² and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil (you shall make them of wheat flour). ³ You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, with the bull and the two rams. ⁴ “And Aaron and his sons you shall bring to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and you shall wash them with water. ⁵ Then you shall take the garments, put the tunic on Aaron, and the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the intricately woven band of the ephod. ⁶ You shall put the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban. ⁷ And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him. ⁸ Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them. ⁹ And you shall gird them with sashes, Aaron and his sons, and put the hats on them. The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.***

The word for **hallow** is closely linked to the word for holy. It also means to consecrate and set apart. This is the dedication of Aaron and his sons for the priestly ministry.

We also see this wonderful progression of salvation:

Aaron and his sons were first to be washed. This preceded all else. This was a full cleansing, done publicly. It was humbling. It shows that if we want to be cleansed of sin, we must walk in humility.

- This big cleansing was a one-time thing. After this, they just needed to wash their hands and feet (not that they would never have a shower again). But this was done once ceremonially in this way.

Ephesians 5:26 says, we are cleansed *“with the washing of water by the word.”*

- And so it is in our lives. We have received God’s cleansing in our lives from sin by Christ’s atoning sacrifice on the cross. Jesus told Peter in **John 13:10**, *“A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean.”* We can rest assured the work of salvation is complete in us. Yet there are times when we need to have the dirt of this world (that we so easily pick up) cleaned off from time to time.
- And when we need cleaning, we simply come and ask for forgiveness and cleansing. **1 John 1:9**, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

After cleansing they were clothed. Garments in Scripture often speak of our character and life as believers. We’re to put off the old man and put on the new man (Ephesians 4:17-32; Colossians 3:1-14).

- We need to be clothed in Christ’s righteousness and let that be evident.

After being clothed they were anointed with oil. Oil in Scripture speaks of the Holy Spirit. It’s only through the Holy Spirit anointing us and overflowing in us that we can be empowered for ministry and service to the Lord.

- **1 John 2:20**, *“But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.”*

29:10-14 - *“You shall also have the bull brought before the tabernacle of meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the bull. ¹¹ Then you shall kill the bull before the Lord, by the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ¹² You shall take some of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and pour all the blood beside the base of the altar. ¹³ And you shall take all the fat that covers the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar. ¹⁴ But the flesh of the bull, with*

its skin and its offal, you shall burn with fire outside the camp. It is a sin offering.

Their sin was symbolically transferred to the sacrifice of a bull.

- Jesus took all of our sins and transferred them upon Himself. He came as a perfect sacrifice to atone for all our sin and wrongdoing. He bore the punishment of that sin that we would not have to. Not only did He take our sin, but He gave us His forgiveness. That's the best exchange you could ever receive.

The flesh of the bull would be burned outside of the camp. That's fitting because nothing of the flesh will be accepted before God. Sin feeds the flesh, and no flesh will inherit the kingdom of God. This is why it's taken outside of the camp.

This was the sin offering. Leviticus 1-7 covers the offerings in more depth.

29:15-18 - "You shall also take one ram, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the ram; ¹⁶ and you shall kill the ram, and you shall take its blood and sprinkle it all around on the altar. ¹⁷ Then you shall cut the ram in pieces, wash its entrails and its legs, and put them with its pieces and with its head. ¹⁸ And you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the Lord; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the Lord.

This is the burnt offering.

Here the whole ram was sacrificed upon the altar (29:18).

- We too are to give our all to God and be as a living sacrifice to Him.
- **Romans 12:1**, *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."*
- And as we give our all to God guess what? It's a sweet smelling fragrance to Him.
- Mary gave an expensive sacrifice to God. It was costly. But it says in John 12:3 that the whole house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

29:19-21 - "You shall also take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the ram. ²⁰ Then you shall kill the ram, and take some of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tip of the right ear of his sons, on the thumb of their right hand and on the big toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.

21 And you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar, and some of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it on Aaron and on his garments, on his sons and on the garments of his sons with him; and he and his garments shall be hallowed, and his sons and his sons' garments with him.

This was the consecration offering.

For us to be consecrated we must see that the blood of Christ has paved the way. We must identify with His sacrifice.

- It must cover our **ear** – whom do you listen to and who's voice do you follow?
- It must cover our **thumb** – what are your hands being used for? Are you living dedicated to carrying out His will?
- It must cover our **toe** – where are we going? Are we abiding with Jesus, and staying close to Him. What are our tracks revealing about our life?

We need to live set apart – hallowed for the Lord.

29:22-25 - "Also you shall take the fat of the ram, the fat tail, the fat that covers the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, the two kidneys and the fat on them, the right thigh (for it is a ram of consecration), ²³ one loaf of bread, one cake made with oil, and one wafer from the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the Lord; ²⁴ and you shall put all these in the hands of Aaron and in the hands of his sons, and you shall wave them as a wave offering before the Lord. ²⁵ You shall receive them back from their hands and burn them on the altar as a burnt offering, as a sweet aroma before the Lord. It is an offering made by fire to the Lord.

This is the wave offering.

This was a portion that was given to the priests for their provisions and sustenance.

The rich inward parts in vs. 22 represent Christ in His deity. The loaf of bread pictures Christ in His humanity. This is the dual nature of Christ.

And their hands were to be full of this sacrifice!

- We can find our hands at times full in ministry. But we're not to be full of the ministry, we're to be full of Christ!
- This sacrifice was to be waved before the altar – the place of ministry. Christ is to remain between us and the ministry. No amount of ministry can flourish unless we're experiencing intimacy with Jesus.

29:26-28 - “Then you shall take the breast of the ram of Aaron’s consecration and wave it as a wave offering before the Lord; and it shall be your portion. ²⁷ And from the ram of the consecration you shall consecrate the breast of the wave offering which is waved, and the thigh of the heave offering which is raised, of that which is for Aaron and of that which is for his sons. ²⁸ It shall be from the children of Israel for Aaron and his sons by a statute forever. For it is a heave offering; it shall be a heave offering from the children of Israel from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, that is, their heave offering to the Lord.

Aaron and his sons were to be compensated for their service at the altar. It was to be offered to the Lord first as He is the giver of all good things. But the priests were to enjoy a portion from the sacrifice as well.

God provides for His servants!

In this act it was as though they enjoyed a meal with God. “Consecration always takes place in the context of fellowship” (Guzik).

This communion time was the only thing repeated from this ceremony on an ongoing basis into their priestly ministry.

This speaks of our sustenance in Christ. It continues as we serve Him!

29:29-30 - “And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons’ after him, to be anointed in them and to be consecrated in them. ³⁰ That son who becomes priest in his place shall put them on for seven days, when he enters the tabernacle of meeting to minister in the holy place.

Again, garments speak of our character and our new nature in Christ. We are to be living as these examples to others, because we’re going to be passing on something whether we think so or not.

- Ever seen a child so out of control and you wonder, how did they ever get this way? And then you see the parents, and then it all makes sense.
- Your kids are watching and learning from your life. May we pass down holy living to our children (and to others).

29:31-37 - “And you shall take the ram of the consecration and boil its flesh in the holy place. ³² Then Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram, and the bread that is in the basket, by the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ³³ They shall eat those things with which the atonement was

made, to consecrate and to sanctify them; but an outsider shall not eat them, because they are holy. ³⁴ And if any of the flesh of the consecration offerings, or of the bread, remains until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten, because it is holy. ³⁵ “Thus you shall do to Aaron and his sons, according to all that I have commanded you. Seven days you shall consecrate them. ³⁶ And you shall offer a bull every day as a sin offering for atonement. You shall cleanse the altar when you make atonement for it, and you shall anoint it to sanctify it. ³⁷ Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and sanctify it. And the altar shall be most holy. Whatever touches the altar must be holy.

The consecration ceremony lasted a whole 7 days with these sacrifices being repeated each day.

8. The Daily Offerings – 29:38-46

29:38-46 - “Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs of the first year, day by day continually. ³⁹ One lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight. ⁴⁰ With the one lamb shall be one-tenth of an ephah of flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of pressed oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine as a drink offering. ⁴¹ And the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; and you shall offer with it the grain offering and the drink offering, as in the morning, for a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the Lord. ⁴² This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the Lord, where I will meet you to speak with you. ⁴³ And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by My glory. ⁴⁴ So I will consecrate the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. I will also consecrate both Aaron and his sons to minister to Me as priests. ⁴⁵ I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶ And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am the Lord their God.

The priests were to offer these sacrifices daily. It seems kind of excessive, but that’s the reality of sin. The great thing we see here is that God provides a way for sinful people to approach Him. Jesus came and fulfilled all this for us!

He is the greater sacrifice!

He is the greater priesthood! We have all we need in and through Jesus.

Hebrews 10:19–25, “Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us,

through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."