

Exodus 27-30 The Offerings and The Priesthood

The purpose of God in creating man was for close fellowship

A)God made man different than all the other creatures.

B)God made man a Spiritual being – capable of communing with God in a way no other created being could

C)We read in the book of Genesis and Adam and God walked together in the cool of the day.

1)Enjoying and experiencing the very reason and purpose of His creation which to live in close communion with God

God only had one restriction for man: **Don't eat of the tree.....**

If you eat – surely die!

A)Isn't that wild to think that death was never meant to be a part of man's existence

B)Now the death that God was referring to was not just a Physical death – infact the physical death wouldn't be immediate

1)Man lived a long time

C)But the immediate death was a Spiritual one: Separation

So Adam sinned – Sin entered the world – the Garden was barred

A)Man was left outside – a new condition – Separated from that intimate fellowship with God

B)Now when we come to the book of Exodus – the people of God – the Israelites have been really living at a distance from God –

1)For 430 yrs they have been living as slaves in Egypt

C)Worship has been scarce – customs and pursuits have been pretty non existent

Then we see how God hears their cry for Deliverance and steps into the picture. Raises up a deliver in Moses

A)And through a series of plagues flexes his muscles and supernaturally delivers them from Egypt

B)Now we find them on this journey they have been on for the past 9 months in the wilderness

C)Now God has them camped out before MT Sinai – this will be the final stop before they hit the doorway to the promise land at Kadesh Barnea

Here God gives them the instructions for the Tabernacle – this tent of meeting.

A)More than just a tent of meeting – this is God's way of stepping back into close proximity with his people

B)This tent was to be place in center of the camp of the Israelites with all the tribes camping around it

C)Each morning they would walk out of their tents the entrance of their tents would face the Tabernacle – See Picture #1 Tabernacle – keep up

D)This is the place where God where God said that he would meet with them

E)The Tabernacle is that brown tent like structure that was in the middle of that courtyard

1)Courtyard facing East – 150ft in length – 75 ft in width

Now the amazing thing about this set up and you can sort of see this is the picture.

A)According to Numbers chapter 2 God instructed that they would camp out in tribes – N/S- E/W

B)The numbers of the tribes were given – the tribes of Judah Zebulen and Issachar on the east – actually the largest group

C)So when they are laid out like this – what do you see – what shape does it make? – A Cross

Here is what is wild about that. When the prophet Balaam was hired by the Moabites to curse the people of Israel

A)He went up on a Mt overlooking the camp of the Israelites – and this is what he would see

B)The camp of Israel in the shape of a cross – and if you remember that story he tries three times to curse them – can't

1)What comes out of his mouth instead is a blessing on the people

C)There is incredible symbolism there for our lives

D)The Curse of man's sin is Covered by the Cross – Jesus literally became a curse for us – so that we could be blessed!!!

E) Isn't God just so cool!

Now we have talked about in Previous weeks how the Tabernacle that tent in the middle of the of that courtyard

A)Consisted of two rooms – the Inner room – Holy of Holies – the Ark – the starting place – of the Instruction – most important

B)Ark of the Covenant dwelt – the Shekinah glory of God! The Chabod

1)The Glory the weight

C)So God was present in their midst – daily – but still distance – only one day out of the year – atonement – One person – High Priest

**D)Had to bring Blood – The Blood was sprinkled on the Mercy seat
SEE PIC – Ark with the blood**

God said that is where I will meet you – at the Mercy seat –

A)We have noted how the Bible tells us that Jesus is our Mercy seat

**B)Well last week we moved into the 2nd room – the Holy Place – with the Table of showbread – the Altar of Incense – Golden Lampstand
SEE Pic**

**C)The place where we left off was the door – Read that again
See Pic of the door – leave up**

³⁶ “You shall make a screen for the door of the tabernacle, *woven of blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, made by a weaver.* ³⁷ And you shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold; their hooks *shall be gold, and you shall cast five sockets of bronze for them.*

A)Now remember that much of this Tabernacle is pointing to Jesus

B)Jesus declared this about himself in John 10:1-2/7-9 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. John 10:1-2

⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. John 10:7-9

C)Now here is what is interesting about the door of the Tabernacle it is made of the same materials as the veil and the other inner coverings

1)Made of linen – Same colors that spoke of Christ

**D)Blue – heaven he came from Heaven / Purple Royalty – King
White – His purity – Scarlet – His Sacrifice**

It is hanging on five pillars Acacia wood overlayed gold – Humanity and Deity

A)Why 5 ? Five is the number of Grace in the Bible!

Fastened by bronze sockets – Bronze is the material of Judgment

B) So we enter into relationship with God – by Grace through faith in the reality that Jesus took on himself the Judgment we deserved

C) All of that is symbolized and pictured by the door. - God is so cool

Now as we move into chapter 27 tonight Courtyard - I am going to do something a little different that we have previously done

A) I am not going to read all of the text tonight – rather than reading every word of the description I am going to instead describe the picture

B) Start with the picture of the Courtyard – read V.1-2

“You shall make an altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits wide—the altar shall be square—and its height *shall be* three cubits. ² You shall make its horns on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it. And you shall overlay it with bronze.

C) So the first thing he describes in the courtyard is the Bronze Altar 7 1/2 feet long – 7 1/2 feet wide

Made of Acacia wood ? – Overlaid with bronze...metal of Judgment

A) We will see in Numbers 21 – the people of Israel were in a time of rebellion in the Wilderness

B) God sent a curse – serpents came in were biting people and they were dying

C) The People cried out to God – and God told Moses to make a Bronze serpent – fasten it to a pole

1) Bronze serpent spoke of Judgment - See Pic

D) God told Moses whoever looks up at the bronze serpent on the pole – the curse would be lifted – they would be saved. – Had to look

Jesus would key in on that scene in John 3

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:14-16

Isn't it amazing that the Key gospel verse in the Bible is connected to that story and that scene in the wilderness

A) Jesus would literally become the curse so that

³² And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all *peoples* to Myself. John 12:32

B) Back to the picture of Tabernacle - the Altar of bronze – the horns on it – the sacrifices were literally tied down or fastened to those horns

C) That is how they stayed secure on the Altar

1) They were an unwilling sacrifice

D) Put on the Altar – slit the throat of the beast

Again this points us to Jesus – But Jesus was a willing Sacrifice

A) But he was fastened to the Cross – Nails –

B) But it wasn't nails that secured him there- He could have called for a legion of Angels – lept off the cross

C) But he didn't he stayed there – Out of Love

The people mocked him – He saved others but he can't save himself

A) Listen Friends – if he would have saved himself from the cross – he wouldn't have been able to save us from our sins

B) He willingly hung in there on the Cross – out of love for you and me

who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

C)Who for the Joy..... He endured – Hupomeno – conquered
1)He endured – so that we could run with Endurance

Now notice there is another item in the courtyard that isn't mentioned here in Chapter 27 – mentioned in Chapter 30 – Brass Laver – washing
A)Turn to chapter 30:17

¹⁷ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹⁸ “You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. And you shall put water in it, ¹⁹ for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. ²⁰ When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD, they shall wash with water, lest they die. ²¹ So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die. And it shall be a statute forever to them—to him and his descendants throughout their generations.”

In the Bible there are two types of cleansing... A spiritual cleansing effects the inner man. It always occurs at the altar, where our debt of sin is paid. But the outer man is cleansed at the laver. Our minds and hands are washed with the Water of the Word of God – our hearts are prepared for Worship

So they would wash before going into the Holy Place to serve and worship.

Back to chapter 27

A)In V.16 we have the description of the gate to the Tabernacle – different from the white linen –

B)4 Colors of Blue/Purple/White/ Scarlet – Picture of Jesus

C)Jesus not only the meeting place between God and man – but he is the entry point into all that God has for us

⁴Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good;
His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations. Psalm 100:4-5

D)Praying through the Tabernacle – Starting point

E)Thankful for the work of Christ

1)Why four pillars ? four gospels ?

Ch.28 Shift begins describing Priest their garments and ministry.

“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.

So now we notice the picture of the High Priest

A)V.9 Describes the two Onyx stones on his Shoulders – the names of the 12 tribes are engraved – six on each stone

B)The idea is the High Priest would bear the weight of the nation on his shoulders

C)That is true of anyone in Ministry – there is a weight that you carry – the burdens of people God has entrusted for you to shepherd

D)Paul describes in 2 Corinthians 11:28 *the weight of his daily burden and care of the churches* – weighed on him

But the true minister of Jesus – like the High Priest in the OT gladly bore that weight

A)What did Jesus gladly bear on his shoulders? Cross – His love

B)The next thing that I draw your attention to is the Breastplate of the High Priest V. 15

¹⁵ “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.

C) 12 Stones with the names of the 12 tribes – not just on his shoulders but also on his chest – close to his heart

D) Jesus the Ultimate HP carries us not just on his Shoulders but on his heart.

V.29 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. 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 the Thummim

Unfortunately, of all of the activities and all of the descriptions of the clothing and activities of the priest we know less about the Urim and Thummim than anything else. The words mean literally light and perfection, light and perfection. The idea perhaps is that they form the perfect light. That is the perfect way to discern or judge God's will in very difficult situations. How do you know how they work? All of the readings that I have done, ancient Jewish sources, modern sources, online, et cetera, some believe that there was a black stone and a white stone, Urim and Thummim, one black, one white. Black meant disapprove. White meant approve.

Again, there's nothing really known about these things other than these guesses. Others believe that you had on each side inscribed. On both stones, you had a yes on one side, a no on the other and then the stone, the other one yes or no so that if the answer from the Lord was to be a yes, you have one out of four possibility of getting it right.

If you have a Mormon background, you know that the Urim and Thummim at least Joseph Smith said were the mystical glasses that when he put on he could read the hieroglyphics that were given to him and the angel Moroni I gave him the hieroglyphic tablets. And he put on the mystical glasses, the Urim and Thummim. I most certainly know that's not it. I'm really glad we don't know what they are. The reason I am glad is because some crook would say I found them alright, replicated them and have or try to have a corner on knowing God's perfect will for your life in every situation.

Here is what I do know about the will of God.

A)When I am walking in and living in what I know to be the Known will of God for my life

B)It is a lot easier to know and discern what is the unknown will of God for my life

⁹The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

³For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:4

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

1 Thessalonians 4:3: "*For this is the will of God, your sanctification:*

²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2

He has shown you, O man, what *is* good;
And what does the LORD require of you
But to do justly,
To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

V.31-36 describes the bells and the Pomegranatics – Purpose – Day of Atonement

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.

Move into Chapter 29 The consecration of the priest for Service

"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.

The priests were washed (Ex. 29:4)

When Aaron and his sons were washed all over, it was symbolic of complete cleansing from the Lord. They didn’t have to be bathed all over again; all they had to do was cleanse their hands and feet at the laver. “A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean,” said Jesus (John 13:10, NIV). Those who have trusted Christ have experienced this inward cleansing from the Lord (1 Cor. 6:9–11).

The priests were clothed (Ex. 29:5–6)

Special Uniform that matched their calling

Us Put on Christ – walk worthy of your calling

V.5-6 describes the garments again

The priests were anointed (Ex. 29:7)

⁷And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him. Moses poured the oil on his brother’s head, which meant it ran down his beard and therefore bathed all the stones on the breastplate. What a beautiful picture of unity in the Lord! (Ps. 133:2) “Would God that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!” (Num. 11:29)

Those who trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord have received an anointing of the Spirit of God (1 John 2:20, 27; 2 Cor. 1:21–22). John’s emphasis is on the teaching ministry of the Spirit in guiding the believer into the truth of the Word of God. Paul’s emphasis is on encouragement and stability: we have been anointed and sealed by the Spirit, and the Spirit is the “down payment” of future glory. If God has anointed us, sealed us, and given us a foretaste of heaven, then why should we despair or feel that He will ever desert us?

Three offerings of Consecration

V.10 The Bull offering = the Sin offering – Picture

¹⁰ “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

They first put their hand on the animal's head. That would become standard practice. Right now, these are sacrifices for the priest. Later on they will be sacrifices for the Camp of Israel, the people.

The hand, the idea was transferring my guilt, my sin onto this animal by the laying out of hands. I'm transferring my sin onto this animal and this animal will die in my place. And Verse 11, the sin offering is mentioned for the priest that you shall kill the bull before the Lord by the door of the Tabernacle of meeting, you shall take some of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar in those, angular protrusion on the corners. With your finger, you will pour the blood beside the base of the altar.

Verse 14, "But the flesh of the bull with its skin and its offal, the rest of its carcass, you shall burn with fire outside the camp." It is a sin offering. The sin offering was to be totally consumed outside the camp. The writer of Hebrews draws from this and speaks of Christ in Hebrews Chapter 13. I'll read it to you. "Under the system of Jewish Laws, the high priests brought the blood of animals into the holy place as a sacrifice for sin. But the bodies of the animals were burned outside the camp and so Jesus suffered and died outside the City Gates." That's where the God got the Calvary, outside of the City Gates in order to make his people holy by shedding his own blood. He's drawing a type and drawing pointing from one to another, old covenant and new covenant.

The priests were forgiven (Ex. 29:10–14)

The priests were completely dedicated to God (Ex. 29:15–18)

2nd offering Burnt offering – A Ram

In the sacrifice of the burnt offering, the animal was completely given to the Lord, a picture of total dedication (Lev. 1). Our Lord gave Himself fully and without reservation, not only in His ministry before the cross, but in His willing sacrifice of Himself on the cross. The high priest and his associates were expected to devote themselves wholly to the work of the ministry and to make it the uppermost concern of their hearts. Christians today need to meditate on Romans 12:1–2 and 1 Timothy 4:15.¹

3rd Offering Consecration

1 Wiersbe, W. W. (1998). [*Be delivered*](#) (pp. 160–161). Chariot Victor Pub.

The priests were marked by the blood (Ex. 29:19-22)

Priests must minister daily (Ex. 29:38-46)

The daily sacrifices

Verse 39, one lamb you shall offer in the morning, the other lamb you shall offer in evening or at twilight. So two young lambs' everyday. For adoration, I love you God, I worship you God and for expiation to remove their sin. So do you get the picture? Where there's the Tabernacle or later on the temple, lamb in the morning, a lamb at night. The day opens, we sacrifice. The day closes, we sacrifice. It's all about God. It's all about shedding blood. It's all about keeping the doors open so that I can approach God day and night.

Thank God for Christ. These sacrifices are done. The difference, the question was asked, could you show how Jesus fulfilled the priesthood? Actually, it's a question we have dwelled upon the last several weeks and we have tried to answer in the weeks. One of the ways is that Jesus is himself the priest and the sacrifice. He's offering the sacrifice and he is the Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the world who takes away the sin of the world.

Listen to what the writer of Hebrews, Chapter 9:26 says, "Once at the end of the ages, he is appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself, once for all times." It's a finished work nothing can be added to it. Oh, but what if I sin? I John Chapter 1, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all and righteousness." Go directly.

Each day would begin with the priests sacrificing a lamb as a burnt offering, signifying the total dedication of the people to God, and the day ended with the offering of a second lamb as a burnt offering. That's a good example for us to follow, opening and closing the day with surrender to the Lord. With each lamb, they also presented a meal offering mixed with oil (Lev. 2:1-16; 6:14-23) and a drink offering of about a quart of wine, which was poured on the altar (Num. 15:1-13). For most meal offerings, the priests put only a token portion of the flour on the altar and used the rest in their own meals, but with the daily morning and evening sacrifices, this wasn't done. Everything was given to the Lord.

The flour and wine represented the results of the people's labor in the fields and the vineyards. Symbolically, they were presenting the fruit of their toil to God and thanking Him for the strength to work and for food to eat (Deut. 8:6-18). The wine poured out was a picture of their lives poured out in His service (Phil. 2:17, NIV; 2 Tim. 4:6, NIV). All of this would please the Lord and He would find delight in dwelling in the tabernacle and blessing His people.