

## February 19th – The Focus of our Worship

*“By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; and before all the people I must be glorified.”(Lev. 10:3)*

If you were to ask most Christians about the object of worship, I'm sure they would respond with “God” or “Jesus.” Of course, they are correct – Jehovah is the object of our worship and we approach Him through the blood of His Son Jesus. But if you asked those same Christians about the emphasis of our worship, you'd probably get a variety of answers. Thankfully, God has not left us to wonder about all He desires for us and Himself in worship.

Today's verse takes us back to an occasion about 3,400 years ago, when God had established the priesthood and was guiding the children of Israel through the early days of worship. Aaron (Moses' brother) and his descendants were God's appointed priests, but within that priesthood there were clear commands that God expected his priests to follow. On one occasion, Nadab and Abihu were not mindful of those expectations and they experienced the wrath of God as a result.

Aaron's sons “offered profane fire before the Lord” – that is, they made an offering to the Lord which He had not commanded. God explained the death of both young men to their father – “by those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy.” Aaron's sons disregarded God's holiness when they disobeyed His commands. Furthermore, God said, “before all the people I must be glorified.” So then, let us learn that our worship must always emphasize God's holiness and declare God's glory. Anything less simply won't do.