

Through Jesus, we are invited to drawn near.

D. We Need a Certain Acceptance

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. (Romans 8:34)

...who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. (Romans 4:25)

The resurrection of Jesus confirms that His saving work has accomplished its purpose.

E. We Must Rejoice & Tremble (Heb 12:22-29)

We come with reverence because God is holy.

We come with joy because Jesus has made us acceptable.

Garments of the High Priest:

Check out Exodus 28 for more on the priest's garments.



Image from *The Way Back Home: The Book of Leviticus* (by Kaleidoscope)

Sermon Text: Leviticus 5:14-7:38

Main Truth: The glorious God—who cannot be approached casually—has graciously provided a mediator through whom His people may draw near.

Main Questions of Leviticus: How can sinful people live in the presence of a holy God?

The Narrative, Highlights, and Purpose of Lev. 8-9

I. The Narrative — See What Happened

- A. Leviticus 8: The Priests are Consecrated
- B. Leviticus 9:1-21: The Priests begin their Ministry
- C. Leviticus 9:22-24: The Glory of God appears

The people respond to God's glory by shouting and falling on their faces.

II. The Highlights — See What Matters

1. See Their Obedience (ch. 8)

Worship begins with listening to God.

Obedience does not diminish the joy of worship.

2. See Their Consecration (8:1-36; 9:1-7)

The priests were set apart for the service of a holy God.

Even Aaron needed atonement for his own sin.

3. See Their Representation (Exodus 28:9-12, 29)

The high priest carried Israel's names upon his shoulders and over his heart. (See "Garments of High Priest")

The priest stood before God on *behalf* of the people.

4. See God's Nearness (Leviticus 9:1-23)

Aaron was commanded to "draw near" to the altar.

God provided a way for his appointed servant to approach Him and bring His blessing.

5. See God's Acceptance (Leviticus 9:23-24)

Fire from the LORD consumed the offering.

What matters is whether God accepts the sacrifice offered for them.

6. See Their Response (Leviticus 9:24)

God's grace gives them reason to rejoice.

God's holiness gives them reason to tremble.

III. The Purpose — See Jesus, Our Mediator

What kind of mediator do sinful people need to draw near to a holy God, and how do we know that sacrifice is truly sufficient?

A. We Need a Sinless Mediator

25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. 26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. 27 He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. (Heb 7:25-27)

Aaron needed atonement for himself: Jesus was without sin.

Jesus always lives to make intercession for His people.

B. We Need a Sufficient Sacrifice

11 And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. (Heb. 10:11-12)

Aaron offered repeatedly; Jesus offered Himself once for all.

Our acceptance rests upon Christ's finished work, not our unfinished sanctification.

C. We Need an Open Way

19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (Heb. 10:19-22)