

I. Introduction

A. Children's Sermon

1. Who is Moses told to speak to?

Leviticus 1:1–2a

¹ The Lord called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, ² “*Speak to the people of Israel* and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord...

Leviticus 6:8–9a

⁸ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁹ “*Command Aaron and his sons*, saying, ‘This is the law of the burnt offering. ...

2. What do you remember about *the burnt offering*? (All burned; Holy life)
3. God's Fire Cleans His People
4. Faith...Knowing Jesus (2 Peter 1:3)

B. The Law of the Burnt Offering

1. Special Cloths for Priests
2. Fire Always Burning

Leviticus 6:9b–13

...The burnt offering *shall be on the hearth on the altar all night until the morning*, and *the fire of the altar shall be kept burning on it.* ...

¹² The fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not go out. The priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and he shall arrange the burnt offering on it and shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. ¹³ Fire shall be kept burning on the altar continually; it shall not go out.

“We are not told the reason for this, so our explanation must be cautious. Fire was certainly associated with the presence of God, both as a protecting guide (Ex. 13:21f.), and also as consuming sin and sinners (*cf.* Lv. 10:1–3). The permanence of the altar fire, therefore, may have suggested the perpetual presence of God, or the perpetual need for atonement for sin and consecration of life, or both.”¹

II. The Fire of God’s Prescience

A. Consuming the Burnt Offerings...

Leviticus 9:22–24

²² Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. ²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came out they blessed the people, and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. ²⁴ And ***fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar***, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

“The implication is that when any future sacrifice was burned on the altar it was the Lord who consumed it with fire.”²

2 Chronicles 7:1–2

¹ As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, ***fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices***, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. ² And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord filled the Lord’s house.

¹ *New Bible commentary: 21st century edition*. 1994 (D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer & G. J. Wenham, Ed.) (4th ed.) (Le 6:8–13). Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press.

² **Eveson, P. H.** (2007). *The Beauty of Holiness: The Book of Leviticus Simply Explained*. Welwyn Commentary Series (85). Darlington, England: Evangelical Press.

B. The Fire of Judgment

Leviticus 10:1–2

¹ Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, which he had not commanded them. ² And ***fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them***, and they died before the Lord.

Malachi 3:1–5

¹ “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. **And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple**; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? **For he is like a refiner’s fire** and like fullers’ soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and *they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord*.

⁴ Then ***the offering*** of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ “Then I will draw near to you for ***judgment***. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

III. Application: A Baptism with Fire (John the Baptist)

Matthew 3:10–11

¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does ***not bear good fruit*** is cut down and ***thrown into the fire***. ¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after

me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. ***He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.***

1 Peter 1:6–7

⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by *various trials*, ⁷ so that the ***tested genuineness of your faith***—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Main Key Idea

Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit (Fire) and as we offer our lives to him (“living sacrifices”) we are purified on the bronze altar of this life producing in us a tested, genuine faith that will result in praise, glory and honor for our Lord Jesus.

John 16:13–14

¹³ ***When the Spirit of truth comes***, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ **He will glorify me**, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.