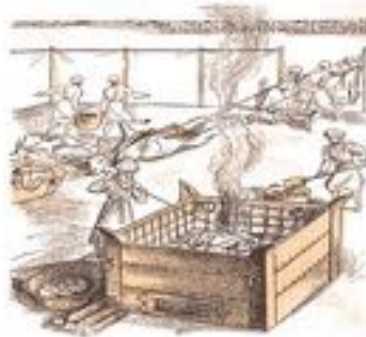


Exodus 59: High Priest as Metaphor – Coming Christ

Exodus (Names) – Changing the World
Dr. Leon L. Sanders Exodus 29

Priesthood at Sacrificial Work

- This depicts sacrificial work of the priesthood
- Yet, these sacrifices did not take away sin (He 10:11)
- God didn't require priest's death for sin, but Christ died to remove sin forever (He 1:14)



Sanctification of the Priesthood

- This passage, and Leviticus (8), show the inauguration of the Levitical priesthood as well as its shortcomings
- The end of something is contained in its beginnings; thus, Hebrews explains the need for this earthly priesthood to be superseded by heavenly priesthood
- Christ was inaugurated in a similar though dramatic manner and provided Himself the sacrifice for sin

Beginnings of Baptism

- Aaron and his sons had to be washed with water
 - Proselytes (Gentile converts) underwent baptism showing death to old faith and alive to Judaism
 - John the Baptist offered baptism of repentance (Mt 3:1-12)
- Christ did not begin His ministry until He was likewise baptized with water and with the Holy Spirit (Mt 3:13-17)
 - New covenant likewise baptized with His word (Eph 5:25-26)

Presaged Christ's *Other* Baptism

- Christ alluded to another baptism that can only point to the stauros - His death for sin (Jk 12:50)
- He also said that those who follow Him will also be baptized through tribulation (Mt 10:35-40, Lk 9:23)
- Ironic that Aaronic priesthood baptism was peaceful with the animals suffering this baptism for them

Aaron and Sons Clothed

- Moses officiating this ceremony now dresses Aaron in his High Priest uniform, and his sons in their linens
 - Moses, a Levite but not a priest, is the slave that preps the Aaronic priesthood preparing for Christ (He 3:1-6)
 - These uniforms of slavery pointed to the ministry of Christ who came to serve His own (Lk 12:41-48)
 - The great mystery: God became slave to us bearing our sin penalty on the stauros rather than lording over us

Aaron Anointed with Oil

- The anointing oil, beaten olive oil with several aromatic spices, symbolized unity with God (Ex. 133:1-2)
 - Spices had to be prepared (bruised) before being mixed with the oil to achieve their fragrance
- Symbolized the unity of the believer with God via the Holy Spirit which continued into the New Covenant (1Co. 12:12-13)

Five Major Offerings of the Law

- This synopsis gives a clear picture of the offerings
- These are performed except Trespass offering - sins of ignorance
- These are offered for the priesthood for seven days



Sin Offering

- Though dressed for their office, they needed their sinfulness covered by the sacrifice of a bull
 - This identifies them the same as everyone else, sinners
- Everything in the tabernacle had to be sprinkled with blood, and the anointing oil, for without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin (Heb. 9:18-22)

Outside the Camp

- Except for a few select portions celebrating the goodness of God's true sacrifice, Christ, most of the animal was burned outside the camp in the garbage
- This illustrated that Christ would be sacrificed outside Jerusalem in shame and believers will be outside of man's established truths also bearing Christ's shame
(He 13:11-13)

Ascending Offering

- Ram offered as an Ascending Offering, most ancient of the offerings (Notice the large animals are males)
 - Represented the complete consummation of Christ in dying for sin, He gave all for us who deserved nothing
 - Represented the mystery of the sacrifice between God and Son with man passively watching afar off

Communion (Peace) Offering

- Second ram demonstrated communion of the believer with God (Christ) by eating a portion of the meat (Lv 34:1-8)
 - Blood, sprinkled on priesthood and articles of service rendering them holy and fat given to God by fire
 - Shoulder and ribs, normally for priests, given to Moses
 - Remainder boiled and eaten same day or burned as Christ not left on the stauros overnight

Meal and Drink Offerings

- These offerings were often in conjunction with the Communal Offering, sharing one's bounty with God
 - Bread was both leavened and non-leavened with some burned on the altar and some given to priesthood
 - Wine also given on the altar with some going to the priesthood
- This meal celebrated unity with and goodness of God
(1Th 2:1-3)

Twice Daily Offerings

- Lamb was to be offered in the morning and in the afternoon on the altar everyday
 - Christ placed on stauros about 0900 (morning offering)
 - Christ died on the stauros about 1500 (evening offering)
- Meal offerings, with oil, and drink offerings are offered with the lambs pointing to His communal meal with the apostles and in the future with all His people
(Mt 26:26-29)

Seven Day Consecration

- The consecration lasted seven days symbolizing the completeness of God's holiness and the rest He offered through the sacrifice of His Son, High Priest of the New Covenant, which man could not accomplish
- Yet, of the men consecrated, two will violate God's holiness (Nadab and Abihu) being struck down as examples of how serious their consecration is to God

I Will Be Their God

- God says He will be their God and dwell with them
 - God walked with Adam before his sin but did not dwell with him before or after he sinned - separation
 - God was friend to Abraham but did not dwell with him
 - God did not dwell among any people until this time
- Now that God was teaching them holiness, and the coming sacrifice of Christ, He would dwell with them

Priesthood Despised Their Calling

- Priesthood set themselves above the people and the Law rather than be slaves and teachers to the people
 - Judges is a book of failure of the priesthood to keep the remembrance of God's holiness before the people (Js 17)
 - Eli's sons were thieves and bullies whom God judged (1Sa 2:12-17, 27-36)
 - God, via Malachi, describes the priests' rejection of Him (Ma 1:6-2:9)
 - Priesthood murdered their Messiah (Ma 26:17-68)

Moses Pointed to Christ

- Moses was faithful to (De 3:16, 5:9)
 - Write what God spoke to him
 - Make what God showed to him
 - Speak of the coming prophet (Christ) (De 18:15-19)
- But Christ built the house of believers which Moses spoke, our salvation, based on His sacrificial baptism

Earthly vs Heavenly High Priest

- Aaronic priesthood was of the earth: weak and sinful
(He 7:18-19, 28; 8:4-5)
 - Offered up sacrifices for their own sins (He 7:26-27)
 - Suffered death as sinners (He 7:27)
- Christ's priesthood is of Heaven, eternal (He 7:24-25; 8:1-3)
 - He was sinless, offering Himself as sacrifice for sins (He 7:27-28)
 - Based on God's oath that Christ would be priest forever (He 7:20-22)

Aaronic Priesthood a Metaphor

- Aaronic priesthood demonstrated
 - Futility of the flesh to follow God with a written manual
 - Inability to promote God's holiness over their sinfulness
 - Hatred of the flesh to God by killing the Messiah
- Where they failed, they pointed toward a better high priest to come - Christ Who would offer them a new covenant of life sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit

Christ - High Priest of New Covenant

- The consecration of men as priests magnified their sin
 - Pointed nations toward God
 - Highlighted sinfulness of all peoples, who developed religions instead of seeking the true knowledge of God
 - Demonstrated helplessness of all men to control sin
- Christ only one to fulfill the Old Covenant to provide the New Covenant for all who seek Him