

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.

Monday, August 13th – Leviticus 8:1-17

Today's reading is a recap of things we have learned, as we discussed yesterday. The reason we review it here is because Moses, Aaron and his sons are from the tribe of Levi and this is the dedication ritual described that set apart the Levites, the caretakers of the Tabernacle and eventually the Temple, for all time. As you read these verses, note who is called upon to do all the work. This is work that will be done by Aaron, his sons, and other designated Levites, once the ordination is completed. Notice the anointing in verses 10-12. What and who is anointed with the oil? Now that the people and the basin have been set apart (made holy), what has to happen so that they can serve a holy God (vss. 13-17)? As you read these verses, refer back to Leviticus 1:3-9 and Leviticus 4:3-12. So, at ordination the priests start with a clean slate. Imagine the majesty of this ritual and its beauty. What does all this tell you about God? What does it tell you about those who serve in a priestly/pastoral role? How does this point to Jesus as our Chief Priest, once and for all time? Spend some time today in prayer and thank God that we have a chief priest who was willing to also be the sacrificial lamb for our sins.

Tuesday, August 14th – Leviticus 8:18-36

We finish with the ordination ceremony today. Start by reading through verses 18-28. How many animals are sacrificed and what is the significance of each sacrifice? Notice the repeating phrase, "a pleasing aroma and special gift presented to the Lord." It is God-honoring to be obedient and humble before God. Today, our prayers are a pleasing aroma to God and our lives are a living sacrifice that are a special gift only to God. As we move on, what does Moses offer to the Lord next (vs. 29)? Why does Moses do this? What are the final instructions that Moses gives Aaron and his sons that will need to be observed for the duration of the ordination process (vss. 30-36)? How long is this to last? Remember, the number 7 means perfect completion. What did you learn about God through this ordination ceremony? What did you learn about yourself? How does this point to Jesus, the anointed one of God? How are these traditions carried out in the church today? What is our process for ordaining pastors? If you are not sure, then ask Pastor Shirley, so she can share her experience with you.

Wednesday, August 15th – Leviticus 9

It is finally time for the priests to get to work and we read about that in this chapter. Up to this point, Moses had been doing all the sacrificing, instructing, anointing, but now, Moses will just repeat the requirements to Aaron, who will then perform the sacrificial duties for the first time. As you read verses 1-5, what does Moses instruct Aaron, his sons and the people to do? Notice in verse 5 where the people gather. Remember Rabbi Anne sharing that the whole community gathered at the entrance of the tabernacle? Why do they need to do all these things (vs. 6)? Now read verses 7-21. What is sacrificed and for what purpose? Notice that the order of the sacrifices matches what we have read thus far. What does Aaron do next (vs. 22)? Now read verses 23-24. Can you imagine the joy of seeing God consume the sacrifice with His fire? What feelings does this provoke in you? Joy? Awe? Reverence? What do you learn about God from this text? What about humanity and our ability to please God through loving obedience? How does this point to Jesus?

Thursday, August 16th – Leviticus 10:1-7

Up until now things have been going relatively smoothly. God is being worshipped and honored. The people are being faithful. The Tabernacle is functioning as designed and the priests are doing what they have been appointed to do. But that is about to abruptly end. Read today's text. So, what was the sin of Nadab and Abihu? To better understand the sin, go back to Exodus 30:7-10. There are two things going on. First the fire was to never go out, so they should have brought fuel for the fire, but not fire itself. Secondly, only the special holy incense was to be burned and it was sprinkled over the fire in the burners, not the altar. What is God's response to the disobedience (vs. 2)? Why do you think that Aaron and his sons are forbidden to grieve like the rest of the family (vss. 6-7)? How serious does God take disobedience? While in our minds this was a minor infraction, the truth is they missed the mark (they sinned) and God's holiness will not bend to even a minor infraction. Sin to God is sin and this sin was by those who influenced and were to lead God's people. How often do we just dismiss our sin and make excuses? How does that reflect a very different attitude about sin, compared to God's? What does this text reveal to you about God and His holiness? What does this reveal about you and your attitude towards sin? How does this point to your need for Jesus? Spend some time in prayer, confessing your wrong attitude about sin and asking God to convict your heart so that you may worthily love and worship the God who sees and knows all.

Friday, August 17th – Leviticus 10:8-20

We will wrap this week up with the rest of the priestly instructions concerning a priests' conduct. Let's start by reading verses 8-11. What are the expectations of the priest while on duty? Now read verses 12-15. This text is following what had happened earlier in the day. Moses is instructing Aaron and his remaining sons of what was to be done. Moses is trying to keep them moving and working, because they are probably in shock and grieving inside. So, Moses is repeating the steps in an effort to prevent any more deaths. When all was completed, Moses noticed that something was not accomplished completely. What is it that Moses noticed and what was his reaction (vss. 16-18)? How did Aaron address Moses' concerns (vss. 19)? What was Moses' response to Aaron's explanation (vs. 20)? Now it seems heartless that they were not allowed to grieve their loved ones. Yet they were serving God and were expected to put God first. The relatives would have done the grieving and completed the rituals, but those selected to serve God must serve God first. How often do we give lip service to serving and loving God above all things, even our children? What does this reveal to you about God? Do you sense disappointment, frustration or even righteous indignation that God would demand our utter obedience no matter how we feel? What does this reveal about yourself and your divided mind and heart towards God? How did Jesus show us the way to complete and utter obedience? What did Jesus gain from it? What do we receive because of Jesus? How might this shape the way we view things in the future? Spend some quiet time reflecting on what God reveals of Himself and how it might differ from your understanding. Ask the Holy Spirit to assist you in this process. Then commit to changing your mind to conform to God's Word.

Saturday, August 18th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Leviticus 13:1-9.