

Read the Whole Bible with Pastor

Monday (March 13) – Leviticus 9

The ordination service for Aaron and his sons concluded on the eighth day. Aaron must make a sin offering first for himself and his sons before they can sacrifice on behalf of the people. This is contrasted to Christ who didn't need to first make a sin offering for Himself, since He is our perfect High Priest. Aaron and his sons make four sacrifices for the people. The order of the sacrifices is significant. First, he offers a sin offering for the people's sin. This sacrifice restores the communion between God and the people. Jesus' death is our sin offering that covers all our sins. Then Aaron and his sons offer a burnt offering. The burnt offering was when the entire sacrifice was burned to God. It symbolizes the total dedication of God in saving us and how we are to be wholly dedicated to God. The third sacrifice was a grain offering which expresses thankfulness to God. Gratitude towards God for all He has done is one of the chief virtues of the Christian faith. Lastly, Aaron offers a peace offering. The peace offering was one of the sacrifices that the people could eat. The peace offering was a shared meal showing that the people have fellowship with God. It is much like the Lord's Supper where we eat and drink Christ's Body and Blood, sharing a meal in God's presence.

Tuesday (March 14) – Leviticus 10

Nadab and Abihu offered "unauthorized fire" before the LORD, meaning they made their own incense and gave it to God. They thought they could improve on what God commanded them. We are to be faithful: not changing the parts of God's Word that our culture doesn't like, not changing the baptismal formula, nor changing the Lord's Supper (for example, substituting grape juice for wine). Such things are attempts to improve on what God has given, like what Nadab and Abihu did. Dear Christian, be faithful to Christ's Word and Sacraments and stick to them, for in them He gives you His forgiveness, life eternal, and His very self.

Wednesday (March 15) – Leviticus 11-12

Earlier in Leviticus 10:10–11, the priests were to distinguish between the holy and the common and between what is clean and unclean. Chapters 11–15 are all about what is holy and common; clean and unclean. These restrictions symbolize God's holiness and how Jesus cleanses us from sin. They are not necessarily still in force (for example the distinction between clean and unclean animals has been done away, see Colossians 2:16).

The various clean and unclean animals in chapter 11 symbolize God's holiness (vv. 44–45). The forbidden animals tend to be predators and scavengers. Killing and death are the result of sin, which the holiness of God hates. Some animals lack certain qualifications, making them unclean. The reason for this is that to be holy means to be completely whole and pure. It could be that these animals lack that completeness and wholeness needed to symbolize God's holiness.

In chapter 12 there are regulations about how a woman is unclean after childbirth. The reason for this has to do with how blood is holy to God, for with the blood of His Son He saves you. The time for purification after the birth of a son was shorter because he had to be circumcised. When the time of purification was over she was to offer a burnt offering and sin offering. In Luke 2:22–23, Mary goes to the temple to offer her sacrifice for purification. They offer two turtle doves or two pigeons because of their poverty. Even as an infant Jesus submitted to all of God's Law in our place and was born in great humility.

Thursday (March 16) – Leviticus 13

Chapter 13 is divided into two parts. The first deals with seven different skin infections. The second half of the chapter deals with infections (probably mold or mildew) in clothing and other articles. These infections symbolize what sin does to us in cutting us off from God and His life.

Friday (March 17) – Leviticus 14

Chapter 14 mirrors chapter 13 in being divided into two parts. The first half deals with cleansing people, and the second half the cleansing of houses. This chapter points to Christ who washes you and makes you clean by His forgiveness!

Saturday (March 18) – Leviticus 15

This chapter deals with ceremonial laws concerning bodily discharges. This is a subject that is taboo in our culture, but God's Word speaks about sexual matters without embarrassment in a chaste manner. The reason for the uncleanness in these bodily discharges has to do with how "wholeness" in one's body symbolizes the wholeness of God's holiness. The bodily discharges which were abnormal show how sin has ravaged the body. Concerning the normal bodily discharges, semen or blood that was discharged apart from sexual intercourse means that they failed to achieve reproduction, frustrating God's creative purpose for them. Concerning the normal bodily discharges during sexual intercourse, the fact that the man and woman were both unclean would rule out any type of sexual intercourse during worship, effectively forbidding temple prostitution (a problem back then).

Sunday (March 19) – Leviticus 16-17

The Day of Atonement in chapter 16 was the most important day in the Old Testament Church Year. It shows that your communion and fellowship with God is only possible when you are cleansed from sin. The two goats for the sin offering symbolize how Jesus cleanses you from your sin. One goat is sacrificed to the Lord while the other goat has the sins of the people transferred to it and then is sent to "Azazel" (which is either the name for a demon or a combination of the noun "goat" with the verb "go away" thus meaning "departing goat" or "scapegoat"). Jesus is our scapegoat. All your sins were transferred to Him and He took them to the cross and cast them into the depths of Hell for you (2 Cor. 5:21)!

In chapter 17 blood is holy to God because it's by Jesus' blood that He saves you.