

Leviticus 8:1-36 **Consecration of Aaron and his sons to the Priesthood**

1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: **2** "Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, the anointing oil, a bull as the sin offering, two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread; **3** and gather all the congregation together at the door of the tabernacle of meeting."

4 So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. And the congregation was gathered together at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. **5** And Moses said to the congregation, "This is what the LORD commanded to be done."

Cleansing and Clothing

6 Then Moses brought Aaron and his sons and washed them with water. **7** And he put the tunic on him, girded him with the sash, clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod on him; and he girded him with the intricately woven band of the ephod, and with it tied the ephod on him. **8** Then he put the breastplate on him, and he put the Urim and the Thummim in the breastplate. **9** And he put the turban on his head. Also on the turban, on its front, he put the golden plate, the holy crown, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Anointing

10 Then Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it, and consecrated them. **11** He sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times, anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the laver and its base, to consecrate them. **12** And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him, to consecrate him. **13** Then Moses brought Aaron's sons and put tunics on them, girded them with sashes, and put hats on them, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Sin Offering

14 And he brought the bull for the sin offering. Then Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull for the sin offering, **15** and Moses killed it. Then he took the blood, and put some on the horns of the altar all around with his finger, and purified the altar. And he poured the blood at the base of the altar, and consecrated it, to make atonement for it. **16** Then he took all the fat that was on the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, and the two kidneys with their fat, and Moses burned them on the altar. **17** But the bull, its hide, its flesh, and its offal, he burned with fire outside the camp, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Burnt Offering

18 Then he brought the ram as the burnt offering. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram, **19** and Moses killed it. Then he sprinkled the blood all around on the altar. **20** And he cut the ram into pieces; and Moses burned the head, the pieces, and the fat. **21** Then he washed the entrails and the legs in water. And Moses burned the whole ram on the altar. It was a burnt sacrifice for a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Ram of Consecration

22 And he brought the second ram, the ram of consecration. Then Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram, **23** and Moses killed it. Also he took some of its blood and put it on the tip of Aaron's right ear, on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot. **24** Then he brought Aaron's sons. And Moses put some of the blood on the tips of their right ears, on the

thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet. And Moses sprinkled the blood all around on the altar. ²⁵ Then he took the fat and the fat tail, all the fat that was on the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, the two kidneys and their fat, and the right thigh; ²⁶ and from the basket of unleavened bread that was before the LORD he took one unleavened cake, a cake of bread anointed with oil, and one wafer, and put them on the fat and on the right thigh; ²⁷ and he put all these in Aaron's hands and in his sons' hands, and waved them as a wave offering before the LORD.

²⁸ Then Moses took them from their hands and burned them on the altar, on the burnt offering. They were consecration offerings for a sweet aroma. That was an offering made by fire to the LORD. ²⁹ And Moses took the breast and waved it as a wave offering before the LORD. It was Moses' part of the ram of consecration, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Anointing of Aaron and his sons

³⁰ Then Moses took some of the anointing oil and some of the blood which was on the altar, and sprinkled it on Aaron, on his garments, on his sons, and on the garments of his sons with him; and he consecrated Aaron, his garments, his sons, and the garments of his sons with him.

Instructions concerning eating the Ram of Consecration

³¹ And Moses said to Aaron and his sons, "Boil the flesh at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of consecration offerings, as I commanded, saying, 'Aaron and his sons shall eat it.' ³² "What remains of the flesh and of the bread you shall burn with fire. ³³ And you shall not go outside the door of the tabernacle of meeting for seven days, until the days of your consecration are ended. For seven days he shall consecrate you. ³⁴ As he has done this day, so the LORD has commanded to do, to make atonement for you. ³⁵ Therefore you shall abide at the door of the tabernacle of meeting day and night for seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, so that you may not die; for so I have been commanded."

³⁶ So Aaron and his sons did all the things that the LORD had commanded by the hand of Moses.
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Facts Revealed:

- ◊ See also "Consecration of the Priests". [\[Exodus 29:1-37\]](#)
- ◊ The Consecration of Aaron and his sons to the Priesthood, was a procedure that needed to be followed precisely as directed by God as He publicly set Aaron and his sons apart from all others specifically for direct service to Yehowah.
- ◊ The Congregation was gathered to witness the procedure so they would personally know that Aaron and his sons had been specifically set apart from all others for service to Yehowah.

Cleansing

- ◊ They were washed with water to symbolize cleansing from the filth of the world around them and to demonstrate that God demands cleanliness in His service. It is to demonstrate to the congregation that God makes a distinction between the clean and the unclean and that no unclean person may draw near to serve before the God of all the earth. [\[Leviticus 10:10-11\]](#)

Clothing the Priests

- ◊ Every item of the Priest's garments speaks of Messiah Jesus. [\[Exodus 28:1-43\]](#)

- ❖ They were clothed in all the Holy Garments symbolic of Putting on Messiah to demonstrate that only in Christ were they acceptable to minister to God Most High. Jesus said, “No one comes to the Father except through Me.” [\[John 4:16\]](#)

Anointing

- ❖ The Anointing Oil was used to anoint the Tabernacle and all that was in it to sanctify them. Then it was used to anoint Aaron and his sons for service to God symbolic of the anointing of the Holy Spirit on the believer enabling him to minister to God Most High just as He enabled Jesus. [\[1 John 2:20-28, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, Acts 10:34-38, Luke 4:18\]](#)
- ❖ Aaron’s sons were then clothed symbolic of putting on Messiah before doing their service.

Sin Offering

- ❖ The bull for the Sin Offering was then brought and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on its head indicating that they were aware of their own sins and were transferring their sins to the head of a substitute, signifying that even the priests must depend on an acceptable substitute to bear their sins and so render them justified before God Most High. It all speaks of our total dependence on our Messiah Who took our sins upon Himself when He died for us.
- ❖ The blood is applied to the horns of the altar which point toward the four corners of the earth symbolic of the blood of Messiah that is reaching out for all the world.
- ❖ The rest of the blood is poured at the base of the altar symbolic of the Blood of Messiah Jesus which was poured out at the foot of the cross.
- ❖ The fat is burned on the Altar signifying that the abundance of God’s mercy for our salvation belongs to God alone. [\[Numbers 14:18, Psalm 86:5, 15, Psalm 130:7-8, Isaiah 55:7\]](#)
- ❖ The rest of the bull is burned outside of the camp signifying that Jesus would suffer outside the camp that we may be saved. [\[Hebrews 13:11-12\]](#)

Burnt Offering

- ❖ The hands are again laid on the head of the Ram of the Burnt Offering, indicating our dependence on the acceptability of the substitute to make it possible to approach God.
- ❖ The blood is applied to the horns of the altar which point toward the four corners of the earth symbolic of the blood of Messiah that is reaching out for all the world.
- ❖ The rest of the blood is poured at the base of the altar symbolic of the Blood of Messiah Jesus which was poured out at the foot of the cross.
 - ❖ After we take care of our filth of sin in the Washing and the Sin Offering, we still, being human, need the blood of a mediator to enable us to come before our Holy God.
- ❖ The whole ram is burned on the Altar symbolic of our Messiah Jesus giving His whole body voluntarily for our salvation.
 - ❖ Sacrifices of purified Saints of God become a sweet aroma to God.
 - ❖ If our lives are not right before God, He will not accept our Burnt Offerings or any other form of worship. [\[Amos 5:21-24\]](#)
- ❖ **Ram of Consecration (Sanctification, Dedication and its blood)** [\[Hebrews 10:19-25, 9:18-23\]](#)
- ❖ The hands are again laid on the head of the Ram of the Consecration, indicating that the consecration of the Priest is done by the blood of the Substitute as prescribed by God. The Priests thus acknowledge that they need the substitute for themselves first before they can take their office of Priesthood.
 - ❖ The **blood** of the Ram of Consecration is applied for consecration and dedication to;

- ❖ **The Right ear**, indicating that the ear must first and foremost be open to the voice of God and set apart for receiving instructions in righteousness and justice.
- ❖ **The Right Thumb**, indicating that their hands are foremost set apart for service of holiness to God.
- ❖ **The Right Toe**, indicating that their walk is foremost dedicated to holiness to God.
- ❖ **The Altar**, indicating that the Altar is dedicated to the service of God Most High.
- ◊ The fat is the Lord's along with the unleavened bread and unleavened cake mixed with oil, and unleavened wafer anointed with oil, along with the parts of the Ram of Consecration specified. They are waved by the priests as a **wave offering** to Yehowah.
- ◊ Moses took them from the hands of the Priests to be burnt on the Altar as a Burnt Offering to Yehowah, a sweet aroma before Yehowah. It is an offering made by fire to Yehowah.
 - ❖ The Priest receives the right thigh of the Ram of Consecration which is the **Heave Offering** which the Priest raises and lowers, it is a **Heave Offering** before Yehowah. It is for Aaron and his sons as their portion. It is from the Children of Israel from the sacrifice of their Peace Offerings, and is by a statute forever.
- ◊ Moses took the breast and waved it as a Wave Offering before Yehowah. It was Moses' part of the Ram of Consecration, as Yehowah had commanded Moses.

The **Wave Offering** is waved from side to side, horizontally.

The **Heave Offering** is raised and lowered vertically.

The combination of these two movements of the **Wave Offering** and the **Heave Offering** are significant, as they form the shape of a cross. This again speaks of our Savior who gave His life for us on the cross of Calvary for the sins of the world.

Everything pertaining to the sacrifices and offerings of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness, the placement of the furniture, the colors and materials of the Tabernacle, the clothing of the Priests, the Wave Offering, and the Heave Offering, speak of Messiah Jesus, and are in the form of the cross.

God was foretelling in all these things that the form of worship acceptable in the law all pointed forward to the One Who would come as His Messiah for the Salvation of Israel and for the whole world.

- ◊ Then Moses took **The Blood and Anointing oil**, and sprinkled it on Aaron and his clothing, his sons and their clothing, and he sanctified Aaron and his garments, his sons and their garments with him. This indicated that they are covered by the blood of the Substitute and filled with the Holy Spirit. This is symbolic of the service of the Church acting under the Saving Blood of Messiah Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Eating the Ram of Consecration

- ◊ Moses instructed Aaron and his sons to boil the flesh at the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting, and to eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of Consecration Offerings as commanded. What remains of the flesh and of the bread you shall burn with fire.
- ◊ The portion of the Ram of Consecration that is for the Priest is to be boiled in the holy place.
 - ❖ Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the Ram of Consecration and the bread from the basket, at the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting.
 - ❖ These are the things with which the atonement was made.

Each of which represents Christ Who gave His life as an atonement for the sins of the world, thus making a way for us to be reconciled to God and brought back to friendship with the Most High. [\[Romans 5:6-11\]](#)

They are eaten at the door of the Tabernacle close to the place representing the presence of God because they are Holy and must be separated as far as possible from the sinfulness of the world around them.

A stranger shall not eat of them because they are Holy. This speaks of the Saints of God feasting on the body of Christ in Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. It is to show that God makes a distinction between those who believe from those who do not. [\[Galatians 3:22, Acts 13:38-39, Hebrews 10:39, Mark 16:16\]](#)

- ◊ All that remains until morning shall be burned with fire because it is holy.
- ◊ Moses said, “You shall not go outside the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting for seven days, until the days of your consecration are ended. For seven days he shall consecrate you. As he has done this day, so Yehowah has commanded to do, to make atonement for you.”
- ◊ “Therefore you shall abide at the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting day and night for seven days, and keep the charge of Yehowah, so that you may not die, for so I have been commanded.”
 - ◊ The Priests, being mortal and sinners, needed atonement to be made for them before they could take their place in the service of Almighty God.
- ◊ The Consecration takes seven days:
 - ◊ Seven is the number for completion or fullness.
You shall consecrate them (the priests) Seven days.
You shall offer a bull every day as a Sin Offering for Atonement.
You shall cleanse the Altar when you make Atonement for it.
You shall anoint it to Sanctify it.
Seven days you shall make Atonement for the Altar and Sanctify it.
The Altar shall be most holy.
Whatever touches the Altar must be holy.
- ◊ So Aaron and his sons did all the things that Yehowah had commanded by the hand of Moses.