

The Priest's Consecration

Exodus 29:1-9

1 "And this is what you shall do to them to hallow them for ministering to Me as priests: Take one young bull and two rams without blemish, 2 and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil (you shall make them of wheat flour). 3 You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, with the bull and the two rams. 4 And Aaron and his sons you shall bring to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and you shall wash them with water. 5 Then you shall take the garments, put the tunic on Aaron, and the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the intricately woven band of the ephod. 6 You shall put the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban. 7 And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him. 8 Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them. 9 And you shall gird them with sashes, Aaron and his sons, and put the hats on them. The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.

So we have most of the tabernacle and we have the priests and the high priest chosen. We have their garments described but now what is this?

What is all this procedure for the High Priest and his sons?

We find that in Leviticus 8 and 9 all the things described in this passage are accomplished?

But what does it mean to hallow Aaron & his sons?

(Note) the word hallow in Ex 29:1 is the same word as found in Leviticus 10:3 (NKJV) 3 And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.' " So Aaron held his peace.

I. Hallow them for ministering to Me as priests v-1

A. Some illustrations

1. Genesis 2:3 (NKJV) 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.
2. Exodus 19:23 (NKJV) 23 But Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.' "
3. Ex 20:11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed <06942> it.

B. The priests who minister before God on behalf of the people must be holy if it be only ceremonially holy.

1. So while all these efforts did not make a real change in Aaron and his sons,

yet it did cause God to declare them holy and that was sufficient.

2. So all this animal sacrifice and place of the blood of the sacrifice on Aaron and his sons was for the purpose to declare them holy in God's sight.
 - a. God does this to show them that alone they cannot attain this standing in His sight.
 - b. We see the seriousness of this in some verses we looked partially at earlier.
 - c. Leviticus 9: 23 ¶ And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then 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 fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.
 - d. Leviticus 10:1-3 (NKJV) 1 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. 3 And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.' " So Aaron held his peace.
3. This was to symbolize the holiness of Jesus Christ, our High Priest.

II. Jesus Christ our High Priest.

A. Declared Holy

1. By demons Mark 1:24 24 saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are -- the Holy one of God!" NKJV
2. By angels Luke 1:35 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy one who is to be born will be called the Son of God. NKJV
3. By the dying thief. Luke 23:40-41 40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." NKJV
4. The Psalmist. Acts 13:35 35 Therefore He also says in another Psalm: 'You will not allow Your Holy one to see corruption.' NKJV

5. Hebrews 4:15 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. NKJV
6. Hebrews 7:26-28 26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;27 who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.28 For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. NKJV

B. Jesus said that He sanctified Himself.

1. John 17:19 "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.
2. Although He was sinless yet He went further.
 - a. He took on our sin.
 - b. He suffered during the trial and scourging and crucifixion.
 - c. All fo us.

III. Now He wants us to be sanctified.

- A. Joh 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
- B. Eph 5:26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,
- C. 1Th 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- D. Heb 13:12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.
- E. 1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

SANCTIFY

To make holy, or to set apart for God, # Ge 2:3 Ex 19:23. In the Old Testament, sanctification frequently denotes the ceremonial or ritual consecration of any person or thing to God: thus the Hebrews as a people were holy unto the Lord, through the covenant with its rites and atoning sacrifices, # Ex 31:13; and the Jewish tabernacle, altar, priest, etc., were solemnly set apart for the divine service, # Le 8:10-12. In the similar sense, men, "sanctified themselves" who made special preparation for the presence and worship of God, # Ex 19:10,11 Nu 11:18; a day was sanctified when set apart for fasting and prayer, # Joe 1:14; and the Sabbath was sanctified when regarded and treated as holy unto the Lord, # De 5:12. All such sanctifications were testimonials to the holiness of God, and signified men's need of moral sanctification, or the devotion of purified and obedient souls to his love and service.

In a doctrinal sense, sanctification is the making truly and perfectly holy what was before defiled and sinful. It is a progressive work of divine grace upon the soul justified by the love of Christ. The believer is gradually cleansed from the corruption of his nature, and is at length presented "unspotted before the throne of God with exceeding joy." The Holy Spirit performs this work in connection with the providence and word of God, # John 14:26 17:17 2Th 2:13 1Pe 1:2 and the highest motives urge every Christian not to resist him, and seek to be holy even as God is holy. The ultimate sanctification of every believer in Christ is a covenant mercy purchased on the cross. He, who saves us from the penalty of sin, also saves us from its power; and in promising to bring a believer into heaven, engages also to prepare for heaven. Online Bible