

Life-Study of Exodus Summaries – Messages 136-140

MESSAGES 136–140 – The Sanctification of Aaron and his Sons to be the Priests

The Burnt Offering

The **sanctification** of Aaron and his sons to serve God as priests required two rams, in addition to the young bull for the sin offering. The first ram was slaughtered and then cut into pieces. This refers to Christ who was slaughtered and cut into pieces. However, we also are involved for we are **identified with Christ** indicated by Aaron and his sons laying their hands upon the head of the ram. We are not to slaughter ourselves or others, but **God will slaughter us in Christ**. In order to serve God as priests, we must be identified with the slaughtered and cut Christ. After the first ram was slaughtered, its blood was sprinkled upon the altar round about. This blood speaks of **redemption**. It is possible for us to be God's priests only **through** redemption.

The Peace Offering

The second ram was for a **peace offering**. We offer Christ as the burnt offering because we realize that **we have not been for God and that we are not for God**. Now whenever we look at the **blood**, we are at **peace**. As a result, our problem is solved and God's hunger is satisfied; we may now experience Him as the second ram, the peace offering. The blood on the ear indicates that if we would be priests, we need an **ear to listen to God**. The thumb signifies **working**, and the big toe signifies **walking**. It was sprinkled upon the altar and the garments of Aaron and his sons. Now Aaron and his sons were fully sanctified, for the garments covering their entire body had been **cleansed and anointed**.

The inward parts and the fat of the ram were all burned to be God's food. The right breast was waved before God; a **wave offering**, a type of Christ in **resurrection**. The left breast and shoulder were the portions for Aaron and his sons to enjoy. The shoulder was heaved. This **heave offering** typifies Christ in **ascension**.

Sanctification

It is not pleasant to realize that we are dirty and need a through cleansing. The **washing**, the cleansing is part of the **process** of our sanctification to serve God as priests. After being washed, our nakedness needs to be **covered** with the priestly garments. Then we must see that by our natural birth we are sin. Because by nature we are sin, we need to be redeemed. **Redemption** is by Christ as the sin offering. In Christ we have been terminated.

The priests were fully sanctified. No longer did they have any problem of uncleanness, nakedness, sin, emptiness, or hunger. Instead, they had Christ as their clothing and food. **They bore as a sanctifying mark the all-inclusive Christ**. After we have been sanctified in this way, we are filled up with Christ and qualified to serve God as priests. **We are covered with Christ outwardly, and we are filled with Him inwardly**. In sanctification, our goal is to receive God for dinner. We need all the steps of sanctification because God is coming for dinner, and we must be ready to serve Him and eat with Him.

Experiencing Christ

Though we can enjoy Christ in every place, the richest place we can enjoy Christ is in the church meeting. The church meeting is the place to have the topmost enjoyment of Christ. We need to experience Christ before His coming back. **We should not save Christ for enjoyment in the future.** (Life-Study of Exodus, 136–140)