

Friday, January 13, 2023 • Read Exodus 29:35–46

Questions from the Scripture text: How many times do an ordination day's sacrifices have to be repeated (v35)? What does the sin offering gain (v36)? What is done to the altar? In order to do what for it? With what results (v37)? Once the altar is consecrated, what is done with it, and how often (v38)? When are each lamb to be offered (v39)? What will be offered with each lamb (v40, 41)? By what are these offerings to be made, unto Whom? Where are these offerings to be made (v42)? What else will He do there? And what else (v43)? What will ultimately sanctify the tabernacle and the children of Israel? What else will He consecrate (v44)? And whom will He consecrate? What, ultimately will God do (v45)? Who, ultimately will God be? What shall the children of Israel know about Who God is (v46)? And what God has done? Unto what purpose?

What does God do through the sacrifices and what the sacrifices point to? Exodus 29:35–46 looks forward to the p.m. sermon on the coming Lord's Day. In these twelve verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **the intricate and continuous sacrifices were to point to the fact that it is God Himself Who actually makes His people holy so that He may not only be their God, but redeem them, and dwell among them, so that they may enjoy forever being His and having Him as theirs.**

The priests need cleansing, v35–36a. Not just one day, but for seven days the sacrifices of their consecration are offered. The quantity and repetition drives home to them that in themselves, they are such sources of uncleanness that cleansing from God is continuously needed. The number seven, indicating completion or perfection, drives home to them that God is more able to provide cleansing than they are needy of it.

The altar needs cleansing, v36b–37. Nothing creaturely has inherent holiness. Even the altar must be atoned for and anointed. This too is done for seven days.

The people need cleansing, v38–42. For the people, two lambs will be offered each day, each with its grain offering and drink offering. This will have to be done "continually," since the Lord will meet with them and speak with them. What a marvel that the Lord meets with us! What a marvel that the Lord also hears us!

The tabernacle needs cleansing, v43–44. In this case, we get the true sanctifying power: the Lord Himself. There actually isn't anything any ability to make holy in any of the things that are being offered or applied. But they are sanctified by God's glory, a word that literally means weight or weightiness. He has the infinite worth to consecrate them, an indication already of the sacrifice that will ultimately have to be made to consecrate the church (cf. Ac 20:28).

Why the Lord gives the cleansing, v45–46.

- So that they may have His presence: "I will dwell among the children of Israel." Here is the Immanuel principle. The Lord has existence inherent to Himself, so that it is impossible for anything to exist except that it exist in His presence, but He makes His presence to be more intensely known in some places and times than others. Wondrously, He will actually take on the attribute of location when He enters the world as a man with the Name "Jesus," because He will save His people from their sins. Matthew tells us that this is a fulfillment of the Name "Immanuel" ("God with us," cf. Mt 1:21–23).
- So that they may possess Him: "and will be their God." He gives Himself to them in His dwelling among them.
- So that they may perceive this: "And they shall know that I am Yahweh their God"

This was the great reason for redeeming them to begin with. That He might wed them to Himself and dwell among them: He as theirs and they as His! The same principle continues: God has delivered us in Christ so that we might be with Him, and might be wed to Him, but in order for this to be completed, He must finish producing in us that holiness without which no one can see the Lord.

How do you know how great your need for cleansing is? How was God's greatest way of showing this also a way of showing how completely Christians have been cleansed? For what was this cleansing a preparation?

Sample prayer: Lord, thank You for saving us so that we might be with You and know You. Thank You for taking us for Your own special treasure, and for also giving Yourself to us that we might belong to one another in this way. Keep doing Your cleansing work in us, we ask, so that we may dwell with You forever, which we ask in Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP51B "From My Sins, O Hide Your Face" or TPH275 "Arise, My Soul, Arise"

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Exodus 29 verses 35 through 46. These are God's words. Thus, you shall do to Aaron and his sons according to all that I have commanded you seven days. You're so consecrate them. You saw for a bowl every day as a sin, offering for atonement. He's all cleanse the altar when you make a tournament for it.

And useful, anoint it to sanctify it. Seven days, you shall make atonement for the altar and sanctify. It And the altar shall be most holy and whatever touches the altar. Must be holy. Now, this is what you shall offer on the altar. Two lambs of the first year day by day continually.

One lamb. You saw offer in the morning, the other land used to offer a twilight. With the one lamb shall be one tenth of an ethyl flower mixed with one fourth of a hint of pressed oil. And one fourth of the hand of wine as a drink offering than the other lamb, you shall offer it twilight.

And use all for it with the grain offering and the drink offering as in the morning for a sweet aroma. And offering made by fire to alpha, this shall be a continual burnt offering. Throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before. Yahweh Where I will meet to speak with you.

And there I will meet with the children of Israel on the tabernacle shall be sanctified. By my glory. So, I will consecrate the tabernacle of meeting in the altar. I will also consecrate both Aaron and his sons to minister to me as priests. I will dwell among the children of Israel and I will be their God.

And they shall know that i am yahweh. Their god who brought them up out of the land of egypt. That i may dwell among them. I am your way. Their god.

So he gives us not just the seven days worth of sacrifices. For the priests and for the altar. And for the tabernacle Um, But also the daily sacrifices. For the tabernacle and For the people. And the intricacy of the sacrifices and the continual repetition of the sacrifice point to the fact.

That the sacrifices can't atone or consecrate so much as it is god himself. Who are tones and consecrates? He makes his people holy. So that he not only is he their god and redeems them from their sin. But that he may dwell among them and they may enjoy forever.

Belonging to him. And his belonging to them. And so, one of the things that Um, That we see is. All of the death and hell that Aaron. And his sons would have known that they deserved every time they put their hand on an animal, it was immediately killed like they deserved to die.

It was then immediately burned. Like, they deserve to burn.

That this would be repeated for seven days. And there would be an indication here of completeness. It's interesting, isn't it that he creates in six days, but you redeems As far as. The consecration here and the atoning for the altar and for the priests In seven. And yet the perfection at the cross comes.

Uh not as something that is pictured or pointed to or communicated by a certain number, but it comes in the reality of a person who is god himself. Dying for his church, purchasing the church. With his own blood. And so, the lord jesus does. In a few hours. On the cross.

Not just what would have taken seven days. But What? After over a thousand years, Of sacrifices still had not been accomplished. Because the blood of bulls and guts cannot take away sin. And so this repetition for seven days would point them, Uh, to how all of these things needed a cleansing that had not yet been ultimately or effectively provided.

The priests need cleansing, that's the point of verse 35. And the first half of verse 36, that's usual due to Aaron and his sons. According to all that. I have commanded, you seven days, shall you consecrate them? The altar needs cleansing verse, 36 and 37. You shall cleanse the altar when you make a tournament for it and usually anoint it to sanctify it.

Seven days, you. So make atonement for the altar and sanctify. It And the whole altar shall be most. Holy The people. Uh, Need cleansing. These two lamps. Day by day continually, one in the morning, one in the evening. Um, With a grain offering. And, Uh, throughout your generations. At the door of the tabernacle.

This. Day by day meeting, why? Because there is where yahweh will meet with Moses to speak with him and their specifically. There, i will meet With the children of israel. And so, the people need this continual. Um, well, they need a full Cleansing. If god is going to be with them and they are going to be with him.

Um, and so it's not just The. The burnt off rings in the sent offerings and the peace offerings that need to be gathered. There's a maintenance offering as it were a reminder. That there is still a death to be died and to hell to be paid. And that the blood that is shed, is what it turns for them and sets them apart as holy.

So, that they may have dwell god to dwell among them. And yet be safe and have his favor. So the priest needs cleansing. The altar need cleansing needs cleansing. The people need cleansing even the tabernacle Needs cleansing. And there's an Indication here. Isn't there? That they're that it isn't.

The. The blood of the, the Beasts. That is. Uh, making all of these things. Holy look at the end of verse 43. There i will meet with the children of israel and it shall be sanctified by my glory. And the it is the tabernacle, the new king james. Uh, supplies that there.

So, i will consecrate the tabernacle of meeting in the altar. I will consecrate both Aaron and his sons to minister to me as priests. No, you notice the difference there? That he had said you shall consecrate them verse 35. You make atonement for it. Verse 36. You shall make a tournament.

Uh, verse 37. But now we see what is really going on here. Is that the? Uh the infinitely, glorious. Try in god. Is the one who is actually doing the sanctifying because in him is the plan and purpose of redemption, In him as the consideration of that which is certain because god has committed himself to it.

That god himself would become a man. And that he would shed his blood and die and redeem for himself a tone. Uh, for his people by his own blood, And we're going to see this pretty soon in acts and acts chapter 20. Um, And i think it's verse 28.

Uh, where the apostles talking to the elder the Ephesian elders. And he, Uh, tells them to take heed to themselves and to the church of god, which he has purchased with his own blood. And there is, of course, a Weighty dreadful. And, Um, The full use of that word responsibility, the church has been purchased by god's blood.

How how then should we? Esteem and value with one diligence and zeal should we serve in? His church. But then there's also this great confidence. If god has purchased the church with his blood, She cannot fail. She cannot, but Be saved. Redeemed consecrated made. Holy Come at last to into that.

Perfect, holiness and perfect happiness. That he has intended to give her. And so there's a wonderful turn here. Um, in the text, at the end of verse 43, that it is god. Who sanctifies the tabernacle by his glory and god, who sanctifies their consecrates, the tabernacle of meeting in the altar, god who consecrates Aaron and his son's to him as priests.

In other words, They may be. Shedding animal blood and burning. Animals on earth. But god is already applying to them. The benefits, the privileges that Uh, shall be had through the blood of the lord jesus christ. And the suffering of. The wrath, the hell? By the lord jesus christ on the cross.

And this is, Uh, this is the basis of which They have the ongoing experiential reality and really relationship. Versus 45 and verse 46. I will dwell among the children of israel. And we'll be their god and they shall know. That i am yahweh. Their god who brought them up?

Out of the land of egypt? That i may do all among them, i am yahweh, their god. So they have their presence. I will dwell. Among the children of israel. And this is where. Jesus's two names are tied together. Well, he has many more than just, a two. But in matthew chapter 1, when Uh, gabriel tells joseph.

Um, That he is to name him. Jesus. Yahweh saves. For he will save his people from their sins. And then he goes on to say that it's a fulfillment of the prophecy of isaiah that his name would be a manual god with us. So jesus was not just one through whom Yahweh was saving.

Jesus is yahweh, who came to save? Because he is also a manual god with us. And those two things are tied together here. Uh, both the atonement and then the dwelling Among the children of israel. And so, when we are in dwelt by the holy spirit, and when he communicates to us, The union that we have, when jesus christ and the fellowship that we have a god, the father is his own dear children.

Uh, jesus has secured all of that by his cross and truly, we already dwell with god. We have a heaven on earth. Uh, in so far as We live conscientiously the christian life and fellowship with god, the father and the son, and the holy spirit. And this is one of the things that the spirit uses to give us a great incentive to walk well with him.

And To live in the way and according to the pattern that he has established in his word. Uh, we don't do. Our devotions morning and evening. And keep the lord's day week by week. You know, these things that are Um, what what is given now for the religious ceremonies if we can even use that word for something.

So marvelous and simple, Of the christian life. We don't do those things so that we can feel good about ourselves. And how we are doing spiritually. We don't do those things because we are somehow going to achieve our growth. Even the growing comes not by the excellence with which we attend upon the means, but the excellence of him, who uses the means.

But the primary reason for doing those things. Is because he has given us to have heaven on earth, the knowledge and fellow knowledge of him and fellowship with him. Uh, upon which Our life is built around, which our life revolves. And that is what. Before god dear children, i want for you even more.

Far more than your father, has had it in his life. And the lord blessing. Our life together our ministry in his word, using his means. Uh, then May he give it even more to your children than you. Have had a thus far and so, why did the lords do this atoning?

And this consecrating why all of these things that weren't actually accomplishing it pointing to him, who was accomplishing? It and would accomplish it first that they might have his presence. Second that they might possess him. That he would be their god. And that they would be his people in third that they might perceive that.

That is what is happening. Uh, verse 46, they shall know. That i am yahweh, their god. It is an added blessing, a different part of the blessing. That we would know that he is, our god, not just that we would have him. As our god, not just that we would be his blood bought.

Consecrated covenant people, but that we would live in the experience of it, the awareness of it, they shall know. That i am yahweh there. God who brought them up? Out of the land of egypt. Um, it is easy to forget. Our redemption. Later in life. We are. We are a mentally fickle people things that are in the past.

Um, fade away. Uh, some of us. Come to faith in him so early so young that we can't remember. Um, Not being saved. But even those who are saved in. Uh, a very Uh, Much more punctilier way. Uh, a The word isn't violent. I'm struggling a way that is obvious and very different from the unsaved moment to the saved moment in their experience and they can remember that the effectiveness of it fades.

And so what does the lord do? He gives us to come to him to have fellowship with him through the blood of the land. Morning and evening. That takes our hearts and minds back. To how he redeemed us. So that we might be his The the bringing us out of bondage, even the atoning for our sin.

That wasn't the end. That was the beginning that had as its purpose. An ongoing. Uh, knowledge of his presence and pleasure in him. And dwelling. With him, may the lord. Grant to us, then To have that constant pointing back. To not just what jesus has done in the fact that he has done it.

Uh, but what he has brought us into By doing it. It's perfect. Father, we thank you for this portion of your word. We thank you for Your patience and persistence. To overcome the dullness of our hearts and minds and how routine? Our christian lives. Uh, can become and not.

A good routine, but Heartless and mindless doing. And of, Of the things you have given us to do and even Lord. Oh, forgive us heartless and mind-ness lacking off. And not enjoying the heaven on earth that you have commanded us to have already. In anticipation, we pray, lord, that you'd give us repentance that you would renew.

Our experience of you or perception of you, And, You're binding yourself to us and us to yourself. We pray that you would, Help us to perceive these things by your spirit day by day. Morning by morning, evening by evening. And then week by week in the lord's day. Until it lasts you.

Bring us to be perfectly holy and perfectly happy forever. When we will not be so dull. And we look forward to the day and grant to Lord, that you would bring it, bring us to it safely. And bring it quickly, we pray in jesus name. Amen.