



The Priest Worthy of Being Worshipped

October 22, 2016

Introduction:

There is more than 1 way to look at Leviticus 21.

1. We could organize our thoughts around the use of the Lord's name.

Leviticus 21:8, 15, 23; 22:9, 16 & 32 all end with אָנִי יְהוָה מְקַדְּשְׁכֶם (I am the LORD who sanctifies you)

2. We could organize our thoughts around us as individuals.

- Genesis 38:24; Judges 15:6; Joshua 7:15-25

Leviticus 21:9 (NKJV) – The daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by playing the harlot, she profanes her father. She shall be burned with fire.

3. We could organize our thoughts around the priesthood – the ministry.

Four areas of interest for the Priest / Ministry in Leviticus 21:

- Funerals (How we handle death).
- Weddings (Who we marry).
- Offerings (What we give to God).
- Consumption (What we eat).

3. We could organize our thoughts toward understanding the High Priest.

~ Leviticus 19 & 20 – The Ordinary Israeli ~

Leviticus 19:2 (NKJV) – “Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God *am* holy.’”

Notes

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Leviticus 19:18 (NKJV) – You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall **love your neighbor as yourself**: I *am* the LORD.

Leviticus 19:29 (NKJV) – Do not prostitute your daughter, to cause her to be a harlot, lest the land fall into harlotry, and the land become full of wickedness.

Leviticus 20:2 (NKJV) – Again, you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘Whoever of the children of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell in Israel, who gives *any* of his descendants to Molech, he shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones.

~ **Leviticus 21 – Ordinary Priests (not the common Israeli) ~**

Leviticus 21:1 (NKJV) – And the LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them....”

~ **Leviticus 21 – The High Priest ~**

Leviticus 21:10 (NKJV) – *He who is the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured and who is consecrated to wear the garments, shall not uncover his head nor tear his clothes.*

Leviticus 21:15 (NKJV) – ¹⁵ Nor shall he profane his posterity among his people, for I the LORD sanctify him.’ ”

¹ Peter 2:9 (NKJV) – But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

A) How children were treated.

James 3:1 (NKJV) – My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

1 Timothy 3:1-7 (NKJV) – ¹ This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. ² A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; ³ not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; ⁴ one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence ⁵ (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); ⁶ not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the *same* condemnation as the devil. ⁷ Moreover he must have a good

testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

B) Who they could marry.

1. The common Israeli could marry anyone from any tribe. (Numbers 36:1-6).

2. Ordinary Priests were restricted in who they could marry.

Leviticus 21:7 (NKJV) – They shall not take a wife *who is* a harlot or a defiled woman, nor shall they take a woman divorced from her husband; for *the priest* is holy to his God.

James 1:27 (NKJV) – Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

3. High Priest was further restricted in marriage.

Leviticus 21:14-15 (NKJV) – ¹⁴ A widow or a divorced woman or a defiled woman *or* a harlot—these he shall not marry; but he shall take a virgin of his own people as wife. ¹⁵ Nor shall he profane his posterity among his people, for I the LORD sanctify him.’ ”

C) How they mourned the dead.

1. The common Israeli.

Leviticus 19:27-28 (NKJV) – ²⁷ You shall not shave around the sides of your head, nor shall you disfigure the edges of your beard. ²⁸ You shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor tattoo any marks on you: I *am* the LORD.

2. The ordinary priest was restricted in funerary practices.

Leviticus 20:1-5 (NKJV) – ¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: ‘None shall defile himself for the dead among his people, ² except for his relatives who are nearest to him: his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, and his brother; ³ also his virgin sister who is near to him, who has had no husband, for her he may defile himself. ⁴ Otherwise he shall not defile himself, *being* a chief man among his people, to profane himself. [לְהַחֲלוֹ – *to make common*] ⁵ ‘They shall not make any bald place on their heads, nor shall they shave the edges of their beards nor make any cuttings in their flesh.’ ”

3. The High Priest was further restricted in funerary practices.

Leviticus 20:10-12 (NKJV) – ¹⁰ *He who is the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured and who is consecrated to wear the garments, shall not uncover his head nor tear his clothes;* ¹¹ nor shall he go near any dead body, nor defile himself for his father or his mother; ¹² nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God *is* upon him: I *am* the LORD.

Matthew 23:1-4 (NKJV) – ¹ Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, ² saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. ³ Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. ⁴ For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay *them* on men’s shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers.

Revelation 1:10-16 (NKJV) – ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet.... ¹² Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. ¹⁴ His head and hair *were* white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; ¹⁵ His feet *were* like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance *was* like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 5:1-7 (NKJV) ¹ And I saw in the right *hand* of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?” ³ And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

⁴ So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵ But one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.”

⁶ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the

throne.

Hebrews 9:11-15 (NKJV) – ¹¹ But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. ¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? ¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Leviticus 21:1-22:16 (NKJV)

No-no's for Mourning (1-6)

^{21:1} And the LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: 'None shall defile himself for the dead among his people, ² except for his relatives who are nearest to him: his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, and his brother; ³ also his virgin sister who is near to him, who has had no husband, for her he may defile himself. ⁴ Otherwise he shall not defile himself, *being* a chief man among his people, to profane himself.

⁵ 'They shall not make any bald *place* on their heads, nor shall they shave the edges of their beards nor make any cuttings in their flesh. ⁶ They shall be holy to their God and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire, *and* the **bread** of their God; therefore they shall be holy.

No-no's for Marriage (7-9)

⁷ They shall not take a wife *who is* a harlot or a defiled woman, nor shall they take a woman divorced from her husband; for *the priest* is holy to his God. ⁸ Therefore you shall consecrate him, for he offers the **bread** of your God. He shall be holy to you, for **I the LORD, who sanctify you, am holy.** ⁹ The daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by playing the harlot, she profanes her father. She shall be burned with fire.

High Priest (10-15)

¹⁰ 'He *who is* the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured and who is consecrated to wear the garments, shall not uncover his head nor tear his clothes; ¹¹ nor shall

he go near any dead body, nor defile himself for his father or his mother; ¹² nor shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God *is* upon him: I *am* the LORD. ¹³ And he shall take a wife in her virginity. ¹⁴ A widow or a divorced woman or a defiled woman or a harlot—these he shall not marry; but he shall take a virgin of his own people as wife. ¹⁵ Nor shall he profane his posterity among his people, for **I the LORD sanctify** him.’ ”

Blemished Priests (16-23)

¹⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁷ “Speak to Aaron, saying: ‘No man of your descendants in *succeeding* generations, who has *any* defect, may approach to offer the **bread** of his God.

Twelve Blemishes (18-20)

¹⁸ For any man who has a defect shall not approach: a man blind or lame, who has a marred *face* or any *limb* too long, ¹⁹ a man who has a broken foot or broken hand, ²⁰ or is a hunchback or a dwarf, or a *man* who has a defect in his eye, or eczema or scab, or is a eunuch.

²¹ No man of the descendants of Aaron the priest, who has a defect, shall come near to offer the offerings made by fire to the LORD. He has a defect; he shall not come near to offer the **bread** of his God.

²² He may eat the **bread** of his God, *both* the most holy and the holy; ²³ only he shall not go near the veil or approach the altar, because he has a defect, lest he profane My sanctuaries; for **I the LORD sanctify** them.’ ”

²⁴ And Moses told *it* to Aaron and his sons, and to all the children of Israel.

Do you want to bless Israel?

Bridges for Peace Ministry needs for 200 Families in the Adoption program: small teddy bears, baby toys, baby blankets, baby **boy** clothes, nursing covers for mothers (infinity scarf works well).

- These items are for babies up to one year old.
- Please bring only baby **boy** clothes. They already have a lot of baby **girl** cloths.
- Please note: due to sensitivities, please no items with religious logos or symbols.
- Final date to bring items – November 12.
- **Sue Maughan & Upcoming Trip to Israel (suemaughan@juno.com)**