

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

“Blessing or Judgment”
Leviticus 9-10

Kingdom Fulfillment

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying “Behold the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them,

and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying or pain...”

– Revelation 21:1- 4

Partial Fulfillment

And I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; I will also consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me.

And I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God.

And they shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God

– Exodus 29:44-46

Partial Fulfillment

Leviticus 9:1-24

- Details the “opening ceremony” of Israel’s worship of Yahweh
- Goal – the manifestation of God’s presence

Opening Ceremony

1. The Priest’s Offerings

- *Sin Offering* – cleanse the tabernacle from the pollution of the priest’s sin
- *Burnt Offering* – the substitute ransom payment for sin

Opening Ceremony

2. The People’s Offerings

- *Sin Offering* – purification
- *Burnt Offering* – substitution
- *Grain Offering* – dedication
- *Peace Offering* – reconciliation

Opening Ceremony

3. The Priest's Blessing

- His pronouncement from God that all is well between God and His people

Opening Ceremony

Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, "Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

The LORD bless you, and keep you;
The LORD make His face shine on you,
and be gracious to you;
The LORD lift up His countenance on you,
and give you peace.

So they shall invoke My name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them."

– Numbers 6:23-27

Opening Ceremony

4. God's Presence

- God manifested His glory – the proof of His presence with them to bless
- Fire consumed the offering – the sign of God's acceptance and pleasure

The people responded with exuberant, reverent worship!

Opening Ceremony

5. God's Judgment

- Nadab and Abihu offered "strange fire"
- Fire consumed the priests and they died
- Aaron was not allowed to mourn for them

Opening Ceremony

5. God's Judgment

➤ Principle:

"By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy; And before all people I will be honored."

Opening Ceremony

Contrasting Approaches to God

1. Right Approach

- precisely as God commands
- treats God as holy
- by means of atoning sacrifice presented by a qualified priest

Fulfillment: *through Christ alone*

Opening Ceremony

Contrasting Approaches to God

2. Wrong Approach

- does not treat God as holy
- by means other than what God has commanded

Fulfillment: *apart from Christ alone*