**Preparation for Service**

**Exodus 29: 1-9, 35-37**

**1 “Now this is what you shall do to them to** **consecrate them to serve me as priests. Take one young bull and two rams without blemish, 2and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil. You shall make them of choice wheat flour. 3You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket and bring the bull and the two rams. 4You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the** **tent of meeting and wash them with water. 5Then you shall take the vestments and put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breastpiece and** **gird him with the decorated band of the ephod, 6and you shall set the turban on his head and put the holy diadem on the** **turban. 7You shall take the** **anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. 8Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them, 9and you shall gird them, Aaron and his sons, with sashes and tie headdresses on them, and the priesthood shall be theirs by a perpetual ordinance. You shall then** **ordain Aaron and his sons.**

**35“Thus you shall do to Aaron and to his sons, just as I have commanded you; through seven days you shall ordain them. 36Also every day you shall offer a bull as a** **purification offering for atonement. Also you shall offer a sin offering for the altar, when you make atonement for it, and shall anoint it, to consecrate it. 37Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and consecrate it, and the altar shall be most holy; whatever touches the altar shall become holy.**

**I. Terms to Know**

 **consecrate** - setting apart or making holy, in this context, specifically for priesthood and service to God.

 **priests** - a religious figure, ordained and authorized to perform sacred rites and rituals.

 **blemish** - perfect and free from any visible defects, suitable for sacrifice to God.

 **unleavened** - made without yeast that makes it rise so it stays flat.

 **tent of meeting** - where the Israelites and Moses met with God to ask Him for help and guidance.

 **vestments** - sacred clothes worn to show their important role in serving God.

 **gird** - encircle (a person or part of the body) with a belt or band.

 **diadem** - a crown-like headdress.

 **turban** - a head covering, like a fancy hat, that priests wore when they worked in the Tabernacle.

 **anointing oil** - a special, fragrant oil used to mark people or things as "holy" or special.

 **tunics** - a loose shirt that hangs down from the shoulders to the knees or lower worn by the priests.

 **perpetual ordinance** - a law or rule that God established to be followed forever.

 **ordain** - to appoint, establish, or designate someone or something for a specific task or role.

 **purification offering** - a sacrifice that cleanses a person or group so they can re-enter God's presence.

**II.** **Exodus 29:1-9 details the specific rituals and garments needed to consecrate Aaron and his sons as priests, setting them apart for holy service to God, including washing, clothing with priestly garments, and anointing with oil.**

 **Key Rituals & Garments in Exodus 29:1-9**

 **Washing: Aaron and his sons were to wash their bodies, signifying purification and preparation for**

 **God's presence.**

 **Garments: Aaron: Was to be clothed in the holy vestments, including the holy robe, coat, and priestly**

 **garments to signify his role as the high priest.**

 **Sons of Aaron: Were to be clothed in linen tunics and girdled, signifying their roles as priests.**

 **Anointing with Oil: After being clothed, Aaron and his sons were to be anointed with oil, symbolizing**

 **the Holy Spirit's indwelling and empowerment for ministry.**

 **Purpose of Consecration: The purpose of these rituals was to dedicate Aaron and his sons for a holy**

 **purpose and to make them holy for serving as priests before God.**

**Exodus 29:37-39 details the ongoing consecration and offerings for the altar after Aaron and his sons are ordained as priests, emphasizing the altar's holiness and the daily burnt offerings.**

* **Consecration Period: After Aaron and his sons are consecrated as priests, God instructs that the altar must be purified and consecrated for seven days (Exodus 29:37).**
* **Atonement and Sanctification: During this seven-day period, atonement must be made for the altar, and it will be made holy to the point that anything that touches it becomes holy (Exodus 29:37).**
* **Daily Burnt Offering: God outlines the daily burnt offering, which includes two lambs, one offered in the morning and one offered in the evening, along with specific meal and drink offerings (Exodus 29:38-42).**
* **Ongoing Devotion: This continuous sacrifice represents Israel's ongoing dedication to God and the altar's perpetual holiness.**
* **Morning Offering: The morning offering (Exodus 29:39) is a young lamb, and the evening offering is also a young lamb.**
* **Prophetic Significance: The continuous daily sacrifices foreshadow the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sins of the world.**

**III. Questions**

 **1. What did God say do to hallow the people?**

 **2. Who did God say bring to the door of the tabernacle?**

**3. What should Moses put on Aaron’s head?**

 **4. How long should he consecrate them?**

 **5. How long should he make the atonement?**