

# Leviticus 21-22 – 17 September 2020

## “Seeing God Thru You”

### Introduction

Leviticus 8-10 1<sup>st</sup> institution of the 1<sup>st</sup> Levitical priests

We saw “How to become a Christian Priest”

Be a Devoted Disciple

Be a Blessing to Believers

Beware of Spurious Stimulants

This demonstrated the aims or goals of our position as a Christian priest

Leviticus 17-20 – showed us the everyday routine of remaining clean before the Lord for all people

We saw “Values for everyday life”

Value Proper Worship of God, Marital Relations, Relation w/ Others, & Corrective Govt

Lev 21-22 – digs deeper regarding our role as a Christian Priest.

Not just “Be a Devoted Disciple” but what does that look like day to day.

Not just “Value Proper Marital Relations”, but why is that important

## **Today we’ll see 5 Characteristics of Believers That Represents God In Us**

### **#1 – God is seen in us when we represent life, not death (Chap 21:1-6, 10-12)**

Read Chap 21:1-4

1. The priest should not identify w/ death.
2. Now also the grace of God to not prevent him from mourning his close family.
3. He’s to picture new life by following God

## Read Chap 21:5-6

1. Don't identify w/ pagan-worship mourning practices
2. Much pagan worship, being revived today, involves praying or offering gifts to the dead.

We'll come back to vs 7-9, but skip to 10-12 whereas vs 10-15 is specifically about the H.P. not all priests

## Read Chap 21:10-12

1. So the H.P. shouldn't mourn the dead or touch the dead or leave his duty at the tabernacle to mourn the dead
2. We as priests are represent new life in Christ!
3. That should be great, right?
  - a. Read II Cor 2:16
  - b. To those w/o new life, it smells horrible

## **#2 – God is seen in us when we represent closeness, not division (Chap 21:7-9, 13-15)**

Read Chap 21:7-9

1. A priest's marriage is to represent the ideal relationship.
2. No schism, mistrust, but only closeness.
3. Turn to Prov 5:15-23
4. No need to explain extra complicating circumstances but just the simplicity of close trust
  - a. Now, praise God for his grace
  - b. Even if we've lost the ideal, there's always the chance to draw close TODAY

Read Chap 21:13-15

1. Being equally yoked w/ an Israelite
2. Showing closeness of Master and mission

### **#3 – God is seen in us when we represent completeness, not lack (Chap 21:16-24)**

Read Chap 21:16-21

1. These are major physical issues not a hang nail
2. Can't serve as priest if you have major physical problems.
3. Their physical impression is designed to present a spiritual impression.
  - a. One of wholeness and satisfaction
  - b. Not of lacking or weakness
4. Are we presenting an image of satisfaction in Christ?
  - a. Are we wondering around always telling of our problems?
  - b. Read Psm 17:15, 63:3-5, Prov 19:23

Read Chap 21:22-24

1. Levites with blemishes still have their food provided for them, but they can't represent God
2. God maintains the spiritual pic, but never despises the people.

## **#4 – God is seen in us when we represent respect for holy items (Chap 22:1-16)**

Read Chap 22:1-9

1. All these methods of becoming unclean, we've talked about in the previous chapters.
2. Respect the holy items by not contaminating them when you're unclean.
3. Many applications for this
  - a. Don't participate at church while furious at your spouse.
  - b. Don't be praising the Lord w/ song while harboring unrepentant porn in your heart.
4. You can't receive God's sustainment when your heart is far from Him.

Read Chap 22:10-13

1. All other people should stay away from the tabernacle holy items
2. Don't give unbelievers impression that they're fit to worship God, or be a part of the church!

Read Chap 22:14-16

1. If the holy is unintentionally eaten, pay back with 20% interest
2. The physical things / items of the Church don't belong to no one, they belong to God.
  - a. If taken, that's stealing (Read Mal 3:8)
  - b. We're not obligation to make offerings to God, but once a commitment is made, we need to honor that.

**#5 – God is seen in us when we represent reverence for the offering (Chap 22:17-33)**

Read Chap 22:17-22

1. Blemished Burnt or Peace Offering – not accepted
2. Don't offer God the lazy leftovers, but the best
3. Read Mal 1:7-8

## Read Chap 22:23

1. Blemished for freewill Offering is acceptable
  - a. Freewill offerings were over and above
  - b. Can always, for the joy, offer God more!
2. But blemished offering not accepted for a vow
  - a. These marked a dedication in your life
  - b. A mark of wanting to please the Lord

## Read Chap 22:24-25

1. Must be your animal & at tabernacle
2. When David was purchasing the temple mount in Jerusalem, he was being offered it for free.
  - a. Read II Sam 24:24
  - b. You didn't really offer it to God if it belongs to someone else.

## Read Chap 22:26-33

1. Don't slack but finish the ritual right away, don't let it lay around like it's common food.
2. Should picture great value in offerings b/c it foreshadows that great value we place in Christ

## Conclusion

So do we represent a lifestyle of representing God?  
We can allow the world to see God thru us, in these ways:

1. **When we represent life, not death**
  - a. Speak life, don't dwell on the negative
  - b. Speak about the future and the great hope!
2. **When we represent closeness, not division**
  - a. Our marriages should show union, trust
  - b. It's best place to exercise all aspects of godliness.
3. **When we represent completeness, not lack**
  - a. Do our lives show our satisfaction w/ God?
4. **When we represent respect for holy things**
  - a. A corrupt heart can't receive/apply the holy
5. **When we represent reverence for the offering**
  - a. Our lives should be joyfully ready to speak of God's great offering of Jesus on our behalf!
  - b. Offer God your praise, for God loves a cheerful giver.