

COMING UP ... FEB 17 Exodus pt 6 FEB 24 Leviticus pt 1 MAR 3 Leviticus part 2 MAR 10 NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Preparation For Their God-King

- YHWH gives His people directions for the tabernacle/service (25-31)
- The people reject their God-King (32-33)
- The covenant is renewed (34)
- Yahweh's instructions are executed (35-40)
- Yahweh comes to dwell with His people (40)

God's Presence

- The tabernacle is His "palace"
- His throne is the Ark of the Covenant
- He can only be approached on His terms ...
 - Only His priests may approach Him
 - Through the sacrifices that He specifies
 - With a cleanness of mind and heart
 - And in the light of His Spirit, sustained by His Word, speaking to Him in prayer

God's Priests

- Represent the people before God
- Represent God before the people
- Chosen by YHWH to serve Him
- Chosen by YHWH to serve His people
- To serve in the fear of the Lord
- Consecrated for YHWH's service
- To serve YHWH daily

Chosen By God To Serve Him

- God chose Aaron by His sovereign grace
- Aaron's first obligation was to serve YHWH (Ex 28)
- God commanded Aaron and his sons to wear spei
 - To set them apart (Ex 28:2)
 - To teach spiritual truths to His people
 - To prevent their deaths (Ex 28:35, 43)

Picture of an Old Testament Priest

Chosen by God to Serve

- Undergarments
- White, inner robe
- Blue robe
- EPHOD**
- Belt/Sash
- JEWELED BREASTPLATE**
- White linen turban with a gold medallion



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In the Fear of the Lord

Undergarments
White, inner robe

BLUE ROBE

Ephod
Belt/Sash
Jeweled breastplate

WHITE LINEN TURBAN WITH A GOLD MEDALLION



Consecrated for His Service

Washed (29:4)
Clothed (29:5-6, 8-9)
Anointed (29:7, 21)
Forgiven (29:10-14)
Dedicated (29:15-18)
Marked (29:19-22)
Fed (29:22-28, 31-34)

To Serve God Daily

The morning routine
 A burnt offering (their complete dedication)
 A meal offering (their sustenance; strength)
 A drink offering (their lives poured out in His service)
The evening routine
 Identical to the morning

Lessons From God's Priests

God's chosen us to serve Him as His priests (John 15:16; 21:17; 1 Pet 2:5, 9)
 Our relationship with Him is highest priority
God's chosen us to serve His people (John 13:12-17; Gal 6:2)
 We bear one another's burdens in prayer
 We carry one another in our heart (Phil 1:7)
 We have God's Word to know God's will
We should serve in the fear of the Lord (Heb 12:28)
We've been consecrated for His service (1 Cor 6:11; Col 3:1-15)
 You and I have been set apart in Christ to serve
We should be available to God daily to do as He asks (Rom 12:1-2)
 Begin each day with surrender
 Finish each day with thanksgiving

How Would It Change Your Life ...

If you saw yourself as a priest ...
 tomorrow morning when you got up?
 when you went to work?
 wherever you go this week?
 whatever you do; wherever you go?

Application: How do the mature make the greatest spiritual difference?
Through intercessory prayer

The People Sin (32:1-6)

What: they made an idol of YHWH

Broke the first and second commandments

Who: Aaron (Moses' brother!)

When did he leave the mountain? (cf. 24:9, 14)

Gave the people what they asked for ... even idolatry!

Why: unbelief

Impatience leads to impulsiveness

Idolatry leads to immorality (Romans 1)

The people break and thus void God's covenant

Moses Intercedes (32:7-33:11)

Moses stands between the nation and its past sin

Refuses God's offer to start over with him (32:7-10)

Appeals to God's reputation (32:11-12)

Appeals to God's promises (32:13-13)

God relents (32:14)

Moses disciplines the people (32:15-29)

God disciplines the people (32:30-33:11)

Sends a great plague as a result of a great sin

He will not go before them to the Promised Land

His presence will move outside the camp

Moses stands between the nation and its future blessing

Moses asks for God's blessings ...

His presence to lead the nation (33:12-17)

To know Him more intimately (33:18-23)

And God grants two additional blessings ...

Forgiveness: Covenant is renewed (34:1-35)

Rest: Sabbath is the sign of rest (35:1-3)

Their Relationship Is Restored

God accepts their free-will gifts (35:4-36:7)

The Tabernacle is built (36:8-40:33)

Fellowship is restored (40:34-38)

God's presence in the "heart" of the camp

Worship is restored

His praise can again be the nation's focus

Their obedience should spring from renewed love for Him as well as His gracious forgiveness

Some Thoughts On Moses

Moses' natural reaction to disappointment, discouragement and heartbreak was fasting and prayer

Moses held God to His Word and character

The people never knew what Moses went through on their behalf on that mountain

Moses put God's reputation first. His own reputation, future place or even desire for appreciation was nowhere to be found.

How do the mature make the greatest spiritual difference?

Be engaged with a group of people.

In spite of personal disappointment and hurt, Moses didn't withdraw or abandon his people

Pray earnestly for them.

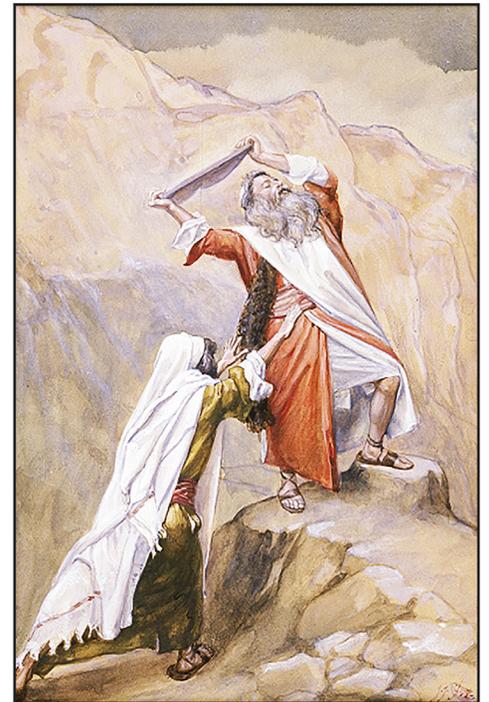
Moses' natural reaction was to pray for his people

When they sin, seek to restore their fellowship *with* God and worship to God.

There is no higher ministry on earth.



"The Golden Calf" by James Tissot



"Moses Destroyeth The Tablets Of The Ten Commandments" by James Tissot

Overview Of Exodus

Acquisition of a People Out of Egypt (1-18)

Constitution of a People as a Nation (19-24)

Preparation of a People for their God-King (25-40)

Spiritual Pictures From Exodus

Egypt – a picture of redemption

Deliverance takes an appointed Deliverer

They were redeemed ...

Through faith in God's Word

Under the blood of an unblemished sacrifice

They were "baptized" in the Red Sea

God frees people to follow Him

Spiritual Pictures

Mt. Sinai – a picture of adoption

God entered into a special covenant relationship

It was ratified by blood on an altar

It was celebrated by a covenant meal

It required their obedience for blessing

Freedom should lead to obedience

His Word and His will are freeing & fulfilling

His Word and His will lead to fruitfulness

His Word and His will protect their fellowship

The desert sojourn – a picture of fellowship

Fellowship & worship must be done God's way

The Tabernacle, acceptable sacrifices, a holy priesthood

Fellowship, not relationship, can be broken through sin; God withdraws when grieved

Fellowship can be restored through repentance, a holy intercessor and God's gracious character

Obedience protects fellowship and facilitates true worship

FOR NEXT TIME: _____

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