

Leviticus 9

Verses 1-7

Now it came about on the eighth day that Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel; ² and he said to Aaron, “Take for yourself a calf, a bull, for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering, *both* without defect, and offer *them* before the Lord. ³ Then you shall speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘Take a male goat as a sin offering, and a calf and a lamb, both one year old, without defect, as a burnt offering, ⁴ and an ox and a ram for peace offerings, to sacrifice before the Lord, and a grain offering mixed with oil; for today the Lord will appear to you.’” ⁵ So they took what Moses had commanded to the front of the tent of meeting, and the whole congregation came near and stood before the Lord. ⁶ Moses said, “This is the thing which the Lord has commanded you to do, that the glory of the Lord may appear to you.” ⁷ Moses then said to Aaron, “Come near to the altar and offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, that you may make atonement for yourself and for the people; then make the offering for the people, that you may make atonement for them, just as the Lord has commanded.”

Now it came about on the eighth day that Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel;

It took a week to consecrate the priests, so this is the day after their ordination. The nation of Israel now had a priesthood that was authorized by God to offer sacrifices for the people.

² and he said to Aaron, “Take for yourself a calf, a bull, for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering, *both* without defect, and offer *them* before the Lord.

A calf can be a young bull or a young cow, so they are told to use a bull. This offering of a bull and a ram was for Aaron. There will be a separate offering for the 2.5 million people of Israel.

Since the first offering was for Aaron only (yourself) then the other offering must have been for everyone one else which included Moses, Aaron’s sons, the 70 elders and the 2.5 million people.

³ Then you shall speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘Take a male goat as a sin offering, and a calf and a lamb, both one year old, without defect, as a burnt offering, ⁴ and an ox and a ram for peace offerings, to sacrifice before the Lord, and a grain offering mixed with oil; for today the Lord will appear to you.’”

That covers every animal that can be used for a sacrifice except for the two birds. However, the pigeon and the dove were for the very poor in Israel and this is a sacrifice for the entire nation.

An ox is a castrated bull that is used for work whereas a bull is used for breeding.

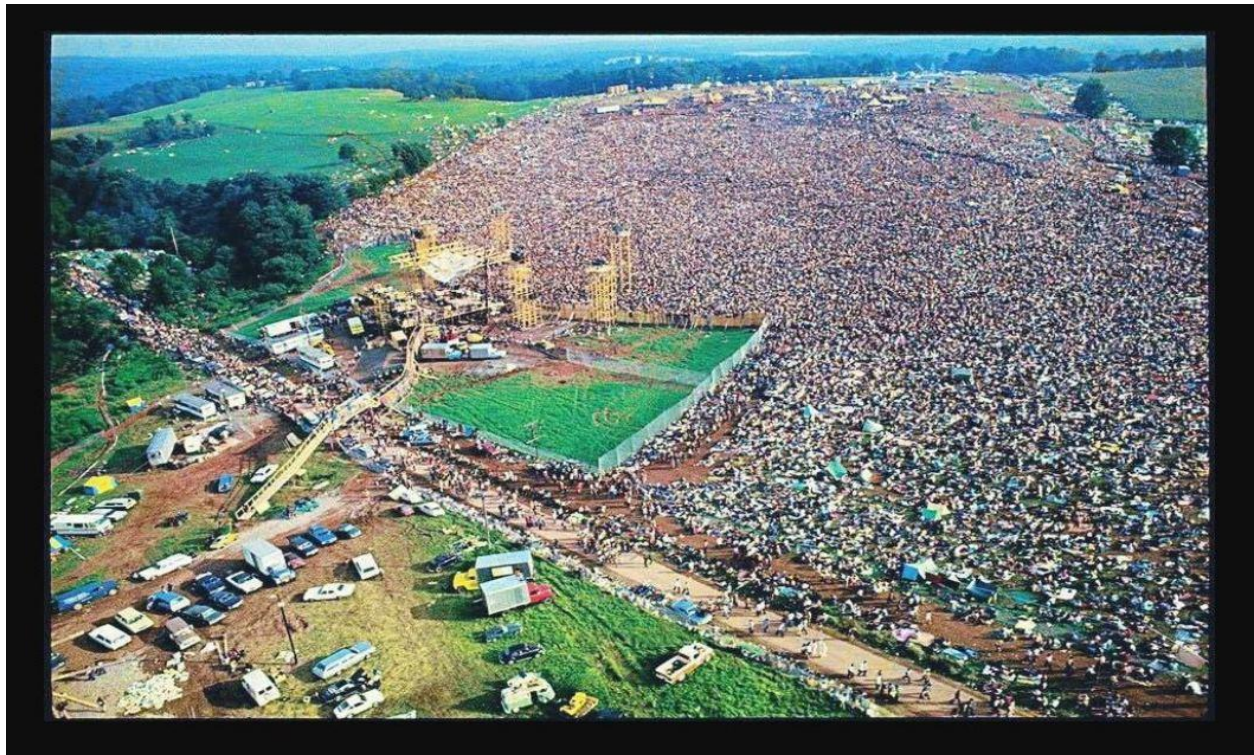
For today the Lord will appear to you.

God’s grace was displayed in many and various ways in the O.T.

⁵ So they took what Moses had commanded to the front of the tent of meeting, and the whole congregation came near and stood before the Lord.

A group of 2.5 million people would have been spread out over a very large area.

See pic 905



This is a crowd of 400,000 at Woodstock in 1969. Israel was 6 times this size.

⁶ Moses said, “This is the thing which the Lord has commanded you to do, that the glory of the Lord may appear to you.”

All of Israel had to be forgiven before they could see the glory of the Lord.

⁷ Moses then said to Aaron, “Come near to the altar and offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, that you may make atonement for yourself and for the people; then make the offering for the people, that you may make atonement for them, just as the Lord has commanded.”

It is interesting that the phrase “for himself” is used 4 times in verses 1 thru 8. For Aaron to make atonement for the people he had to be without sin so his offering was made first.

In the same way Christ had to be without sin in order to make atonement for mankind. For those who reject the truth that Christ was God (and only God is without sin) they make His sacrifice useless.

Verses 8 -11

⁸ So Aaron came near to the altar and slaughtered the calf of the sin offering which was for himself. ⁹ Aaron’s sons presented the blood to him; and he dipped his finger in the blood and put *some* on the horns of the altar, and poured out *the rest of the blood* at the base of the altar. ¹⁰ The fat and the kidneys and the lobe of the liver of the sin offering, he then offered up in smoke on the altar just as the Lord had commanded Moses. ¹¹ The flesh and the skin, however, he burned with fire outside the camp.

⁸ So Aaron came near to the altar and slaughtered the calf of the sin offering which was for himself.

Even though Aaron had just gone through the ordination process where daily sacrifices were made on his behalf for 7 days, he still needed a sin offering on the 8th day.

Here again we have the phrase “for himself”. It seems that Moses wanted to make it clear that the first sacrifice was only for Aaron. Aaron’s sons and the 70 elders were included with the rest of the community.

In verses 9 thru 11 Aaron followed the rules set by God for a sin offering.

Verses 12 - 14

¹² **Then he slaughtered the burnt offering;** and Aaron's sons handed the blood to him and he sprinkled it around on the altar. ¹³ They handed the burnt offering to him in pieces, with the head, and he offered *them* up in smoke on the altar. ¹⁴ He also washed the entrails and the legs, and offered *them* up in smoke with the burnt offering on the altar.

With all of these offering and more to come one might wonder how all of these sacrifices could be burned on the altar. This problem will be resolved in a very unique way. Remember this when we get to verse 24.

Verses 15 - 17

¹⁵ **Then he presented the people's offering,** and took **the goat of the sin offering** which was for the people, and slaughtered it and offered it for sin, like the first. ¹⁶ He also presented **the burnt offering,** and offered it according to the ordinance. ¹⁷ Next he presented **the grain offering,** and filled his hand with some of it and offered *it* up in smoke on the altar, besides the burnt offering of the morning.

All the people needed forgiveness for their sins before God would appear before them.

All of these offerings were in addition to the morning and evening sacrifices which were offered daily.

Verses 18-21

¹⁸ Then he slaughtered the ox and the ram, the sacrifice of **peace offerings** which was for the people; and **Aaron's sons handed the blood to him** and he sprinkled it around on the altar. ¹⁹ As for the portions of fat from the ox and from the ram, the fat tail, and the *fat* covering, and the kidneys and the lobe of the liver, ²⁰ they now placed the portions of fat on the breasts; and he offered them up in smoke on the altar. ²¹ But the breasts and the right thigh Aaron presented **as a wave offering** before the Lord, **just as Moses had commanded.**

This was day 1 of the new priesthood and Aaron and his sons are now in charge of all the sacrifices.

God had delivered all the priestly instructions to Moses, who then passed them on to Aaron and his sons. And Aaron and his sons followed all of the instructions just as Moses had commanded them to do.

Verses 22 - 24

²² Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. ²³ Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. ²⁴ Then fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw *it*, they shouted and fell on their faces.

²² Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings.

See Numbers 6:22 - 27

²² Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²³ “Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, ‘In this way you shall bless the sons of Israel. You are to say to them:

²⁴ The Lord bless you, and keep you;

²⁵ The Lord cause His face to shine on you,
And be gracious to you;

²⁶ The Lord lift up His face to you,
And give you peace.’

²⁷ So they shall invoke My name on the sons of Israel, and *then* I will bless them.”

²³ Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people.

The sacrifices were offered in the court of the tabernacle. Then Moses and Aaron went into the Tabernacle. For Moses, this was his last time to enter.

It would be nice to have a little more detail about what they saw.

Nevertheless, this was an important time in their lives and this event should have been remembered for a very long time. However, this was not the first amazing miracle they had seen nor would it be the last. But in spite of all the miracles they had seen, very soon they will be given a chance to enter Canaan and they will not trust God enough to enter the land.

²⁴ **Then fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.**

The sacrifices, which were slowly burning on the altar, were suddenly consumed by fire from the Lord. Even though the crowd was spread out for a long distance, they could still easily see the fire descending from heaven.

This was a sign that God had accepted their sacrifice. But it was more than that because Israel also needed to appreciate the Priesthood and the sacrificial system that God had given them. This miracle was given to help impress this on the people.