

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God tells the priests how to manage the people's worship so that God would receive it as acceptable.

Sermon Point: *Pastors Must Lead Good Housekeeping.*

Move 1: *Your worship in God's house must be acceptable to Him.*

"all the children/house of Israel" addressed (vs. 17). Must offer acceptable" service to God to be "accepted" by God: vss. 20, 21, 23, 25, 27. Must focus on God and what He wants, the way He wants it: "offerings" are "unto/for the Lord" vss. 19, 21, 22, 24, 27, 29, 30. Directions are from the LORD: vss. 17, 26, 30-33. *Right way outwardly*: perfect [sound, complete], without blemish [no defect]: vss. 19-22, 24, 25, 32. *Right way inwardly*: "vows/freewill/own will": vss. 18, 19, 21, 23, 29. Reviewing the free will offerings of chs. 1-5 (provided/prepared by people for priests to present). Defective=defiling. READ Malachi 1:10-14. You are *all* priests: Ex. 19:6; 1 Pet. 2:5; Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 15:4.

Move 2: *Your pastor's job is to manage your worship to ensure it is acceptable in God's house.*

Priests held responsible to either present or reject what a person offers to the Lord: vss. 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31-32. He is the manager of acceptable worship acts and to endeavor to ensure quality control of a reverent attitude. READ Malachi 1:6-9. So the pastor's job is to require alert reverence in the worship service. Proper call of a preacher: *Don't Disrespect God in His Own House* (WLC 151:2; 1 Sam. 2:25). Rom. 12:1-2. Rom. 15:15-16: ... *brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God, That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost*. Sermon on WLC Q&A 158: Greek of underlined are priestly, Levitical, Tabernacle words. Calvin: priestly work of pastors (see also Isa. 66:21; Heb. 5:1-6, 8:2; 1 Cor. 9:13-14).

Move 3: *Jesus the Perfect Priest makes your worship truly acceptable in His Father's house.*

High Priest represented in Ex. 28: breastplate w/ tribes of Israel, and golden crown: "Holiness to the Lord". The perfect priest to perfectly offer (Heb. 4:15); *and* the perfect offering. Heb. 9:12-14, 26: ... offered himself without spot to God ... to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. This makes you and your worship without spot/blemish before God: Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Pet. 1:18-20, 2:5) *Wherefore ... let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.* (Heb. 12:28-29) Ps 110:4: *Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness ...*

Conclusion:

Pastors Must Lead Good Housekeeping.