

- What part of Jesus work are we enjoying when we are sharing communion with Him?

The Importance of Daily Practice

- When you fail... (Only Jesus can wash you clean)
- Draw Near... (Jesus makes us smell right! Pray & Obey)
- Born for Joy... (Communion & Bold Mission)

Drawing Near to God through Jesus is not only the Key to Our Mission but He is it's Ultimate End!

In the Wilderness: The Book of Numbers

With God: Introduction to Numbers (Part 2) - Leviticus-Numbers

Sermon Outline – April 5, 2015

Children's Sermon/Introduction

God's Provides a Way for Us...

We Come Up with Our Own Way...

Leviticus 9:22–10:2

Then **Aaron**... came down from offering the *sin offering* and the *burnt offering* and the *peace offerings*. ...and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. ²⁴ And *fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar*, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

¹ Now **Nadab and Abihu**, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and *offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, which he had not commanded them*. ² And *fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord*.

Follow-up... (Lev. 8-10 Theological Narrative; A Story to Teach Us about God)

Leviticus 10:3

Among those who are near me *I will be sanctified* (treated as holy or special), and before all the people *I will be glorified*. (treated as most important)...

With God

BIG PICTURE

JOHN 5:46

IF YOU BELIEVED MOSES, YOU WOULD BELIEVE ME, FOR HE WROTE OF ME.

LEVITICUS: A GOD WHO PROVIDES A WAY TO DRAW NEAR TO HIM

NUMBERS: A GOD WHO PREPARES US FOR THE BATTLE TO ENTER THE LAND

God Gave Us the Way to Draw Near to Him

John 14:6

⁶ Jesus said..., "*I am the way*, and the truth, and the life. *No one comes to the Father except through me*."

Key Idea:

Jesus makes a way for us to draw near to God (for blessing) by being two things for us and doing three things to us.

What Jesus *is* for Us

1. **Offerings** – Lev. 1-5... (Sin-Cleansing, Burnt-Consecration, Peace-Communion)
2. **High Priest/Priest** – Lev. 6-7 (Preparing, Eating)

Lev. 8-10 – Priests... Sacrifice... Blessing vs. Unauthorized... Curse

What Jesus (i.e. Offerings/Priests) Does to Us

1. **Cleansing** – Lev. 11-15 (Separate – Sacrifice; High Priest)
2. **Consecration** – Lev. 16-22
 - Day of Atonement (16; Sacrifice; High Priest)
 - Do no Harm/Love

Leviticus 19:18

¹⁸ You shall *not* take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but *you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.*

3. **Communion** – Lev. 23-27 (Feasting – Sacrifice; High Priest)
 - Spring Feasts (Passover/Unleavened bread, Firstfruits, Weeks)
 - Fall Days/Feast (Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Booths)

Responding to Jesus & His Work for Us

Covenant Love

- Blessings & Curses (26)
- Vows; Whole-Hearted Dedication (27)

Numbers (In the Wilderness): God Prepares Us for the Battle to Enter the Promised Land

Key Idea:

Knowing/Trusting God is with us is the key to winning the battle.

A Tale of Two Generations

...it will be helpful to break the book into three constituent parts: **Orientation** (1:1–10:10), **Disorientation** (10:11–22:1), and **New Orientation** (22:1–36:13). The travel sections (10:11–12:16; 20:1–22:1) are transitional. (Mark-up mine)¹

¹ Ashley, T. R. (1993). *The Book of Numbers* (p. 8). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Joshua 1:5–9

⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. ***I will not leave you or forsake you.*** ⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

What Do We Learn from All This?

1 Corinthians 10:1–5

¹ For ***I do not want you to be unaware, brothers,*** that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Key Point:

Jesus is our great high priest, who offers himself as the perfect lamb in order to 1) wash us from sins corruption; 2) to change us into the likeness of Christ; and 3) to connect us to the joy filled life of the Triune God.

Drawing Near to God through Jesus
is the Key to Our Mission

The Importance of Public Worship (See this weeks Bulletin)

- Who calls us to worship each week?
- What part of Jesus work do we remember when we are confessing our sins?
- What part of Jesus work is happening when we are listening to the sermon?