

The Work of A Priest

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Leviticus 8.

B. Leviticus calls the church back to the principle of the priesthood of believers.

II. Moses sought out to establish a priesthood.

A. God called Aaron to be the great high priest becoming a type of Jesus Christ.

1. The ministry of the high priest was always to be a ministry of the Holy Spirit.

2. This is pictured by the anointing with oil by Moses.

3. Our own ministry is pictured by the ministry of Aaron's sons, for which provision is made...

a. The coat pictures the righteousness that God clothes us with--the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

b. The girdle looks to meeting the needs of others with disregard for oneself.

c. The cap of the priest pictures the mind under control of the Lord Jesus Christ--we are to look at life as Jesus sees it.

III. The sacrifices.

A. The sin offering is God's continual reminder to us that the basic problem of human nature is the fallen self. The basic problem of human nature must be dealt with through trust in the Spirit of God through the cross of Christ.

B. The burnt offering is a picture of the life fully available to God. This is the way fulfillment is achieved.

C. The offering of ordination demonstrates that the only thing of any value is a life redeemed by the blood of Christ.

D. The meal offering is a type of the human response telling God that one is ready to be used by Him.

IV. The only basis that one can minister to others is based on his own forgiveness and the Spirit's working.

V. In the human body, the believer is to feed on the life of Jesus Christ.

A. The process of feeding and waiting is what strengthens the believer.

B. We need each other as priests, and we must be willing to take up the challenge.

C. The ministry of the high priest to the believer is all it takes to equip him for ministry.

Application questions:

1. What are some examples of activities that picture the ministry of a “priest” in the church today?

2. Which sacrifice finds particular meaning in your heart today? Why?

3. How does one equip himself for ministry to others? What does this look like practically?
