



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE LEVITICUS 8:1-13 ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS— September 5, 2021

INTRODUCTION:

The Book of Exodus ends with the construction of the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-40), and Leviticus 1-7 provides a manual for sacrifice in the tabernacle. Leviticus 8 is the beginning of a time of celebration for the nation of Israel – God’s people. Up to this point God has chosen them (Gen 12), freed them (Exo. 12), fought for them (Ex. 14), and taught them how to be His people (Ex. 25-40, Lev 1-7). Now, this 8th chapter records the installation of the priesthood. This chapter describes the rite of priestly ordination as a fulfillment of the commands given in Exodus 28-29.

"Ordination" means the action of ordaining or conferring holy orders on someone. To be ordained means that you are authorized to function in a ministerial capacity. Therefore, ordination is the open ceremony authorizing a minister to function in a ministerial capacity.

LESSON: I. CALLED BY THE LORD LEVITICUS 8:1-4

8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,— The Lord speaks only to Moses.

8:2 Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, and a bullock for the sin offering, and two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread;— Though all the men of the Tribe of Levi were dedicated for service to God, only Aaron’s descendants were called and chosen by God to be priests. They alone had the honor and responsibility of performing the sacrifices. **FIRST ACTION: Moses was to take Aaron and his sons with him, the garments, the anointing oil, a bullock for the sin offering, two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread.** The elements of cleansing, anointing, and sacrifice were arranged. That meant they would have to cleanse and dedicate themselves before even coming before the Lord. Like in our day, we can’t come before God any kind of way. Aaron and his sons couldn’t help the people or even show the people how to consecrate themselves before God unless they were consecrated first. So, consecration unto the Lord was a big part of their lives to get them ready for priesthood, and so it is today. The calling was on their lives for service unto God before the garments were prepared, and before the oil was poured, and the sacrifice slain. As we study this Book of Leviticus, the major focus is **“Sacrifice, Priest, and Place of Worship.”** Chapters 8-10 pertain to Priesthood, but Sacrifice is the foundation of it all. This speaks of the Cross of Christ. The sinner needs a Sacrifice, the worshipper needs a Priest. And Christ is both. All of these things mentioned point to Christ and Christ alone.

8:3 And gather thou all the congregation together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. **SECOND ACTION: Moses was commanded to gather all the congregation at the door of the tabernacle.** That meant that all Israel were to be assembled to watch. This was done publicly for all to see.

8:4 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him; and the assembly was gathered together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. The absolute command of the Lord was followed by Moses. The assembly was gathered at the door of the Tabernacle of the Congregation, for Moses needed the people to see and understand what the Lord had commanded for them. This would not be what Moses designed, but what God designed. They were called by God, not by man.

II. PREPARED BY THE LORD LEVITICUS 8:5-9

8:5 And Moses said unto the congregation, This is the thing which the LORD commanded to be done.



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

Now it's time to learn.

POINT:

A High Priest was someone selected from among men (thus able to sympathize with man) who is appointed by God to represent man in matters relating to God and who serves as mediator, offering sacrifices in the Most Holy Place to atone for sins....

8:6 And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. THIRD ACTION: Moses brings Aaron and his sons and washed them with water. This was a ceremonial washing and indicated the preliminary removal from Aaron and his sons of the taint of earthiness. ¹The symbolism in this case, therefore, points to cleansing from the defilement of sin as a fundamental condition of priesthood. Water is used for purification. They were coming into the presence of the Holy One, the One Who was not of this earth. Nothing earthy must cling to them. This gets them ready for priestly duty. Our cleansing comes from the shed blood of Jesus on the cross once and for all as we accept Him by faith.

8:7 And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith. FOURTH ACTION: Moses clothed Aaron with the priestly garments— the coat, the girdle, the robe, and the ephod.

- **The coat** was the basic under garment covering of the priest, made of all blue, and seamless and untornd for the head opening.
- **The "Curious Girdle"** was a sash tied around the waist made from the same material as the ephod.
 - It speaks of preparation for service. It's shown when (Jesus) "He took a towel and girded Himself" Jn.13:4.
 - It speaks to us of maturity.
 - It represents the Feast of Tabernacles when He habitates and fills His temple.
- **The robe** was the outer garment worn over the coat.
- **The ephod** was essentially an ornate apron-like garment, made of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, the same as the four colors in the Tabernacle curtains.

8:8 And he put the breastplate upon him: also he put in the breastplate the Urim and the Thummim.

- **The breastplate** was about 10 inches square, set in four rows of three stones each of gold, blue purple, scarlet (12 precious stones), upon fine linen, double opened at the top fastened with gold chains to the Ephod, each stone bearing the name of the one of the 12 tribes signifying the love of God. The purpose in wearing the breastplate, so the High Priest would bear the names of the sons of Israel . . . over his heart.
- **The Urim and the Thummim** were two small stones inside the breastplate of the High Priest which were cast as "lots" to determine guilt or innocence.

8:9 And he put the mitre upon his head; also upon the mitre, even upon his forefront, did he put the golden plate, the holy crown; as the LORD commanded Moses.

- **The mitre or turban** was a simple wound linen headpiece; and its engraving on the head more important was its gold plate with the inscription "Holiness to the Lord" which speaks of the renewing of the mind and the sealing of the saints.
- **The golden plate, the holy crown** was the headdress for ordination or denoting high position worn by the High Priest. It was a gold plate attached with blue lace. The royal crown was of gold and was often studded with gems. All was placed upon Aaron, preparing him to come before the Lord.

¹ <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/expositors/leviticus/8.htm>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>



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III. ORDAINED BY THE LORD LEVITICUS 8:10-13

8:10 And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them. Many times in scripture, anointing is a ceremonial "setting apart." **FIFTH ACTION:** Moses anoints the tabernacle and all that was in it. God had commanded Moses to anoint the tabernacle and its utensils with oil (Exodus 30:22-33), to set apart items for holy use. Whatever the priest touched was set aside as holy, for God's use.

8:11 And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them. **SIXTH ACTION:** Moses sprinkled oil seven times anointing the altar and all its utensils, the laver, and its base to consecrate them; set them apart for use. The number seven speaks of completion.

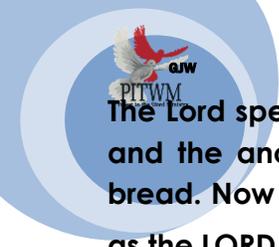
8:12 And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him. The "oil" is a picture of the Holy Spirit, and the word "anoint" means to pour and to smear into. So, anointing for ordination with oil represents the Holy Spirit being poured out and smeared onto God's vessel, dedicating, and setting them apart to a specific task. **SEVENTH ACTION:** Moses poured the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, setting him apart to be High Priest. The High Priest had special duties that no other priest had. He alone could enter the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle on the Day of Atonement to atone the sins of the nation. Therefore, he oversaw the other priests, who also had to be cleansed and be dedicated before they could help the people do the same. There were only three groups of people who were commonly anointed in the Old Testament: **Priests, Prophets, and Kings.** Jesus filled each of these positions. And because He did, He is HaMeshiah - the "Anointed One." He is our High Priest forever (Hebrews 7:26-28). He was foretold by the prophets of Old Testament that Jesus "The Anointed One" would come. Every believer has an anointing (1 John 2:20) that they may receive and walk in by faith and is sanctified by God.

8:13 And Moses brought Aaron's sons, and put coats upon them, and girded them with girdles, and put bonnets upon them; as the LORD commanded Moses. After Aaron's sons are ceremonially consecrated (set-apart) for the holy priesthood, **EIGHTH ACTION:** Moses now changes Aaron's sons into new clothes, each with a coat (*undertunic*), girded each with a girdle (*belt; sash*), and placed a bonnet (*a headdress; mitre; turban; headband*) upon each as the Lord commanded.

In this ceremony Moses had washed the priests, changed them into new clothes, anointed them with oil, blood sacrifices on the bronze altar – all for 7 days. On the 8th day, you could feel the excitement, the anticipation, the expectation. If they had done everything right, the glory of the Lord would fall and consume these final sacrifices made on the 8th day on behalf of the Priests, since they too were sinners before God. Sure enough, the glory of the Lord in the form of fire fell from heaven, consumed the sacrifices made on the altar, and the people responded, shouted, and fell on their faces.

And as we are in Leviticus 8, the number 8 signifies "New Beginnings." This is new beginnings for Aaron and his sons for they were called publicly (consecrated; sanctified), prepared (cleansed and clothed), ordained (anointed with oil) (Exodus 28:41) for priestly service unto the Lord.

SUMMARY:



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

The Lord speaks only to Moses and tells him to take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, a bullock for the sin offering, and two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread. Now Moses was to gather all the congregation at the door of the tabernacle. And Moses did as the LORD commanded him **(8:1-4)**.

He lets the congregation know, that the thing he's doing is at the LORD's command. Here, God commanded Moses to ceremonially consecrate (set-apart) Aaron and his sons for the holy priesthood. And Moses brought Aaron and his sons and washed them with water. He put upon Aaron the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, put the ephod upon him, and girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him. Then he put the breastplate upon him: and put the Urim and the Thummim inside the breastplate. Moses then put the mitre (turban) upon Aaron's head; also, upon the mitre, even upon his forefront, he put the golden plate, the holy crown, as the LORD commanded. **(8:5-9)**.

Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them. He sprinkled oil seven times anointing the altar and all its utensils, the laver, and its base to consecrate them; set them apart for use. Moses poured the anointing oil upon Aaron's head setting him apart to be High Priest. After Aaron's sons are ceremonially consecrated (set-apart) for the holy priesthood, Moses now changes Aaron's sons into new clothes, each with a coat (*undertunic*), girded each with a girdle (*belt; sash*), and placed a bonnet (*a headdress; mitre; turban; headband*) upon each as the Lord commanded **(8:10-13)**.

APPLICATION:

While Aaron is a picture of our great High Priest (Jesus Christ), his sons represent every believer in Jesus Christ, assembled with Christ and serving also as priests. In other words, everyone who knows Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior represents as priest to the other members of the human family, both to the world at large and to the rest of the body of Christ.

If we would consecrate ourselves unto the Lord, we begin to set ourselves apart unto Him as we consecrate our babies in prayer when they are born. There is also a time to consecrate ourselves through prayer and fasting as to God's direction of service! Is your all laid on the altar?

Every morning we present ourselves afresh to the Lord and ask His for blessing that we may discern His Will for us; therefore, it is a constant surrender of self-will and a daily waving of our offering before the Lord. It is not to be a grievous matter with us, but rather our daily delight as we fall on our faces unto Him.