

Sunday, July 23, 2023 Dr. Landon Dowden

SET APART TO SERVE Exodus 28-30; 39

Passage in a Sentence: The priests of the tabernacle were called, cleansed, and consecrated to serve the Lord and, in Christ, the same is true for us.

THE PREREQUISITES FOR THE PRIESTS

- They had to be called.
- They had to be cleansed.
- They had to be clothed.
- They had to be consecrated.
 - Confession/Cleansing from sin
 - Commitment
 - Communion
- They were to continue their responsibilities daily.

THE PURPOSE FOR PRIESTS

- What was their main role? They were to help Israel worship God rightly.
 - o To help facilitate Exodus 29:42-46 God dwelling with His people.
 - The priests were the mediators.
 - To serve and guard
 - The priests offered sacrifices, prayers, and praises to God on behalf of the people.
 - They guarded the tabernacle (Numbers 3:7-8; 8:25-26).

THE PROBLEMS WITH PRIESTS

- Sinful, selfish, slothful
 - Aaron's sons (Leviticus 10:1-2)
 - Eli's sons (1 Samuel 2:12)
 - Priests in Ezekiel's day (Ezekiel 34)

OUR PERFECT HIGH PRIEST

- What does it mean for Christ to be our High Priest?
 - o Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice, and He intercedes for His people,
 - o Jesus continually brings us near to God (Hebrews 6:19-20; 10:19-22).
 - Jesus continually prays for us (Hebrews 7:25; 8:6)
 - Jesus was tempted and can help us (Hebrews 2:17-18).

- Jones: As an exalted priest, He has the capacity to sympathize with His people in a manner that goes beyond our comprehension, since His sufferings and temptations were of a far greater degree than that which we experience.
- o Jesus is our High Priest forever.

OUR PARTICIPATION AS PRIESTS (1 Peter 2:5,9)

- We've been called.
- We've been cleansed.
- We've been clothed (Galatians 3:27; Isaiah 61:10).
- We've been anointed.
- We've been consecrated/commissioned.
- We are to be fully committed.
- We have communion with God and fellow believers.