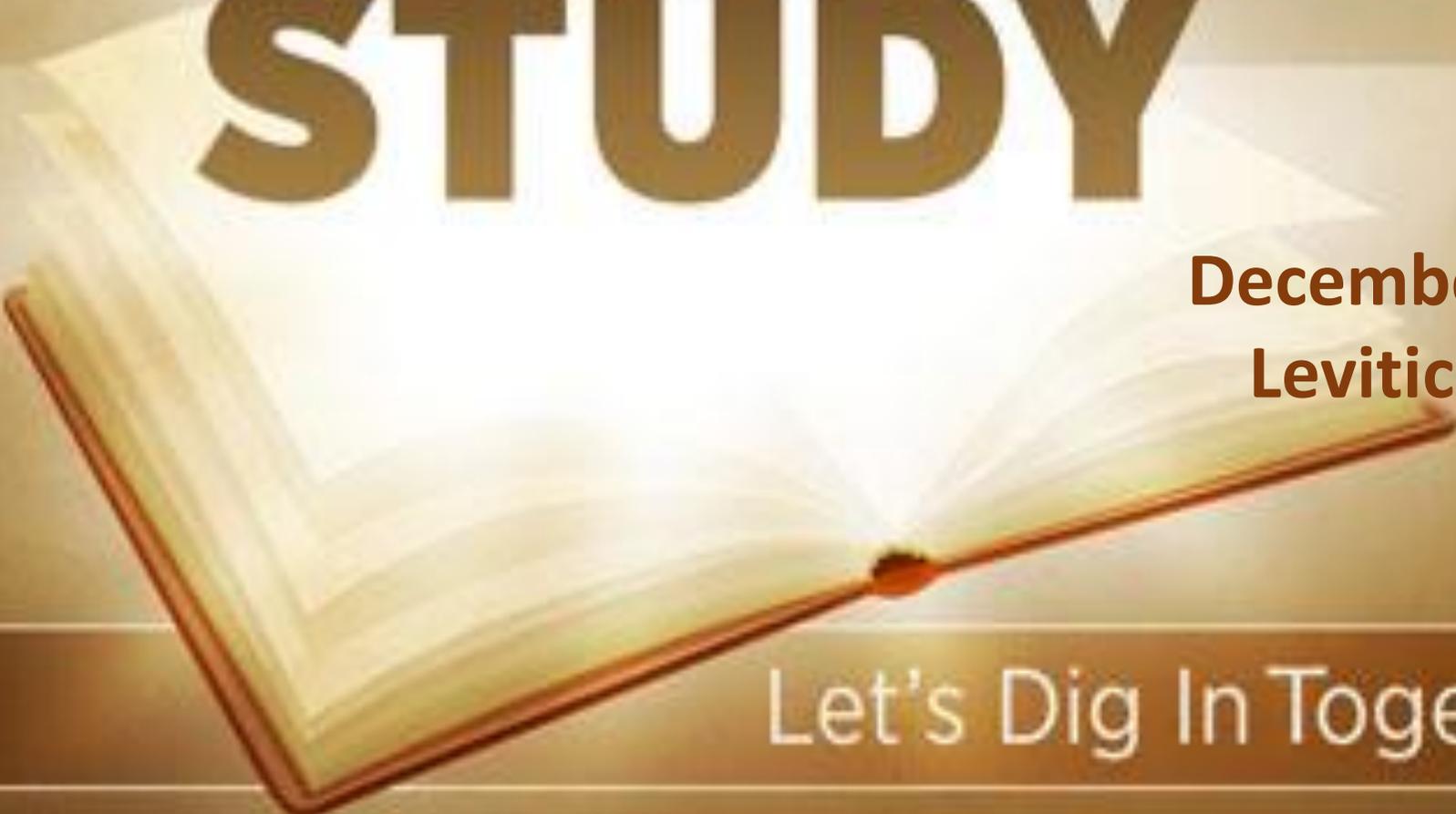


BIBLE STUDY



**December 1, 2021
Leviticus 8:1-9**

Let's Dig In Together



Ordination of Priests
A Call to Service

Leviticus 8:1-9 ¹The LORD said to Moses,

²"Bring Aaron and his sons, their garments, the anointing oil, the bull for the sin offering, the two rams and the basket containing bread made without yeast,
³and gather the entire assembly at the entrance to the tent of meeting."

⁴Moses did as the LORD commanded him, and the assembly gathered at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

⁵Moses said to the assembly, "This is what the LORD has commanded to be done."

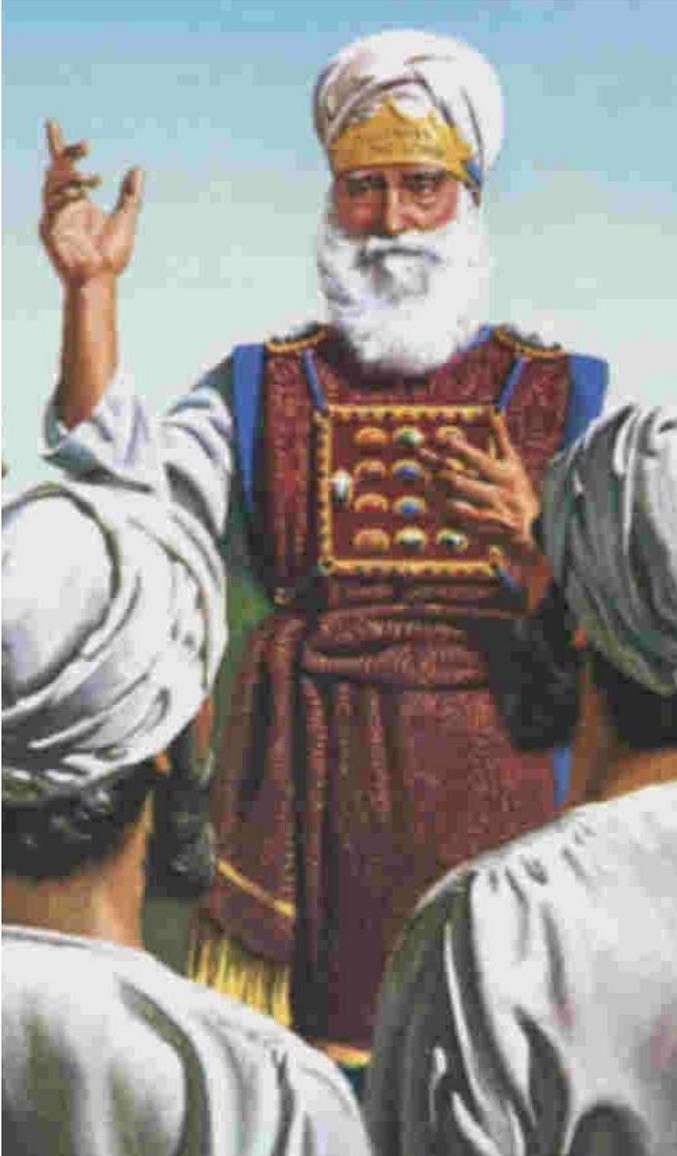
- **⁶Then Moses brought Aaron and his sons forward and washed them with water.**
- **⁷He put the tunic on Aaron, tied the sash around him, clothed him with the robe and put the ephod on him. He also fastened the ephod with a decorative waistband, which he tied around him.**
- **⁸He placed the breast piece on him and put the Urim and Thummim in the breastplate.**
- **⁹Then he placed the turban on Aaron's head and set the gold plate, the sacred emblem, on the front of it, as the LORD commanded Moses.**



Why the Need for a Priest?

- He knows that we don't understand ourselves.
- He knows that we need help with the emotional and intellectual problems aroused by the sin and struggle in his life.
- The basic reason we need a priest is that none of us can see ourselves.
- We see each other better than we see ourselves. God is always trying to teach us this -- even by our physical experience.

- **For instance, you know that you can't look at your own face. By yourself you can't tell the color of your eyes nor the shape of your nose. You have no idea what your face really looks like -- without a mirror.**
- **A priest is a mirror, another human being standing before us by which we can see a reflection of what we are like.**
- **We don't even understand the problems we need to have solved without that kind of help. And God knowing that, and having designed us that way, has given us a priesthood which is particularly skilled and adept at meeting those needs.**



- You can see from this that the priests were, in a sense, the psychiatrists of the Old Testament.
- They were the ones to whom people came when they had emotional problems -- hang-ups, we call them today.
- Priests were skilled at handling problems of guilt and fear and anxiety and hostility, and all the traumas and neuroses and psychoses which can arise out of these.

- **Priests were not merely conducting religious performances.**
- **They were fulfilling the tremendous need of the people for help with their problems.**
- **And this is what the priesthood will do for us as we see what it means in our own lives.**

- **Word Study: Priest**
- **The English word "priest" is derived from the Latin *presbyter*, elder**

Word family: Priest, High priest, priesthood.

- **Synonyms:** Mediator, intercessor, pastor
- **Related ideas:** Christ, sacrifice, worship, preaching.
- **Definitions:** A priest is person sanctified for service to God and privileged to enter into his presence in the holy place, and to offer sacrifices. In the Christian priesthood however, Christ alone made sacrifice for sins.

Function(s) of a Priest

- **The primary function of a priest is to assist people in accessing God so there can be *union* with Him.**
- **The priest does this through being a mediator between God and men and through being a teacher of a way of life that improves upon the reconciliation established at the beginning of the relationship.**
- **A mediator reconciles or brings together. In this case, a priest brings together God and men, and his secondary activity is teaching.**

We see a two-step function:

- **1) to accomplish unity with God, or oneness, and**
- **2) to improve the relationship by teaching.**
- **A priest not only reconciled, but he also counseled Israel so that she could get through the trials of life.**

Lesson Aims for our study of Leviticus 8

- **We will see ourselves**
- **We will understand why we need a priest**
- **We will know that Jesus Christ is our High Priest**