

Sermon Handout
Holiness and Obedience
Leviticus 10:1-20

- I. Fire from the Lord** vv. 1-2
- a. “Strange” fire in the incense censer (not taken from the altar) v. 1
 - b. Fire strikes Nadab and Abihu dead v. 2
 - c. Contrast with 9:24
 - i. Fire consumes the sacrifice (God’s blessing)
 - ii. The people shout for joy and worship
 - iii. Fire kills the two sons (God’s judgment)
 - iv. Aaron is silent v. 3
 - v. God is a consuming fire *cf.* Heb 12:18-29
- II. Moses explains** vv. 3-7
- a. God’s holiness must attach to those who approach him
 - b. God’s glory must shine out to his people
 - c. The bodies are carried out by the cousins vv. 4-5
 - d. Aaron, Eleazar, Ithamar are not to mourn lest they die v. 6
 - e. The priests are to remain at the tabernacle lest they die v. 7 *cf.* 8:33-36
- III. God speaks directly to Aaron** vv. 8-11
- a. His duty – teach the people about holiness (statutes of the Lord)
 - b. Joy & judgment are juxtaposed
- IV. Consecrated food given to the priests** vv. 12-15
- a. Tribute offering (grain) vv. 12-13 *cf.* 6:14-18; 9:17
 - b. Peace offering (flesh) vv. 14-15 *cf.* 7:11-15, 30-34; 9:18
- V. Moses’ anger at the priests** vv. 16-20
- a. Goat of the sin offering, burned not eaten vv. 16-18 *cf.* 9:15-16
 - b. Aaron’s defense v. 19
 - c. Moses is satisfied v. 20
- VI. Lessons for the Church**
- a. To whom much is given, much is required v. 3 *cf.* Lk 12:48
 - b. High standards for spiritual leaders vv. 9, 19 *cf.* I Tim 3:3, 8
 - c. Those who serve as spiritual leaders are entitled to their support vv. 17-18
cf. I Cor 9:11-14; I Tim 5:17-18 (quoting Dt 25:4)