

Announcements

- Registration is now open to sign up for the Winter Training in Anaheim. Please sign up with the bookroom.
- A church van will drive to Anaheim for the winter training. The cost will be \$100 to cover gas and leave on Saturday (12/22). If the saints stay in close proximity to the Ministry Conference Center, we can help shuttle to and from the training meetings back to hospitality.
- Please return the service signup sheet to the box on the counter. Additional sheets on the counter.
- Parents for children in grades 3-6 need to take their children to their classroom to sign them in. Also please be mindful to quickly pick up your children after the meeting finishes.
- We will cover week 20 in the HWMR in Leviticus; copies are available in the bookroom.
- We are reading messages 13 and 14 from the Life-Study of Numbers. The reading schedule is on the table and posted on the church website.
- The Wednesday night ministry meeting webcast will 7:30 pm at the following locations:
 - Smith - South Bellevue, (206) 914-3447, in English
 - Chang - Overlake, (425) 830-3900, in Korean
 - Wang - South Bellevue, (425) 653-2249, in Chinese
 - Lu - Kirkland, (206) 696-2543, in Chinese
 - Miyake – Central Bellevue, (425) 451-7294, in English

Burdens for Prayer

- England Training Center
- Germany
- Meeting hall modifications (parking)

This Week: October 29– November 4		
Morning Revival: <i>Crystallization-study of Leviticus, week 20</i>		
Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Young People Upstairs – Central Bellevue		
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Prayer meeting
Saturday	8:30am	Breakfast
Lord's Day	9:30 am	Lord's Table
November		
2-4	Junior High Girls' Retreat	
9-11	Puget Sound Conference	

LIFE-STUDY OF NUMBERS

X. LIGHTING THE LAMPS

Numbers 7 speaks of the offerings related to transportation, and 8:2-4 speaks of the lighting of the lamps. Only after the offerings were presented did Aaron light the lamps.

A. After the Conversation with God through the Offerings

Numbers 7 ends with Moses conversing with God through the offerings (v. 89). The lamps were lit after this conversation.

B. The Seven Lamps Giving Light in Front of the Lampstand

Numbers 8:2 and 3 say, "When you light the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light in front of the lampstand. And Aaron did so; he lit its lamps in front of the lampstand, as Jehovah commanded Moses." Here we see that the seven lamps, which signify the seven Spirits (Rev. 4:5), gave light in front of the lampstand, shining toward the middle, or the central part, of the tabernacle. Thus, the shining of the lamps was in the right direction for serving and moving.

Within the tabernacle there was no light from the sun, moon, or stars. Apart from the shining of the lampstand, the entire tabernacle would have been in darkness.

C. The Workmanship of the Lampstand

"This was the workmanship of the lampstand, hammered work of gold; from its base to its buds, it was hammered work; according to the pattern which Jehovah had shown Moses, so he made the lampstand" (Num. 8:4). The workmanship of the lampstand portrays

the constituting of Christ as the light-holder. One piece of gold was hammered into the form of a lampstand according to the pattern that God had shown Moses (Exo. 25:31-40; 37:17-24). Gold signifies Christ's divine nature, and the beating of the gold signifies Christ's sufferings in His humanity, through which He was constituted as the divine light-holder to shine in God's dwelling place so that God's serving ones could serve there. (For further details concerning the lampstand, see Life-study of Exodus, Messages Ninety-two through Ninety-four.)

At this point the people were ready, the transportation had been offered, and the lamps had been lit. Thus, God's people could begin to render their spiritual service to Him.

XI. THE PRESENTING OF THE LEVITES (THE SERVING ONES OF THE PRIESTHOOD)

The presenting of the Levites, the serving ones of the priesthood, took place in Numbers 8:5-26. Actually, the Levitical work should be one with the priesthood. Because of the Old Testament arrangement, God divided these into two sections. The priesthood was a divine service rendered directly to God, and the Levites served the priesthood. Things such as caring for the animals and carrying the furnishings of the tabernacle were Levitical works.

A. Cleansing the Levites

"Take the Levites from among the sons of Israel, and cleanse them" (v. 6). All the Levites had to be cleansed. Verses 7 and 8 speak of the cleansing of the Levites.

1. Sprinkling the Water of Purification upon Them

"Thus you shall do to them, to cleanse them: sprinkle the water for purification upon them" (v. 7a). Sprinkling the water of purification upon the Levites signifies the application of the effectiveness of the redemption of Christ upon the serving believers. Today, in principle it is the same with us. Every day, early in the morning, we are cleansed anew through the sprinkling, the applying, of the redeeming blood of Christ.

2. Shaving All Their Flesh

Concerning the cleansing of the Levites, Moses was commanded to "let them pass a razor over all their flesh" (v. 7b). This signifies the cutting off of all the natural strength. The hair on the body, signifying the natural strength, had to be shaved off. This indicates that in our service to God we should not depend on our natural strength.

3. Washing Their Clothes and Cleansing Themselves

The Levites were also required to "wash their clothes and cleanse themselves" (v. 7c). This signifies dealing with their conduct and their person. Both the person and the conduct of the serving ones had to be dealt with.

4. Offering a Young Bull for a Sin Offering and Another Young Bull for a Burnt Offering and Its Meal Offering

"Then let them take a young bull and its meal offering of fine flour mingled with oil, and you shall take another young bull for a sin offering" (v. 8). The Levites offered a young bull (the fresh Christ) for a sin offering. This indicates that they were sinful. They also offered another young bull for a burnt offering. This indicates that they should live for God. The meal offering of fine flour mingled with oil indicates that they should live as Christ lived in His humanity.

What they offered of Christ indicates that they should be like their offering. However, they were not like that. Thus, they needed Christ to be their offerings and their replacement. They needed Christ as the sin offering, the burnt offering, and the meal offering.

Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, October 21 st	Acts 17:19-34
Monday, October 22 nd	Acts 18:1-17
Tuesday, October 23 rd	Acts 18:18-28
Wednesday, October 24 th	Acts 19:1-20
Thursday, October 25 th	Acts 19:21-41
Friday, October 26 th	Acts 20:1-12
Saturday, October 27 th	Acts 20:13-38