Parashah 31 Emor - "Speak"

Torah: Vayikra (Leviticus) 21:1 – 24:23

Aliyah 1 - 21:1 - 15  Ritual purity for the priesthood regarding death, marriage, and divorce
Aliyah 2 - 21:16 - 22:16 No physical defects in priests performing Temple service; eating priestly portions
Aliyah 3 - 22:17 - 33  Offerings must be unblemished, at least 8 days old; sanctifying God’s name
Aliyah 4 - 23:1 - 22  God’s appointed times: Shabbat/Spring; leaving field corners for glean ing
Aliyah 5 - 23:23 - 32  God’s appointed times: Fall High Holidays - Yom Teruah, Yom Kippur
Aliyah 6 - 23:33 - 44  God’s appointed times: Sukkot/Shemini Atzeret;
Aliyah 7 - 24:1 - 23  Oil for menorah, the showbread; man put to death for blasphemy; judgements

Haftarah: Yechezk’el (Ezekiel) 44:15 – 31
B’rit Hadashah: Mattityahu (Matthew) 5:38-42; Galatians 3:26-29;

1. (21:1) How is the ritual purity of the priest connected to the purity of the sacrifice? What does that mean for us today?

   a. (21:7-9) Standards for Marriage:

   b. (21:8) Sanctification of Priesthood:

   c. (21:10-15) High Priest:

   d. (21:16-24) Qualifications for Altar Service

   e. (22:1-6) Ritual Purity of Priests

   f. (22:7-16) Who May Eat Priestly Portions

   g. (22:17-25) Unblemished Sacrifices

   h. (23:2-28) The Eighth Day:

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2. (23:1-3) What are the moediym? Why are they important?
   a. (23:3) Shabbat
   b. (23:4-8) Pesach/Hag Hamatzah
   c. (23:9-16) Omer/Counting of Omer
   d. (23:17-22) Shavuot
   e. (23:23-25) Rosh Hashanah
   f. (23:26-32) Yom Kippur
   g. (23:33-44) Sukkot

Questions for reflection and application:

1. (21:1) Teaching others to teach is as important as the information itself. Are you actively pursuing this? (Gen 18:19, Exo 12:25-28, 1Pe 3:15-16, 2Ti 2:2)

2. (21:17) God never promised perfection in his servants. How does this encourage you? (Psa 103:3-5, Mat 8:16-17, Joh 9:3, Heb 2:14, Isa 53:4-5)


4. (23:2) How do you view God's appointed times? Do you "observe" them? If so, how? (Deu 16:8, Num 29:35, Isa 1:14, Col 2:16, Lam 1:4, Nah 1:15, 1Co 10:31-33)

5. (23:24) This verse literally says, "a remembrance of the sound of a shofar." When was the last time you heard a shofar? Of what does it remind you? Are you ready for its fulfillment? (Lev 25:9-10, Num 29:1, Mat 24:31, Isa 27:13, Mat 24:26, Neh 1:4-11, 1Th 5:1-6)

6. (23:35) It is one thing to meet with God, and another to gather together with others to meet with God. When and why do you gather with others to meet with God? (Heb 10:25, Neh 8:10, Luk 10:38-40, Mat 21:12, 1Co 11:21-34, 2Ch 30:21-23, Luk 15:12-24)

7. (24:2) Only the purest (and easiest to obtain!) oil was used to fuel the menorah. How much work and pressure does God exert on you before you produce oil? (Mat 21:28-32, 2Co 9:7, 2Ch 13:8-12, Mat 20:4-7, 1Co 15:58)