

Torah: Vayikra (Leviticus) 9:1 – 11:47
Haftarah Shabbat HaQodesh:
 Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 45:16-46:18
B'rit Hadashah: 1Corinthians 5:6-8

	yr. 1 9:1-10:11	yr. 2 10:12-11:32	yr. 3 11:1-47
1	9:1 – 6	10:12 – 15	11:1 – 8
2	9:7 – 10	10:16 – 20	11:9 – 12
3	9:11 – 16	11:1 – 8	11:13 – 19
4	9:17 – 23	11:9 – 12	11:20 – 28
5	9:24 – 10:3	11:13 – 19	11:29 – 32
6	10:4 – 7	11:20 – 28	11:33 – 38
7	10:8 – 11	11:29 – 32	11:39 – 47

and Moshe spoke to Aharon and to El'azar and to Iytamar his remaining sons	<i>va'ye'daber Moshé el-Aharón ve'el El'azar ve'el-Iytamar banayv ha'notariym</i>	וַיְדַבֵּר מֹשֶׁה אֶל-אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל אֶלְעָזָר וְאֶל-אִיתָמָר בְּנֵי הַנּוֹתָרִים
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This parshah documents the first celebration of sacrifice on the eighth day - the day after the seven-day ordination of Aaron and the other priests. It also speaks of the unauthorized offerings of Aaron's sons, Nadav and Avihu, who offered "strange" fire and were themselves consumed by fire. Aaron and his surviving sons were told not to observe normal mourning rituals. It describes the offerings that are normally eaten by the priests, and specifies the kosher meat, fish, birds and other species, and other rules about kosher food.

The special haftarah for *Shabbat HaQodesh* describes the offerings and preparations for the approaching festival of *Pesakh/Passover*.

Year 1 Aliyah Highlights

- Le. 10:12-15** The grain offering was previously described (Le. 2:3, 6:7-11), as were the priest's allocated portions of certain sacrifices (Le. 7:11-38).
- Le. 10:16-20** Moshe was furious that the sons of Aharon allowed the sin offering (*khataf* – חַטָּאת) to be entirely burnt up (*olah* – עֹלָה), and they did not eat their portion as they were supposed to.
- Le. 11:1-8** Dietary Laws begin (See also De. 14): rooted in Ge. 1:28-29, 6:19-22, 7:2-3, 9:2-4, here defining land animals which are edible: those with a split hoof AND chew the cud. All others are unclean/unfit (*tame'* – טָמֵא).
- Le. 11:9-12** Dietary Laws for creatures of the water: those with fins and scales. All others are detestable (*she-qets* – שֵׁקֶץ). Infers acceptance on the basis of simple trust and obedience to HaShem.
- Le. 11:13-19** Dietary Laws for detestable creatures of the air.
- Le. 11:20-28** Dietary Laws for insects: specifically listed. Whoever touches the carcass of an unclean animal will be unclean.
- Le. 11:29-32** Dietary Laws for small creatures: contact with their carcasses causes uncleanness.

Food for Thought

Ecstasy and Agony: On the inaugural eighth day of the Tabernacle, two astonishing events occurred. In one of the greatest events since Gan Eden, the presence of HaShem dwelt among men once again (Ex. 25:8, Le. 9:24). Moments later, Nadav and Avihu tragically perished in the fire of that presence (Le. 10:1-2). Both moments of ecstasy and agony are given just a few sentences, leaving much room for speculation regarding their details. Perhaps the textual context of this inauguration, occurring on the first day of the first month and followed by dietary details, teaches that HaShem desires to dwell among his people in the

awe-inspiring highs, the painful lows, and the mundane details of our everyday lives. We can approach it all by walking humbly before him in maturity, growing in discernment to distinguish between good and evil (Mic. 6:8, Heb. 5:14).

Moshe's anger and satisfaction: Why was Moshe satisfied by Aharon's reply (Le. 10:20)? Moshe's concern was that by the priesthood not eating the sin offering, its function of atonement – restoring the balance between the domain of man and the domain of HaShem – would not be accomplished. Aharon mentions both a sin offering and a burnt offering, and he refers to what has happened to him as a person (not a priest). We know that priestly duties take precedence over mourning (v. 6-7), but Aharon chose to elevate the sin offering to a burnt offering – perhaps inferring that on *this* day, under *these* circumstances, the domain of man (his personhood/his portion) just did not exist; it all belonged to HaShem.

Daily Devotional questions for reflection and application

1. (11:47) How do the biblical concepts of “clean” and “unclean” apply to your life? (Deu 30:19, 2Co 6:14-18, Mat 5:19, 1Jo 1:6-7)
2. (9:17) God is a God of order, and He never changes. Do you walk in His ways, or those of your own? (Pro3:6, 2Sa 6:6-11, Mat 3:13-17, Mar 1:43-44, Joh 14:6, 1Co 14:33)
3. (9:24) Depending on signs and wonders can destroy our faith. How do you look for God's acceptance and pleasure? (Heb 11:6, Joh 4:24, 2Ch 7:1-3, Isa 29:13-14, Jud 6:21, 1Ki 18:36,38, 1Ch 21:26, Luk 9:56)
4. (10:12) The priesthood partook of the offerings brought by the people. How do you support those who minister and serve you? (Deu 25:4, 1Co 9:4-14, Luk 10:5-11, Eph 4:11, 1Ti 5:18)
5. (10:16) Do you inquire (look into, learn) about the truth? To what source(s) do you turn? (Luk 1:3-4, Act 17:10-12, Act 19:1-6, 2Ti 3:14-15, 1Pe 1:10-12)
6. (11:2) How do you determine what is food (physical, spiritual, visual, etc.) for you? (Lev 10:10, Psa 34:5, 2Pe 3:13-14, Phil 4:8-9, 1Co 10:23, Mar 7:15-23)
7. (11:33) You are an “earthenware vessel.” What do you allow inside your life? How does it affect you? (Mat 23:25-27, Luk 11:39-41, Mar 7:14-23, 2Co 4:7-9, Phil 4:7-8, 1Jo 1:9)