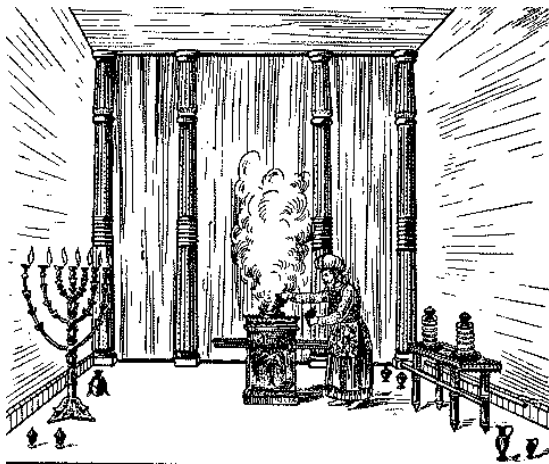


A note from Kathy

In this chapter we see the importance of proper cleansing by those who desire to worship God. These dedicated leaders of Israel needed to be properly cleansed and set apart for God from the tip of their heads to the soles of their feet, and everything in between. This would take a humble heart and a surrendered will. Are you ready for this type of service?

Observation



The altar of incense

1. What were the specific instructions given for building the altar of incense for the holy place?
2. Where was it to be placed?
3. When did the Lord say that Aaron was to burn incense on the altar? What else was he to do while he was there? Verses 7-8
4. What specific commands did God give, in verse 9, concerning the altar of incense?
5. Once per year Aaron was to place the blood on the horns of the altar of incense. Why was he to do this?
6. How was this altar described in verse 10?

7. The next thing we see in this chapter is the census offering. What were they to bring when they were being numbered? These were men who were 20 years of age or older. How might this census offering serve to unite the children of Israel?
8. Read 1 Chronicles 21:1-17; what was the problem? What could be wrong with a king counting his people? Notice first, who is behind this action? If you had to label a king's sin of counting his people what would you say was the heart issue? No one forced David to sin but God allowed Satan to tempt him and he chose to sin. Even the best of leaders can sometimes go astray. Unfortunately when they do, others suffer.
9. King Uzziah made a very bad choice in 2 Chronicles 26:16-21. What did he do? What were the consequences of this bad decision? What command did King Uzziah disregard?
10. The oil that was to be used to anoint all the furniture and the priests had a specific formula. Make a list of the ingredients in this anointing oil.
11. What word was used to describe this oil? Verses 25,31,32
12. The Lord warned the people to not allow the oil to be put on anyone other than a _____ nor to try to duplicate the blend.
13. What was the incense made of? How is it described? It is to be the work of _____.
14. What instructions were given for anyone who tried to duplicate this incense for their own personal use (verses 33 and 38)? What do you suppose that would mean?
15. Look up Leviticus 10:1-2. What was the problem here? Who were the two men who committed this offense? Did they know better?

Application

1. God had been very specific in the details of the tabernacle and its furnishings. He had been very specific in the way they were to worship him. What have you learned about worship from this study of the tabernacle?
2. Do you believe your worship is a sweet savor to God?
3. Are there consequences today for taking lightly the worship of God?
4. Exodus 30:20-21 was very clear as to the consequences of a priest who would rush into serving the LORD without properly cleansing first. In what way do these two verses speak to you about your worship? How are we to cleanse ourselves before worshipping our Lord? Look up Romans 12:1-2.
5. Why is it important that we are daily cleansed by God's word?
6. Look up Luke 1:11-20; who is mentioned here as being a Levite priest? What service was he carrying out in the temple that day?
7. Who appeared to him, and what news did he bring?
8. What prayer had he been praying that was heard by God?
9. Whose birth was foretold in this section of scripture? According to Luke 1:16, what would this child grow up to do?
10. After reading Luke 1:11-17, are you encouraged to continue steadfast in your prayers?
11. Are you asking God for anything that seems very difficult and unlikely? What did you learn about prayer from Luke 1:11-20?
12. Try to memorize James 5:16 this week.

<p>Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16</p>
