

The Glory of The Lord

Leviticus 9.1-6

March 3rd, 2019

Introduction

- What is the glory of God or God's glory?
- The major themes of the passage are:

Sacrifice	Obedience
Presence	Glory
Worship	Joy
Blessing	

- Through sacrifice and obedience, the people received the blessing of God. The presence of God, the glory of God, was manifest before the people inciting great joy and deep worship.

Main Points: How can we experience the Glory of God?

1. Accent the sacrifice - Calvary
 - Sacrifice is the first step to experience the Glory of God
 - All the sacrifices are offered except one - the reparation/guilt offering
 - The first animal Aaron is told to sacrifice is a bull calf - irony re: golden calf
 - It was only through sacrifice, mediated through the priest, that a person could come into the presence of God
 - Jesus is our mediator
 - Hebrews 9.15
 - 1Timothy 2.5-6

people were actually a prayer *for* the people. In short, these are blessing-prayers.”¹

2. Live in obedience to the Word of God - faith in action

- The service and the sacrifices had to be carried out in a prescribed way
 - Foreshadowing the fact that God expected them to live a certain way
 - The theme of “as ... commanded them” - 6x’s
 - Obedience was inspired by their knowledge of the Holy
- Obedience also makes us keenly aware of our need to be forgiven
 - Abraham is an example of the relationship between faith, obedience, and righteousness
 - Romans 4.3; Genesis 15.6

3. Receive the blessing - the presence of God

- Blessing was a well-established practice in their world
 - To bless God = to praise or express adoration
 - To receive a blessing = to have a benefit or privilege bestowed
 - To be blessed = to be highly favored
- In this case the blessing came through a prayer.
 - To *bless* the people was the specific duty of the priest (Deut. 10:8; 21:5a; see Num. 6:24-26 for an example of a priestly blessing). Although the priest said the blessing, it is important to note that the one who carried out the blessing was the Lord (Num. 6:24-27; Deut. 28:8, 12, etc.). This is because a blessing was really a prayer, as implied here by Aaron *lifting his hands*, an action typical in the Old Testament of those who were praying (Milgrom, 1991: 586-587; As a result, the priest’s words of blessing *to* the

4. Worship - adoration, celebration, and humility

- Being in the presence of God demands a response
 - Joy - “a great shout” can also be translated as overwhelmed or overcome
 - Reverence - they bowed down
- These episodes show that the worship of God involves a total response of man to God. The presence of God was greeted with a shout, not silence. More than that, *they fell on their faces* (v. 24). God’s greatness and holiness cannot be ignored; he must be acknowledged by our whole being. Nothing less is adequate.²
 - Revelation 4.9-11

Conclusion

- We can experience the Glory of God by receiving the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ
- The presence of God is manifest in the life of the believer; God dwells in us; therefore, when we live in obedience to the will of God, we radiate the glory of God
- Through this reality we can experience great joy and enter deep worship of the one who saved our souls and guarantees our redemption

¹ Sklar, J. (2013). [Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary](#). (D. G. Firth, Ed.) (Vol. 3, p. 153). Nottingham, England: Inter-Varsity Press.

² Wenham, G. J. (1979). [The Book of Leviticus](#) (p. 150). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.