

Nadab, Abihu and Strange Fire

Leviticus 10:1-11



Introduction

- Consider two accounts...Lev. 10:1-11; Acts 5:1-11
 - Harsh endings.
 - Some might say, just one sin “unfair”, extreme – not fair.
 - Ananias and Sapphira tell one lie and die.
 - Nadab and Abihu offer the wrong fire and are consumed by fire.
 - Strange fire, unauthorized fire, profane, unholy, a different kind of fire
 - One mistake – dead.
- In common...
 - Ananias and Sapphira: soon after the establishment of the church. God makes a point about the seriousness of sin, and His view of sin.
 - Nadab and Abihu: Just after the institution of the sacrificial system and the priesthood. God makes a point. He will not tolerate anything that He has not authorized, so and immediate end is put to those who have transgressed His law.

Three Lessons

- ***We must respect God's word and do only what he has authorized.***
 - “Strange fire” → coals were to come from the altar of burnt offering. (Lev. 16:12)
 - “Command” → 43 times in the Leviticus. (8:5; 9:5-6,10,21,24;10:1-2)
 - Great lesson from O.T. is the necessity of obedience. (I Cor. 10:11; Rom. 15:4)
 - Some assume that God will be pleased with whatever they want to do. (Isa. 55:8-9)
 - We must seek to determine the will of God, then do our best to do what God says. (Matt. 7:21; II Jn. 9; I Pet. 4:11)
 - God's silence is not permissive. (Heb. 7:14)

Three Lessons

- ***We must treat God as holy. (NET)***
 - By those who come near me, I will be treated as holy. (NASB) “I will be sanctified...” (KJV)
 - “Holy” 77 times in Leviticus.
 - God is holy and we must sanctify Him in our hearts and lives. (Lev. 11:44; 19:2; 20:7; I Pet. 1:15-15; 3:15)
 - We are not to profane holy things.
 - The name of God. (Lev. 22:32; Ex. 20:7)
 - The worship of God. (Mal. 1:11-14)
 - The marriage covenant. (Mal. 2:10-16)

Three Lessons

- ***God Is To Be Glorified. (v-3)***

Matt. 5:16 → Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and **glorify your Father** which is in heaven.

Matt. 6:13 → 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and ***the glory***, for ever. Amen.

Rom. 15:6 → 6 That ye may with ***one mind and one mouth glorify God***, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Cor. 6: 20 → 20 For ye are bought with a price: ***therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit***, which are God's.

Rom. 4:20 → He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, ***giving glory to God***;

Eph. 3:10-11, 21 → 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly [places] might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: ... 21 ***Unto him [be] glory in the church*** by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Three Lessons

- The character of God and our response to it.
 - God is Holy.....We must be holy.
 - God is Almighty.....We must trust and obey Him.
 - God is Eternal.....We must live for eternity.
 - God is Giver of Good.....We must be grateful.
 - God is Love.....We must love him.
 - God is Righteous.....We must seek His righteousness.
 - God is A consuming Fire.....We must seek His salvation.