

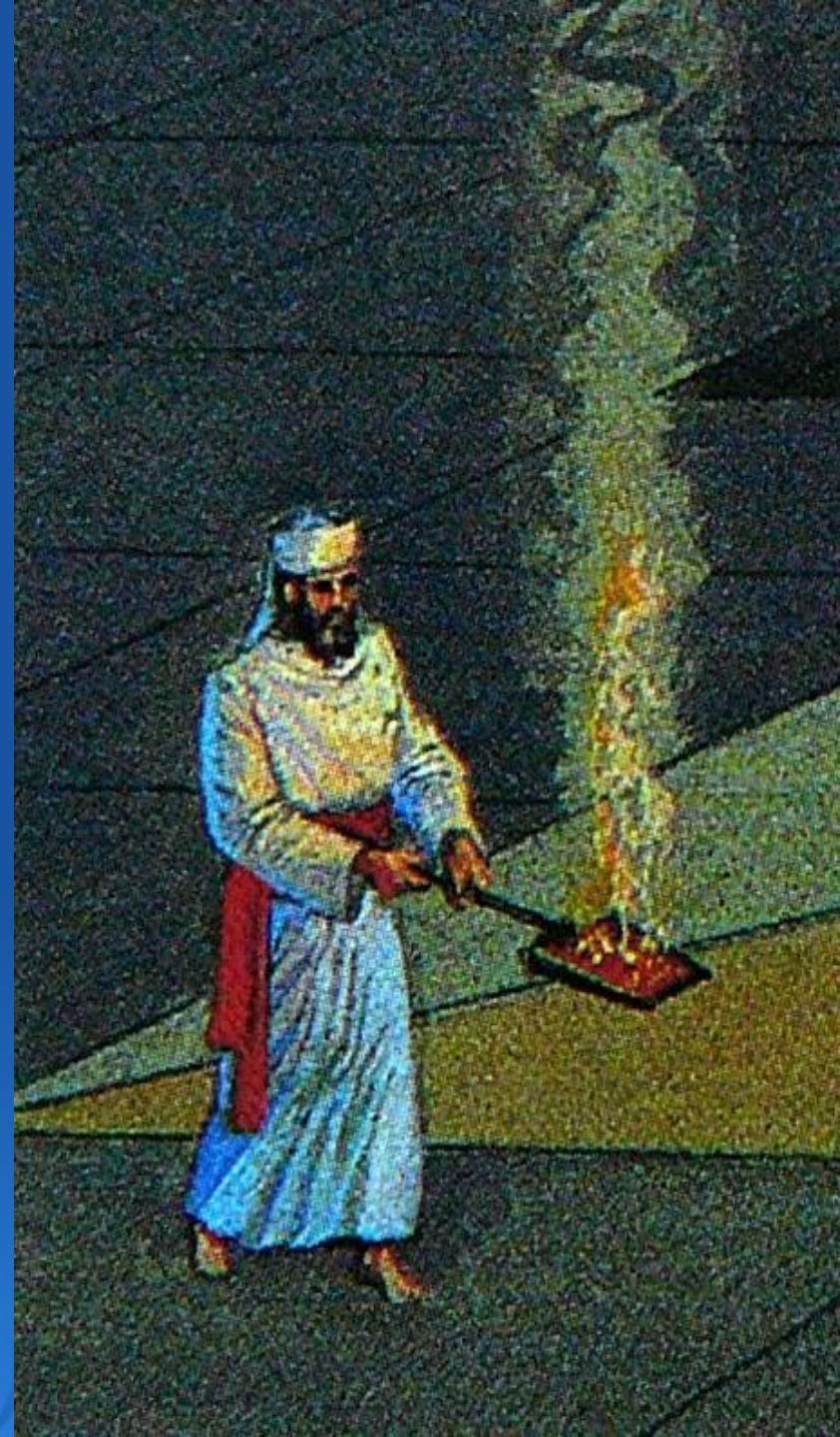
REBELLION



- Rebels were killed by fire, and a split in the Earth
- The rebel leaders wanted Moses' and Aaron's jobs
- They also rejected God's choice of leadership and the Priesthood as a needed institution
- The rebels felt that they did NOT need a Mediator
- They could deal directly with God
- Moses and Aaron were thought to have CAUSED God to destroy the rebels

PLAGUE

- This plague was of divine source
- Fire pans used to foment rebellion, so a fire pan is used as means to atone
- Aaron runs to where the plague has broken out
- 14,700 MALES dead
- Probably 50,000 total
- High Priest cannot touch dead bodies
- Eleazar had to deal with the dead bodies of the 250 rebel leaders to pick up their fire pans



KORAH WAS TO BLAME

- God lays the responsibility on Korah
- Satan is NOT blamed
- It was Korah's evil inclination and selfish desires
- Aaron's incense offering works, the plague ends
- But, the people still didn't understand and another test was needed



AARON'S BUDDING STAFF



- The stick is a staff
- Represents tribal leadership
- **Matteh** = stick, staff, rod
- **Matteh** ALSO means "Tribe"
- 12 tribes plus Aaron's staff put next to the Ark of the Covenant
- Aaron's staff buds with Almonds
- The matter is settled

TSITS



- **Tsits** = blossom or bud
- Root word for Tzitzit (tassels)
- High Priest's golden head plate is called a "tsits"
- Buds on Aaron's staff, tassels, and the Golden Head-plate are inter-related
- Menorah employs almond blossoms (tsits)
- White Almond blossom signifies holiness, purity, God



HEAD PLATE says
"Holiness to YHWH"



- Tribal leaders and people now recognized the position of the tribe of Levi, and that it was non-negotiable
- But, due to what they had witnessed, they now **FEARED** to go near the Tabernacle
- Yet, they **HAD** to go there to sacrifice and present their tithes and offerings
- What to do?

NUMBERS 18

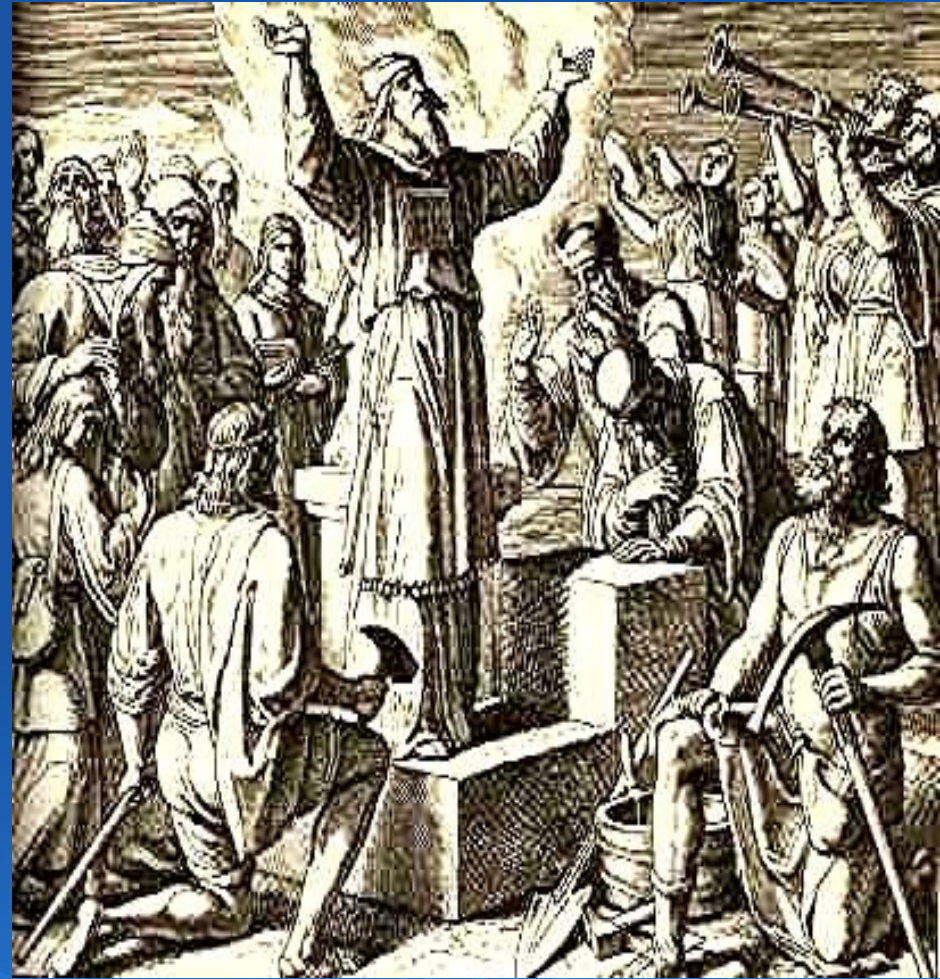
SOLUTION: LEVI IS RESPONSIBLE

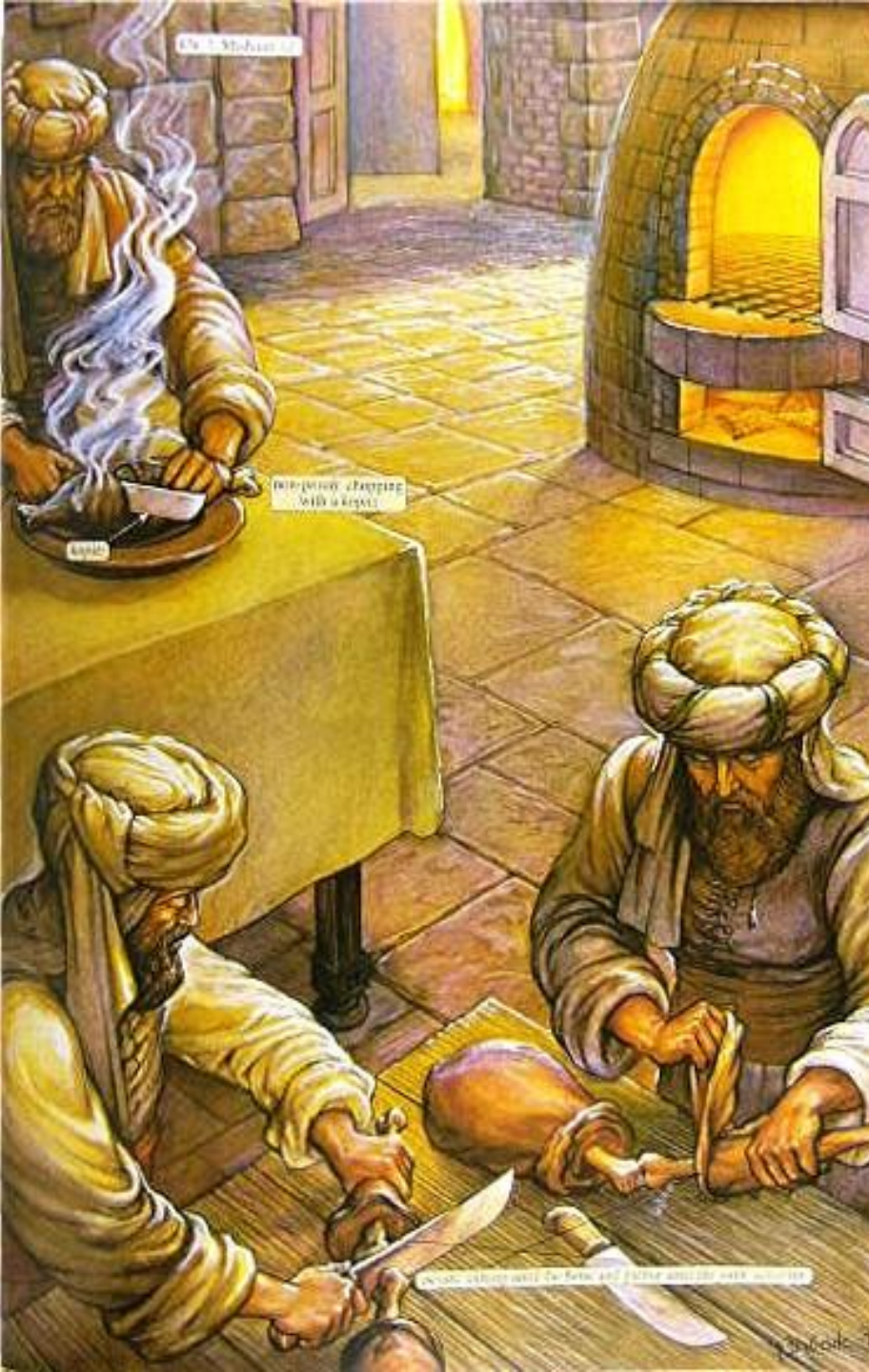


- Tribe of Levi will bear the guilt for a trespasser
- Priests must watch over regular Levites
- Priests must monitor other priests
- Purpose was to benefit the people
- Levites created a group of armed guards to keep encroachers out
- Authorized to kill

LEVI DIVIDED INTO LEVITES AND PRIESTS

- Levites are to serve the Priests
- Not as personal servants, but as blue collar labor at the Temple
- Numbers 18 repeats info on sacrifices and offerings in a more organized and systematic way
- Much is not to be instituted until they enter the Promised Land



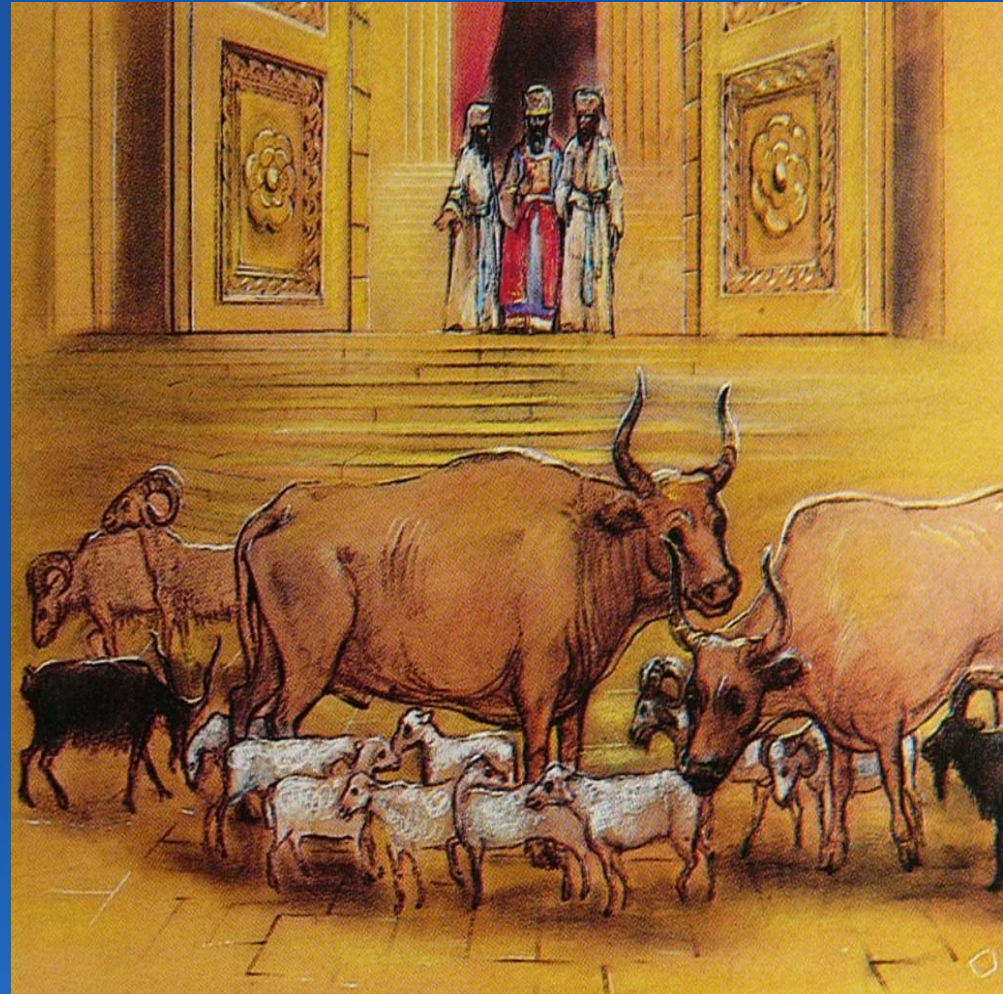


OFFERINGS AS PAY

- Priests' families can eat certain portions of the offerings
- Israelites are to grow crops and animals
- Levites and Priests are to minister to the people
- Therefore, the people are to financially support the Levites and Priests

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- Priests EXEMPT from paying tithe
- Regular Levites MUST pay tithe
- In order for Levite to eat his food (outside of Tabernacle area), food must NOT be holy!
- Levite's tithe serves to remove the holiness from the offered food, and make it common





- Less about behavior and more about a status
- Only God bestows holiness
- Holiness and Uncleanness, though opposites, act in a similar way.....they are contagious!
- The Brazen Altar “infects” the sacrificial meat with holiness
- Pots that cook the sacrificed meat have to be cleaned of their “holiness” or destroyed
- Holiness is DANGEROUS if an unauthorized person acquires it

UNAUTHORIZED HOLINESS



- Korah and his men were destroyed because
- a) they encroached on holy ground
- b) they acquired holiness they had no business acquiring
- Whatever is holy can NOT be used for common purposes
- Whatever is common can NOT be used for holy purposes

- **NAS Ezekiel 46:20** *And he said to me, "This is the place where the priests shall boil the guilt offering and the sin offering, and where they shall bake the grain offering, in order that they may not bring them out into the outer court to transmit holiness to the people."*
- **Not everyone is created for holiness!**
- **NAS Romans 11:16** *And if the first piece of dough be holy, the lump is also; and if the root be holy, the branches are too.*
- **The whole batch becomes holy, and the branches become holy by means of contact with the holy first piece, and the holy roots!**

- **NAS Acts 7:33** *"But the Lord said to him, 'Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.*
- **Moses' sandals would have contracted holiness from the holy ground, and then spread it wherever Moses walked! This is forbidden.**
- **NAS Zechariah 14:21** *And every cooking pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the LORD of hosts; and all who sacrifice will come and take of them and boil in them. And there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts in that day.*
- **All Israelites can freely use the cooking pots the sacrificed meat is cooked in, because all will be holy and it is therefore OK for the holiness to be transmitted around!**

- **NAS 1 Corinthians 7:13** *And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, let her not send her husband away. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.*
- **This is a marriage, an authorized union. The Believing spouse transmits holiness to the Un-Believing spouse (probably through intimate contact). The resulting children therefore also contract holiness!**

WHEN MARRIAGE IS SHA'ATNEZ

- A marriage between Believer and Unbeliever is a mixed union that is not recommended
- BUT...it is also not necessarily a sin
- This kind of mixed-union marriage similar to Tzitzit
- Tzitzit and mixed union is acceptable IF done within the bounds of marriage, a God ordained institution

