

Watchman
Part 9
(The Ministry of Levi)

“8 About Levi he said: 'Your Thummim and Urim belong to the man you favored. You tested him at Massah; you contended with him at the waters of Meribah. 9 He said of his father and mother, 'I have no regard for them.' He did not recognize his brothers or acknowledge his own children, but he watched over your word and guarded your covenant. 10 He teaches your precepts to Jacob and your law to Israel. He offers incense before you and whole burnt offerings on your altar. 11 Bless all his skills, O LORD, and be pleased with the work of his hands. Smite the loins of those who rise up against him; strike his foes till they rise no more.” (Deuteronomy 33:8-11)

Levi is the tribe of the Israelites that God had chosen to be his priests to teach his people his ways and to serve Him at the tent of meeting. They are the workers and watchmen who would take care and perform all the duties at the sanctuary. God called them and assign to them precise duties and responsibilities that they are responsible to do in the tabernacle of God as we can read here:

“¹The LORD said to Aaron, “You, your sons and your family are to bear the responsibility for offenses connected with the sanctuary, and you and your sons alone are to bear the responsibility for offenses connected with the priesthood. ²Bring your fellow Levites from your ancestral tribe to join you and assist you when you and your sons minister before the tent of the covenant law. ³They are to be responsible to you and are to perform all the duties of the tent, but they must not go near the furnishings of the sanctuary or the altar. Otherwise both they and you will die. ⁴They are to join you and be responsible for the care of the tent of meeting—all the work at the tent—and no one else may come near where you are. ⁵“You are to be responsible for the care of the sanctuary and the altar, so that my wrath will not fall on the Israelites again. ⁶I myself have selected your fellow Levites from among the Israelites as a gift to you, dedicated to the LORD to do the work at the tent of meeting. ⁷But only you and your sons may serve as priests in connection with everything at the altar and inside the curtain. I am giving you the service of the priesthood as a gift. Anyone else who comes near the sanctuary is to be put to death.” (Numbers 18:1-7)

God said to Moses to tell the Israelites the following: **“⁵Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites. ⁷So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. ⁸The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.” (Exodus 19:5-8)** From what God instructed Moses we can understand that the whole Israelites are called to be **a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**, and they responded verbally to the call of God and agreed upon. The same is for us today we who are in Christ we are royal priesthood and a holy nation of God, **“⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” (1Peter 2:9-10)**

God truly chose Aaron and his sons to be priests as we can read here from what He instructed Moses, **“¹Have Aaron your brother brought to you from among the Israelites, along with his sons Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, so they may serve me as priests. ²Make sacred garments for your brother Aaron to give him dignity and honor.” (Exodus 28:1-2)** Possibly the Lord chose Aaron and his sons as priests because Aaron stood with God’s call when he supported Moses and his mission to Pharaoh King of Egypt. But the Lord also tested the Levites before He confirmed to them their service and ministry. The Lord called them and He favored them to minister and to be the priests who will spiritually guide His people with the Thummim and Urim in taking decision. The Levites stood the test and prove their faithfulness unto God in the following events:-

1- The Levites were tested on the occasion of Massah (testing) and at the waters of Meribah (quarrelling): This is the place where the Israelites were testing the Lord, quarreled with Moses, and asking him to reproduce water for them to drink. **(Read Exodus 17:1-7 that in your own bible).** Finally the Lord enabled Moses to bring out water to them from the Rock. And it might be that the Levites stood with Moses and assisted him in his stand with the Lord. The true workers and the Royal priests of God will not quarrel and test the Lord and question His presence in their mid.

2- The Levites were tested on the account of the golden calf (Read Exodus 32:1-35 in your own bible): When Moses challenged the whole Israelites Whoever is for the Lord to come to him, only the Levites responded to God’s call: **“²⁵Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. ²⁶So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.” (Exodus 32:25-26)** And indeed the Levites execute the command of God through His servant Moses: **“²⁷Then he said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’” ²⁸The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died.” (Exodus 32:27-28)** They truly showed no regard to blood ties relatives when it came to God’s word and commands as it was mentioned, **“He said of his father and mother, 'I have no regard for them.' He did not recognize his brothers or acknowledge his own children, but he watched over your word and guarded your covenant.” (Deuteronomy 33:9)** With what they did, God’s calling for them as Levites was confirmed, **“Then Moses said, “You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day.” (Exodus 32:29)** In all our deals and ministry God should be first and not men. Jesus said in **Matthew 10:37** **“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;”**

Jesus acted the same as we can read here: **“⁴⁶While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. ⁴⁷Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” ⁴⁸He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” ⁴⁹Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (Matthew 12:46-50)**

3- *The covenant of priesthood was confirmed with Phinehas on account of what he did:* ¹⁰*The Lord said to Moses,* ¹¹*“Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest, has turned my anger away from the Israelites. Since he was as zealous for my honor among them as I am, I did not put an end to them in my zeal. ¹²Therefore tell him I am making my covenant of peace with him. ¹³He and his descendants will have a covenant of a lasting priesthood, because he was zealous for the honor of his God and made atonement for the Israelites.” (Numbers 25: 10-13)* God was pleased with Phinehas and confirmed His covenant of peace with him and His descendants because Phinehas stood firm for the LORD when he killed the Israelites man and the Midianite woman whom he brought to his tent and had adultery with her as we can read here: ⁶*“Then an Israelite man brought into the camp a Midianite woman right before the eyes of Moses and the whole assembly of Israel while they were weeping at the entrance to the tent of meeting. ⁷When Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest, saw this, he left the assembly, took a spear in his hand ⁸and followed the Israelite into the tent. He drove the spear into both of them, right through the Israelite man and into the woman’s stomach. Then the plague against the Israelites was stopped.” (Numbers 25:6-8)* The same for you today, if you stand firm with the LORD and side with Him and not with the people, the LORD will confirm His covenant of peace with you and your children and disciples, and you will live a peaceful life because you proved your faithfulness to the LORD. We are as priest called to rebuke and discipline those in the body of Christ whoever they are, who live in sin as doing immoralities, stealing, non giving tithes, telling lies, cheating, etc. You will do well and the LORD will be with you if you stand firm with Him; God’s blessings will flow to you and to the people under your care.

You who are called by God when you will never stand with people but with God, and as you stand the test and get approved, then you will receive the following form the Lord:


- A- *The Authority to lead others into God’s will: “About Levi he said: “Your Thummim and Urim belong to the man you favored.” (Deuteronomy 33:8a)* God will give you the wisdom and the authority to guide others and help them to grasp and see God’s will clearly and to take wise and correct decisions.
- B- *The favor of God: “Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.” (Acts 2:47a)*
- C- *The good testimony:* It will be accredited to you what you did well with God and how you faithfully served Him. *“You tested him at Massah; you contended with him at the waters of Meribah. ⁹ He said of his father and mother, ‘I have no regard for them.’ He did not recognize his brothers or acknowledge his own children, but he watched over your word and guarded your covenant.” (Deuteronomy 33:8b-9)*
- D- *The authority to teach the word of God: “He teaches your precepts to Jacob and your law to Israel.” (Deuteronomy 33:10a)* As authenticated person with genuine motive toward God and His word, the Lord will approve you as a teacher for His word.
- E- *The authority and the approval to serve God: “He offers incense before you and whole burnt offerings on your altar.” (Deuteronomy 33:10b)* Your integrity and your stand with God will pave a way for you to be approved as God’s servant.
- F- *The Lord will be pleased with your work and ministry: “I Bless all his skills, O LORD, and be pleased with the work of his hands.” (Deuteronomy 33:11a)* The Lord will bless your ministry and will make it shine before men. He will use your ministry as instrument to bring the Light of God in the lives of other men to draw them near to God and guide others into His ways.

G- *The Lord will fight and deal with all your enemies: “Smite the loins of those who rise up against him; strike his foes till they rise no more.” (Deuteronomy 33:11b)*

My dear and beloved: The outcome of your life and your ministry is bound with your commitment to God and how you will stand firm with Him, watching that His word would be fulfilled, and your perseverance to guard your covenant with God. I pray for you that your eyes will be open and realize all these truth and put them into practice and work with God to keep His word alive in your ministry, and exercise His word in the life of people whom God had placed under your care, as agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to abide with your word in doing your will and never to compromise with people on the account of your word and commands. Lord help me and give me the strength to continue to stand firm and to persevere in order to keep my covenant with you and bring forth what you desire to see in my life, my ministry and in the life of the people who are under my care. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 15

Issue 16

“And now, you priests, this warning is for you. ² If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the LORD Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me. ³ “Because of you I will rebuke your descendants; I will smear on your faces the dung from your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it. ⁴ And you will know that I have sent you this warning so that my covenant with Levi may continue,” says the LORD Almighty. ⁵ “My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. ⁶ True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin. ⁷ “For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the LORD Almighty and people seek instruction from his mouth. ⁸ But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi,” says the LORD Almighty. ⁹ “So I have caused you to be despised and humiliated before all the people, because you have not followed my ways but have shown partiality in matters of the law.” (Malachi 2:1-8)

Share the message with a friend

For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:
www.churchofgoduae.com