

(Exodus) Exodus 29:1-9

by J. Vernon McGee

Consecration is what God does, not what we do, and it means coming to Him with empty hands and letting Him fill us.

Duration: 5:04

Scripture: Exodus 29:2-9, Leviticus 8:2, Leviticus 8:6, Matthew 6:33, Titus 3:5

Topics: "Expositional"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes the importance of consecration and coming to God with empty hands. He highlights that true consecration is not about making promises or offering things to God, but rather recognizing our weakness and inability and allowing God to fill us. The speaker refers to the consecration of the priests in the book of Leviticus, where they were instructed to bring a young bullock and two rams without blemish, along with unleavened bread and cakes. The washing mentioned in the transcript is seen as symbolic of regeneration, emphasizing that salvation is not based on our own works but on God's mercy and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

Transcript

Now, friends, we've come in chapter 29 again to the priesthood. Last time we saw the garments that Aaron was to wear, and these were garments of glory and beauty, and that separated him from the other priests. However, he only wore those garments on special occasions, and he had garments which were just plain simple linen clothing, and they wore that in the service of the tabernacle.

But now we come in chapter 29 to the consecration of the priests and the offerings that were made at that time. Now, I'm not going to read all of this. I guarantee you we got 46 verses here that are not as interesting and thrilling as they might be, but this is something that I'm confident that the Spirit of God wants to use to minister to you and me, and as we said before, this is God's ABC book for us, and great spiritual lessons are here for us.

Now, will you notice in the consecration of the priests, we have, "...and this is the thing that thou shalt do unto them to hallow them, to minister unto me in the priest's office. Take one young bullock and two rams without blemish." And that is the first. Consecration for a believer is actually nothing that he does, by the way.

It's something God does for us, and it rests upon the finished work of Christ. It has to rest there. And then verse 2 now, "...and unleavened bread, and cakes unleavened, tempered with oil, and wafers unleavened, anointed with oil of wheat and flour, shalt thou make them.

And thou shalt put them into one basket, bring them in the basket with the bullock and the two rams. And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, shalt wash them with water." Now, that washing is typical of regeneration, of course. It's not by works of righteousness, which we've done.

It's according to His mercy saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. And this is the washing that has to do with regeneration. Now, when we see the labor, why, we're going to see that's a different type of washing there altogether.

Now Moses is going to put the garments on Aaron. "...thou shalt take the garments, and put upon Aaron the coat, the robe, the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the curious girdle of the ephod." And verse 8, "...thou shalt bring his sons, and put coats upon them. Thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them.

And the priest's office shall be theirs for a perpetual statute, and thou shalt consecrate Aaron and his sons." Now, consecration actually is what God does, not what we do. I hear so much today about consecration services where folk do something and they promise to do something. Consecration, friends, means to come to God with empty hands and let Him fill them.

That's all in the world that it means. I've promised Him big things in the past and I've never quite made good. I don't like to think of that being consecration.

It's not what I promise Him. Consecration is to come to God with empty hands, confess our weakness, our inability, and let God do the rest. Watch Moses pray, and watch Elijah pray, and David pray, and Samuel pray, and in the New Testament listen to Paul pray.

And, friends, you're going to find out that these men never came to God on the basis of who they are, what they are promising Him they're going to do. I've been to these faggot services. I went to them for years where you go in and put a little chip or a little limb on the fire and you then give them a testimony in what you're going to do.

And, believe me, I've heard enough promise that those faggot services to turn the world upside down. But never worked out quite like that because, actually, we, friends, don't have really much to offer Him, do we? Or maybe you do. I don't.

And the thing is that we come to Him with empty hands and let Him fill us. We need to recognize that. And that is the whole thing that we have here.

Now, we're going to come to this again in the book of Leviticus, and when we get there, I expect to go into a little bit more detail.

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