

The Perfect Priest and Offering **Leviticus 21:1-22:33**

Main Point:

Trust in the perfect Priesthood and Offering of Jesus Christ with thanksgiving.

1. The priests of Israel were always to be undefiled and holy.

2. The offerings of Israel were always to be undefiled and holy.

3. This was the only way for sinners to be accepted by the LORD.

4. Thankfully, you have this kind of Priest and Offering in Jesus Christ.

Allan Moseley “His requirement to be unblemished was not about worth; it was about symbolism.”

John Currid “God requires that a priest in his service in the tabernacle must be unblemished and without any bodily defects. One who is physically flawless represents holiness or completeness.”

John Currid “An animal with a blemish is considered incomplete and unholy and, therefore, is not worthy to be offered to the Holy One.”

1 Peter 5:2-3 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; (NKJV)

Malachi 1:8 8 And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, *is it* not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, *is it* not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?” Says the LORD of hosts. (NKJV)

Kenneth Mathews “Since God is complete and perfect in all his attributes and actions, it would be unfitting to approach God through anyone or with anything that would manifestly appear imperfect or incomplete.”

Hebrews 5:2-3 2 He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. 3 Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer *sacrifices* for sins. (NKJV)

John Currid “There is no perfection when it comes to men, and even to those who were set apart to serve in the tabernacle. Thus, the mediation exercised in the tabernacle by the priesthood was flawed because these were flawed men. This truth calls out for a flawless and perfect mediator who can properly stand between God and mankind.”

Hebrews 10:3-4 3 But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. 4 For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. (NKJV)

Kenneth Mathews “That the animals were complete specimens, however, did not mean that they were effective in taking away the sins of the worshiper completely and permanently.”

Hebrews 7:26-27 26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; 27 who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. (NKJV)

Hebrews 10:19-22 19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (NKJV)