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Dialogue between Aaron and The Children

3. The Book of Leviticus



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Translated by
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The First Meeting

A Lovely Encounter

On one of the Jewish Feasts, Aaron, the first high priest of the Jews, noticed that many of the Jewish children gathered together were wearing beautiful and elaborate clothes specifically for the holiday. These children met in a large tent very close to the Tabernacle of meeting and got to know each other. They came from Egypt, Greece, Italy, Syria, and so on. They were all foreigners born of Jewish families and they were very proud to title themselves as children of God.

Aaron decided attending one of these meetings would be a great opportunity for him to meet and talk with the children to try and establish a good relationship with them. As Aaron walked in to meet with the children, all those who were playing turned around to notice the high priest and smiled with a look of confusion on their faces. They were thinking, "Why the first high priest is walking towards us, and what does he want from us?"

Most of them felt a sense of respect and admiration towards Aaron. To Aaron's surprise, some of the children ran towards him and hugged him tight. He embraced them one by one and kissed them. They probably met with him before, and felt his caring paternity, his love, his simplicity, and yearning towards talking with them for their benefit.

The shy kids did not move towards Aaron, but he encouraged them to talk with him and started asking them their names and told them that he was glad that

children from all over the world came to celebrate the yearly Feasts; Passover, Tabernacles, and Pentecost.

After they greeted the high priest, a child asked him: «Father, can I ask you some questions about the Tabernacle of meeting, the sacrifices, priests, Levites, and many of the cleansing rituals, because many of the non-Jewish kids ask me why we cherish the sacrifices, honor the priests and the Levites, and practice the ritual of cleansing to prevent worshiping idols, nor eat meat offered to idols?»

Aaron smiled and told the kids that he would meet with them every day until all of their questions were answered fully.



The Second Meeting

Why Do We Offer So Many Sacrifices?

A child came up to Aaron the Priest once and asked him saying, “**Why do we offer so many animal sacrifices like the pagans do?**” The child understood that the pagans worshipping was because they believed that the idols were their “gods” but what he didn’t understand was the purpose of their animal sacrifices?

Aaron the answered him and said: “The difference is that the pagan’s believe that their gods are angry beings, and they offer sacrifices so that their gods don’t get mad. While we, on the other hand, view our God as the Lover of mankind. Our Father promised that He would send down His Son to take away the sins of the world by sacrificing Himself. You may be wondering why a sacrifice was needed? As mentioned earlier, this sacrifice was meant to restore man who was once ruined by sin. All animal sacrifices were a symbol of the coming Messiah (Christ) who is God’s Son and His Wisdom and Word.

Another child asked Aaron: “**Father, how are sacrifices symbols of the sacrifice of the coming Messiah?**” Aaron answered: “We received **the book of Leviticus, a book that calls us to be holy**, as God is Holy. This book presents a very beautiful picture of the sacrifices and offerings, each of which reveals an aspect of the Cross of the Messiah.

* **Burnt sacrifice** (Leviticus 1): This sacrifice is referred to as the full obedience of Christ to His Father, and His love for us as is shown symbolically as burning fire. Through the cross and the the memory of the cross, we obey God and our heart becomes inflamed with love towards Him.

* **Meal offering** (Leviticus 2): By Offering fine flours mixed with rich oils and frankincense. This is a symbol of Jesus Christ; He is the Bread of life. Interestingly, there is no yeast in this bread that is offered, because yeast refers to evil, but rather we put salt in the mixture to show we are the salt of the earth. He descends for the salvation of all mankind and He intercedes on our behalf by His own blood. Imagine sacrificing your own blood for someone? The love Jesus has for us is unconditional and incomparable to any love we can ever try to give here on earth as human beings.

* **Sacrifice of peace** (Leviticus 3): Jesus Christ gives us inner peace if we allow Him into our hearts, because He reconciled us with the Father by showing obedience in dying on the cross to save our sins.

* **The sacrifice of sin** (Leviticus 5): Jesus Christ carries our sins, imagine that every time you do something wrong, and know you are committing a sin, that you are hurting Jesus Christ, your Savior.

* **Trespass offering** (Leviticus 6): It is offered when a person commits a trespass openly against Jehovah, the

holy places, or deal falsely with his neighbor in a matter of deposit, or of bargain, or of robbery, or have oppressed his neighbor even if accidentally. O my beloved children, we will meet with the Messiah who forgives our sins and reconciles us with the Father and with each other, and makes us saints.



The Third Meeting

The Priests and Levites

In the third meeting, a child asked the High Priest: “O father, you made us very excited for the coming Messiah. The cross will reunite us with the Heavenly Father, and with it we become friends with one other and with the heavenly hosts sharing the glories of heaven.

The child also wondered: Why did God assign the tribe of Levites to serve Him? I know He established Priests and Levites to serve His *Tabernacle of Meeting* and teach the people of God, but why didn't He choose one of the leaders of the 12 tribes every time as a high priest for one month?

Aaron answered: “God does not show favoritism; and on the day of the Lord, all priests and Levites will be firmly judged to see if repentance was present in their lives.” It is important to remember that although we are Christian, we are still sinners that must continuously repent and reconcile with God in order to continue growing to become more like Christ.

Why did God choose the Levites to be his servants, if God loves everyone?

- * God ordered the Levites not to request a share in the Promised Land, but rather a strong desire to acquire God Himself in their lives.
- * The tribe of Levi lives among the tribes, tutoring people, guiding them and praying for them; God

wants us to do the same thing loving and praying for our neighbors and our enemies.

- * The high priest wears a breastplate containing twelve precious stones on his chest, he wears this breastplate during his prayers when standing before the Lord. It represents the coming of Jesus Christ, the heavenly High Priest, who carries us on His chest, being precious pearls treasured by the Savior, the Father, and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, every child, including you, should feel that he is a precious pearl in the site of the Lord.



- * The high priest considers all children his children, all men and women his brothers and sisters, and all elders his fathers and mothers. Thus, when somebody from the priest's family passes away, he does not attend the funeral, instead he remembers that this death means that they have gone to be with God remembering on earth we are merely flesh and blood.
- * The difference between the fetishes priest and God's priest is that the former considers himself sinless and better than others, while God's priest considers himself and all people sinner, offering to God sacrifices and prayers on behalf of himself and his brethren to acquire forgiveness. All of God's priests consider themselves weak sinners in need of Christ's Cross, even the high priest should be aware of the sin to his last breath. We, as Christians, should learn from this behavior, and strive to be as humble and repentant.

Know, my children, that when a priest insists on his sin and tries to hide it, his punishment would be tougher than the punishment of the people. God has Chosen me (Aaron) as a first high priest, but when Christ, the Heavenly High Priest, will come, He will choose new priests who will serve His people and guide the liturgies. At the same time Christ makes from every believer a spiritual priest that he raises his hands and offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise; that includes both you and me.

Aaron sighed and said to the children: "How much excitement is my soul to see the Messiah, the real Heavenly Priest!"

The Fourth Meeting

The Ritual of Cleansing

For the fourth time, Aaron met with the children, and he was happily smiling. He said: "How happy I am to be in your midst; for you are the true joy of our Savior. You received from us the right faith, the sincere understanding of worship, and the honest thinking of worship; to deliver those beliefs to the coming generations. I see you all are witnesses to the Lord our



God, who loves you so much and you love Him. I would love to hear all of your questions that run through your thoughts. For God has given us a mind to praise Him and love Him fully.

A child asked Aaron: "Why does God give us so many rules to live by throughout life? Like when a baby is born, or someone dies, or when a believer touches something impure, or when someone catches a disease of leprosy, or when a house gets infected with the disease of leprosy on the walls etc. Are these things specific acts of God?"

Aaron had paused a little and told kids: "There are many things behind the rituals that are within God's thoughts, affecting our lives here on earth, and one day in Heaven when we will meet Him. The best thing to do now is to believe unceasingly with a faith unashamed. Although at times, things may not make sense, God has a purpose for all things."

Another child asked him: "Does God need these rituals?"

Aaron answered: "As we long for our Savior God, He also longs for us, because He loves us just as a father loves his sons and daughters. These rituals are only for our benefit:

1. As a symbol: for example we do not eat raptors (dangerous birds) so that we are not angry beings as they are angry creatures.

2. For our physical health, we do not eat any animal that has been preyed on by another predatory animal because the prey could transmit a virus that was stored in the teeth of the beast then transmitted to the prey, which can make us very sick.
3. God protects us from dangers. He ordered to destroy the epidemic of leprosy in a particular house because the house with a disorder in its foundations may lead to the downfall of the people inside it.
4. Our souls are an icon to the Holy God. Therefore, our souls, our bodies, our clothes, and our homes should be holy and pure just like our God.

The Fifth Meeting

The Great Day of Atonement

Another child asked Aaron: “Why did the book of Leviticus focus on the ritual of the Great Atonement (Leviticus 16) between the rules of cleansing, the discussion on the holiness of the altar, and the House of the Lord?”

Aaron answered: “This day is the greatest day throughout the entire year. It refers to the day of the coming Messiah when He sacrifices Himself on the cross. Thankfully, all of us have been cleansed with His blood: the chief priest, the priests, the entire congregation, and the Tabernacle and all its contents.

On this day, the High Priest bathes five times, and washes his hands and feet ten times in a specified golden plate, dedicated for this work. On this day also, the High Priest enters the Holy of Holies while wearing his golden clothes of glory.

One of the kids asked: **Why does he do all of those rituals?**

Aaron answered: Because nobody can describe how Jesus’ blood cleanses believers’ hearts and prepares them for the heavenly glory that is yet to come. This ritual that the priests complete is a symbol of this purification.

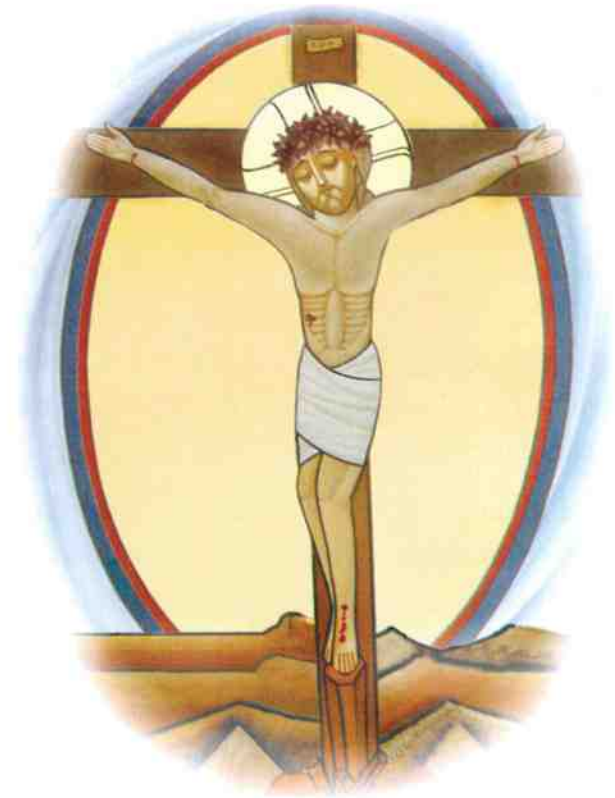
A child asked: “**What is the story of the two goats, where** the high priest slaughters one of them and leaves the other in the wilderness?”

Aaron answered: “The two goats represent the coming Messiah. Who will offer Himself as a Sacrifice for

the whole world from the day of our father Adam to the end of all ages; will be crucified and buried. The second goat refers to the Messiah who resurrects from the dead!

A child asked: “**Father, why does He have to die?**”

Aaron answered: “Because of us, my son, He will die, and for us He will rise from dead. So the believers can live with the joy of resurrection, and never come back to the fear of death, knowing that God has a plan for us. That plan is eternity with Him, peacefully in heaven.



The Sixth Meeting

Feasts and Vows

In this sixth and final meeting during the days of the Feast, Aaron said to all of the young children: “I wish to offer you a true picture of God’s love for man. We have talked in the previous meetings about the book of Leviticus: the sacrifices, the priests, the ritual of cleansing, and the great day of the Atonement. Today, I conclude our last meeting to talk about Feasts. Something that we all look forward to every year!

A child asked Aaron: **“Why did the Lord talk about the Feasts and Holidays at the end of the book instead of in the beginning?”**

Aaron answered: “This is an important question. We cannot rejoice with all our hearts unless we are first cleansed with the blood of the Messiah. This cleansing will allow us to be pure inside and outside, just as God intended us to be before partaking communion and in our every day lives. Once we are cleansed, the Holy Messiah can happily live in our hearts.

A child asked: **“God has commanded us to meet together three times a year. We come from all over the world to celebrate Passover, the Feast of Tabernacles, and Pentecost. Are there any other feasts?”**

Aaron answered: “These yearly feasts are the greatest, but the Lord, who wants us to taste the joy of heaven, settled the following feasts:

5. Weekly feast: to sanctify Saturday or “Sabbath.” The word “Sabbath” in Hebrew means “rest,” not just to stop working, but practicing the heavenly work without boredom, as we praise the Lord and thank Him. The Lord Himself is our Sabbath, which means He is our Comforter.

6. Monthly feast: we celebrate this feast every month, when it becomes a full moon. The moon refers to the Church (God’s people), because God enlightens us.



7. Yearly Feasts.

8. Festival every seven years: when we celebrate the festival throughout the whole seventh year.

9. Festival every fifty years: The 50th year is considered a Jubilee. During it, slaves are freed, and the sold and mortgaged lands of the tribes are given back to their owners. When the Messiah comes, the believers celebrate a Jubilee without stopping!



And now my children, I would like you to share the love of God in your hearts every day. So that you can be a living example to your neighbors, how powerful and amazing your God is. Remember that He is our Creator and our Savior.

So let's all exclaim: "Come quickly our Lord Jesus, the Savior Messiah! You are our joy, and our feast; you are able to satisfy our hearts, thoughts, and all our lives. Your coming will allow us to see and touch heaven with our own hands, making our faith and love for You grow so much stronger.



Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes, spanning the width of the page.