### Leviticus

## Chapter 10

1Then two of Aaron’s sons (NaDab and AbiUd) took their censers, put incense and fire in them, and offered it before Jehovah in a way that’s quite different from what they’d been commanded...  
  
2And after they did that, fire came from the Lord and consumed them, causing them to die there before Jehovah!  
  
3So Moses said to Aaron:  
  
 ‘Jehovah told us that He must be treated as holy by those who approach Him, and He must be glorified before the whole congregation!’  
  
Well, Aaron was devastated by this.  
  
4Then Moses called MisaDae and EliShaphan ([two of] the sons of Aaron’s uncle OziEl) and said to them:  
  
 ‘Come here and remove your brothers from in front of the Holy Place, then [carry their bodies] outside of the camp!’  
  
5So they came and took them (while they were still wearing their [Priestly] outfits) outside of the camp, just as Moses had said.  
  
6Then Moses said to Aaron, EliEzer, IthaMar, and his remaining sons:  
  
 ‘Now, don’t uncover your heads or tear your clothes, unless you also want to die and bring [God’s] rage down upon the entire congregation, for then your brothers and the entire house of IsraEl would start mourning this burning that came from Jehovah!  
  
 7‘And don’t leave the entrance to the Tent of Proofs or you’ll die, because Jehovah’s anointing oil is upon you!’  
  
Well, they did just as Moses told them.  
  
8Then the Lord spoke to Aaron and said:  
  
 9‘Hereafter, you and your sons must not drink any wine or liquor before you enter the Tent of Proofs or before you approach the Altar, lest you should die!  
  
 ‘This is [to be] a law throughout the ages [for all your] generations!  
  
 10‘For [you must be able to] recognize the difference between what’s sacred and what’s profane, and between what’s clean and what’s unclean!  
  
 11‘And [you must] teach the children of IsraEl all the laws that [Jehovah gave] them through Moses.’  
  
12Then Moses told Aaron, EliEzer, IthaMar, and Aaron’s surviving sons:  
  
 ‘Now, take the remaining sacrifices among the burnt offerings for Jehovah and eat [them with] fermentation-free bread close to the Altar; because, that is a very holy [place].  
  
 13‘Eating the burnt offerings to Jehovah in the Holy Place will be the law for you and your sons; for He’s commanded 14that you, your sons, and your families must eat the breast that has been set aside [for you], as well as the choicest shoulder, in the Holy Place.  
  
 ‘This is the rule for you and your sons concerning the peace-offering sacrifices [that are brought by] the children of IsraEl.  
  
 15‘They must bring the choicest shoulder and [they must] separate the breast from the burnt offerings of fat as a separate division before Jehovah. This is to be the rule for you, as well as for your sons and daughters throughout the ages, just as the Lord commanded Moses.’  
  
16Well, when Moses started looking for the goat of the sin offering, [he found that] it had already been burned in the fire!  
  
So Moses became very angry with EliEzer, IthaMar, and Aaron’s remaining sons, and he said:  
  
 17‘Why didn’t you eat the sin offering here in the Holy Place? It’s a very holy [thing that Jehovah] has given you to eat before Him, so you can remove and pay for the sins of the entire gathering!  
  
 18‘Not even its blood was brought into the Holy Place… And Jehovah commanded you to eat [the sacrifice] here before Him!’  
  
19So Aaron asked Moses:  
  
 ‘Well, if they bring their sin offerings and whole-burnt offerings to Jehovah today, and we eat the sin offerings that are brought today (despite what we’ve done), would that be pleasing to the Lord?’  
  
20And when Moses heard this, he was pleased.  
  
[Editor note: Now follows a long description of the laws. The story resumes at Leviticus 24:10.]