

# Christ in the Holiness of the Priests

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Leviticus 21-22

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# What Will You Become?

I hate what I am, and I don't know how to change it.



The Bible gives us a picture of God's design for us and how to get there.



# A. What Is Holiness?

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# Holiness as a Model

So what am I supposed to be like?

Holy.

What does that mean?

Take a look at Leviticus 21-22.



# Outline of Leviticus

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**I. The sacrifices (1-7)**

**II. Consecrating the priests (8-10)**

**III. Uncleanness and its remedy  
(11-16)**

**IV. ~~Maintaining holiness (17-27)~~**



# Areas for Maintaining Holiness

**Abstain from blood, 17**

**Sexual abominations of the nations, 18**

**Holiness in life, 19**

**Punishments for abominations, 20**

**Priests' life, 21-22**

**The great feasts, 23**

**Holy supplies and holy name, 24**

**The sabbath and jubilee years, 25**

**Blessings and curses, 26**

**Exchanging vowed items, 27**

# Areas of Priestly Holiness

## I. The priests' person, 21:1-24

Defilement for the dead, 21:1-4, 10-12

No cuttings, 21:5-6

Restriction in marriage, 21:7-9, 13-15

Bodily defects, 21:16-24

## II. The priests' food, 22:1-32

General: respect holy, 22:1-2, 9, 31-33

No eating holy while unclean, 22:3-8

Only for priest's household, 22:10-16

No defects in sacrifices, 22:17-25

Other restrictions on sacrifices, 22:26-30

Why?



# Principle of Holiness

**“Be holy to their God,” 21:6**

**Because they present offerings,  
21:6**

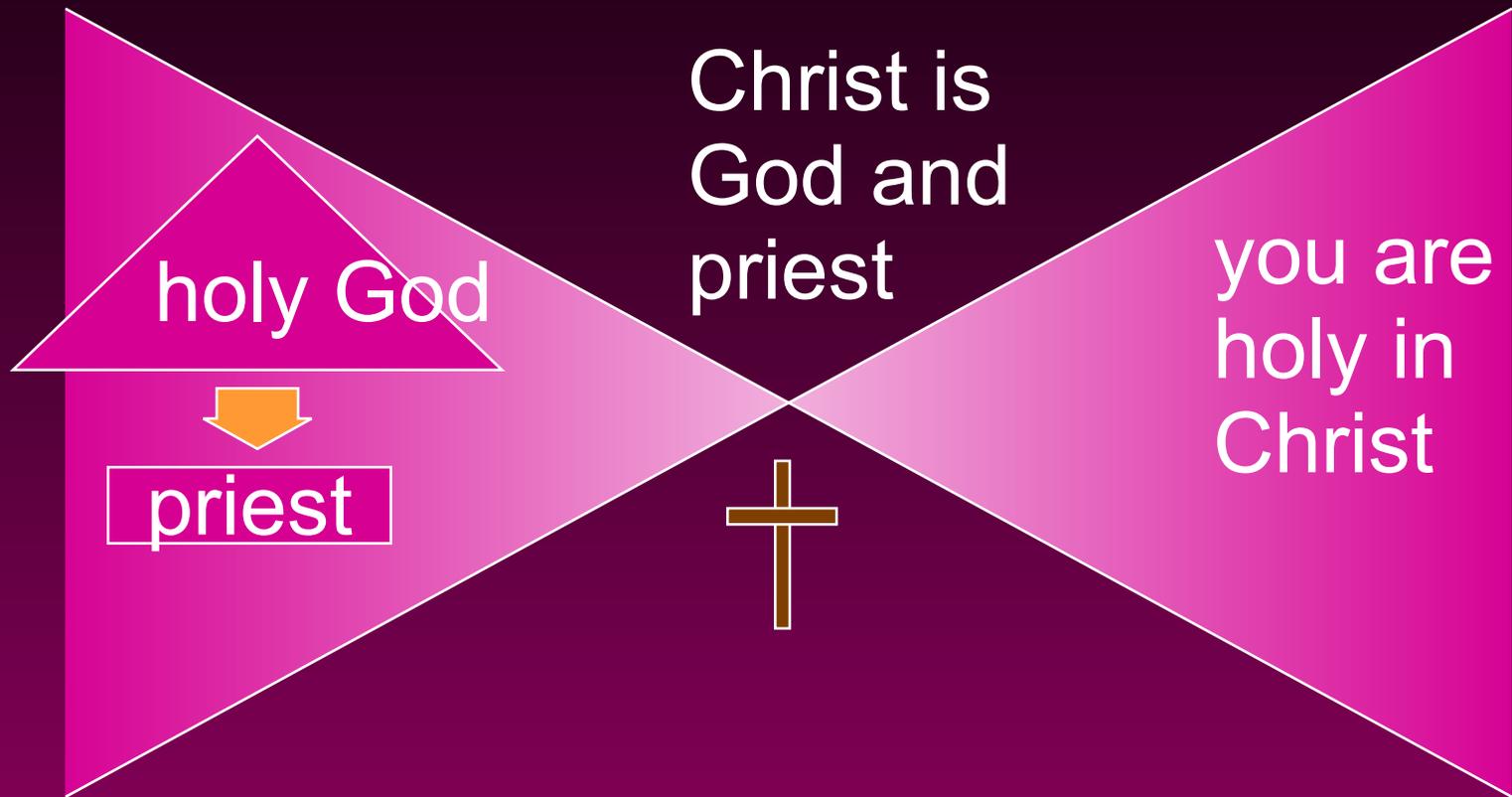
**“Because I the LORD  
am holy,” 21:8**

**“I who make you  
holy,” 21:8**

God is key.



# Fulfillment of Priest's Holiness



Heb. 10:10

# Principle of Holiness Now

In Leviticus 22

**Be holy**

**Present  
offerings**

**I the LORD  
am holy**

**I make you  
holy**

In New Testament

**Be holy, 1 Pet. 1:15**

**Present yourself,  
Rom. 12:1**

**Christ is holy, 1 Pet.  
1:16**

**Christ makes you  
holy, Heb. 10:10**

## B. The Priest's Person

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# How Do You Become New?

Now, how can  
I possibly become  
holy?

In Christ the  
great Priest.



# Expressions of Bodily Holiness

## Leviticus 21

avoid unclean

death, 1-4, 10-12  
bad wife, 7-9, 13-15

avoid marring

cuttings, 5-6

defects in bodily  
wholeness, 16-24

## Christ's fulfillment

no pollution

overcomes death,  
bad "wife" (Eph.  
5:26)

no imperfection

overcomes  
cuttings and  
marring of  
crucifixion

# Expressions of Bodily Holiness

## Leviticus 21

avoid unclean

death, 1-4, 10-12

bad wife, 7-9, 13-15

avoid marring

cuttings, 5-6

defects in bodily  
wholeness, 16-24

## Christian hope

no pollution

resurrection

new Jerusalem

no imperfection

perfect body

perfect city

Real  
perfection



## C. The Priest's Holy Food

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# Growing in Holiness

How do I grow?

It's like eating.



# Fulfillment of Holy Food

priests  
alone  
have holy  
food

Christ is  
food

you feed  
on Christ



Perfect food.



John 6:53-59

# Fulfillment of Laws for Holy Food

## Leviticus 22

**Respect holy food,  
22:1-2, 9, 31-33**

**No eating while  
unclean, 22:3-8**

**Only for the priest's  
household, 22:10-  
16**

**No defects in  
sacrifices, 22:17-25**

## In you

**Honor Christ, 1 Pet.  
3:15**

**Purity for Lord's  
Supper, 1 Cor.  
11:27-34**

**Only for priests  
(you), John 6:35-40**

**Christ leaves no  
defect, Eph. 5:26**

# Feeding on Christ

John 6:53-56: Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.

Feeding  
on Christ

The Lord's  
Supper

an intensive  
instance

# Distinction of Priests

Leviticus 22



In you

Christ is high priest,  
Heb. 7:26-8:6

You have access  
like a high priest,  
Heb. 10:19-22

pastors and elders  
have special duties  
and deserve support

# Holiness versus False Atonement

I used to have a fetish about keeping clean. I can see that I used it as a false atonement.



People know instinctively that they need atonement. If they don't go to Christ they always invent poor substitutes.

