#3: Hebrews as an Exposition of Leviticus 2018/8/27-9/2 (Crystallization-study of Leviticus 2)

I . Leviticus is a book of types, a book of typology; the most fine and detailed types of Christ are in Leviticus:

A) Christ is wonderful and all-inclusive, and plain words are not adequate to reveal Him; types, which are actually pictures, are also necessary.

B) Because Leviticus is a book of types, there is the need for it to be expounded; the apostle Paul expounded Leviticus in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

II. Hebrews is an exposition of Leviticus:

Heb.9:25 Nor in order that He might offer Himself often, just as the high priest enters into the Holy of Holies year by year by the blood of other creatures; 26 Since then He would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world. But now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested for the putting away of sin through the sacrifice of Himself.

A) In order to have the proper understanding of Leviticus, we need to see the connection

between Leviticus and Hebrews.

B) In the Epistle to the Hebrews we have the reality of the types of the offerings in chapters 1 through 7 of Leviticus:

1 The sin offering signifies Christ as the offering for the sin of God's people; our sin has been dealt with by Christ as our sin offering.

The whole sin offering, including its skin and all its flesh, with its head, legs, and its inward parts and its dung, was burned outside the camp:

- a. This signifies that Christ as the sin offering suffered reproach outside the Jewish religion. Heb. 13:11 For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the Holy of Holies for sin by the high priest are burned up outside the camp. 12 Therefore also Jesus, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.
- **b.** Christ was crucified outside Jerusalem, which is considered a camp representing the Jewish religious organization.

3 Christ came to replace the types of the

offerings in Leviticus

a. As the unique sacrifice and offering, Christ took away all the sacrifices and offerings of the old testament and established Himself as the new testament sacrifice and offerings

b. Christ came to be the real sacrifice and living offering, who offered Himself on the cross as

the reality of all the offerings.

III. The central thought of Leviticus is that the universal, all-inclusive, inexhaustible Christ is everything to God and to God's people; as an exposition of Leviticus, the Epistle to the Hebrews reveals the marvelous, mysterious, and all-inclusive person of Christ:

A) In the book of Leviticus itself we cannot see how great, excellent, wonderful, all-inclusive,

- and inexhaustible is the Christ whom we offer and enjoy as the offerings; for a revelation of the all-inclusiveness of Christ, we need to consider the aspects of Christ that are revealed in Hebrews.
- B) Christ the Son is the center, the focus, of the book of Hebrews
- C) In the New Testament, God speaks in the Son, in the person of the Son:

Heb.1:2 Has at the last of these days spoken to us in the Son, whom He appointed Heir of all things, through whom also He made the universe; 3 Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 1 The Son is God Himself, God expressed.

The essence of the book of Hebrews is

God's speaking in the Son.

③God the Father is hidden; God the Son is expressed; as the Word of God and the speaking of God, the Son has declared the Father with a full expression, explanation, and definition of Him.

D) In the Godhead the Son is the effulgence of God's glory and the impress of His substance:
 The glory is the outward expression, and the substance is the inward essence:

a. With respect to glory as the outward expression of God, the Son is the effulgence of God's glory, the brightness of the Father's glory.

With respect to substance as the inward

b. With respect to substance as the inward essence of God, the Son is the impress of God's substance, the expression of what the Father is.

②For the Son to be the effulgence of God's glory and the impress of God's substance means that the Son is God coming to us.

E) In God's creation the Son is the Creator, the Upholder, and the Heir:

①In the past all things came into existence in Him, through Him, and unto Him.

(2) In the present the Son upholds all things by the word of His power, and all things cohere in Him.

- F) The Son destroyed the devil; in the fullness of time, the Son came to become flesh by being born of a virgin so that He might destroy the devil though His death on the cross.
- G) Christ is the Author, the Captain, of our full salvation unto glory:

①God's eternal goal is to bring His many sons into glory, into the expression of God.

- ②As the Captain, Christ took the lead to enter into glory, and we, His followers, are taking the same way to be brought into the same glory, which was ordained by God for us.
- H) Christ is the Apostle and the Builder of God's house:

Heb.2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the

Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

The Lord Jesus is our Apostle, the One who was sent to us from God and with God; He came to us with God to share God with us so that we might partake of His divine life and nature.

On His humanity Christ is the material for God's house, God's building, and in His divinity

He is the Builder.

I) Christ is the merciful, faithful, and great High Priest: Heb.3:6 But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house, whose house we are if indeed we hold fast the boldness and the boast of hope firm to the end.

Ohrist is able to be a merciful and faithful High Priest because He is both the Son of God with divinity and the Son of Man with humanity; His being merciful corresponds to His being a man, and His being faithful corresponds to His being God.

2As our great High Priest, Christ is great in His person, in His work, and in His attainment; He has passed through the heavens, and He sympathizes with our weaknesses.

J) Christ is the Forerunner, who has entered within the veil.

The heavens into which the Lord Jesus entered are today the Holy of Holies within the veil.

②As the Forerunner, the Lord Jesus took the lead to pass through the stormy sea and enter into the heavenly haven to be the High Priest for us according to the order of Melchizedek.

K) Christ is the surety of a better covenant: ①In verse 22 the word surety means that Christ has pledged Himself to the new covenant and to all of us.

Heb.7:22 By so much Jesus has also become the surety of a better covenant.

②He is the Bondsman, the guarantee, that He will do everything necessary for the fulfillment of the new covenant.

L) Christ is the High Priest who is able to save us to the uttermost:

①Christ as our High Priest undertakes our

case by interceding for us.

Christ appears before God on our behalf and prays for us that we may be saved and brought fully into God's eternal purpose.

M) Christ is the Minister in the heavens.

Heb.7:25 Hence also He is able to save to the uttermost those who come forward to God through Him, since He lives always to intercede for them. 26 For such a High Priest was also fitting to us, holy, guileless, undefiled, separated from sinners and having become higher than the heavens.

(1) Christ, as a Minister of the true (heavenly) tabernacle, ministers heaven (which is not only a place but also a condition of life) into us so that we may have the heavenly life and power to live a heavenly life on earth, as He did while

He was here.

Whatever Christ carries out as the heavenly Minister, He applies to us as the Spirit; whatever He ministers is transmitted into our spirit.

N) Christ is the One who entered into the Holy of Holies in the heavens and obtained an eternal

redemption:

Christ accomplished redemption on the cross, but it was not until He entered into the heavenly Holy of Holies, that is, when He brought His redeeming blood to offer it before God, that He obtained the redemption that has an eternal effect.

Since Christ as the Lamb of God took away the sin of the world by offering Himself once for all on the cross as the sacrifice for sins, His blood, which He sprinkled in the heavenly tabernacle, has accomplished eternal redemption for us; thus, we have been redeemed with the precious blood of Christ.

Christ is the One appearing now before the

face of God for us.

O) Christ is the Initiator of a new and living way for us:

①As the Initiator of a new and living way, Christ opened the way for us to enter the Holy of Holies by His blood through the veil, His flesh.

Through the better sacrifices of Christ, we have boldness to enter into the Holy of Holies.

Although the Holy of Holies today is in heaven, where the Lord Jesus is, in 10:19 the Holy of Holies refers to the Holy of Holies in our spirit; our spirit is God's residence, the chamber in which God and Christ dwell.

P) The wonderful, all-inclusive Christ typified in Leviticus and revealed in Hebrews is our

eternal portion:

Heb.10:19 Having therefore, brothers, boldness for entering the Holy of Holies in the blood of Jesus, 20 Which entrance He initiated for us as a new and living way through the veil, that is, His flesh,

All the aspects of Christ revealed in

Hebrews are inexhaustible.

This wonderful, all-inclusive Christ is our eternal portion for us to enjoy.

Experience 1: Experience Christ as the all-inclusive and inexhaustible One

In Hebrews 10:5-10 we see that Christ is the unique sacrifice and offering....A sacrifice dealt with sin and sins, whereas an offering was a gift to God for His pleasure. All the sacrifices and offerings in the Old Testament are types of Christ as the unique sacrifice and offering in the New Testament. Through Christ as the offerings, we and God, God and we, have a mutual enjoyment, the fellowship of co-enjoyment

As the unique sacrifice and offering, Christ took away all the sacrifices and offerings of the old testament and established Himself as the new testament sacrifice and offering. Christ is our sacrifice to deal with sin and sins, and He is our offering, our gift, presented to God for God's satisfaction.

Christ came to be the real sacrifice and living offering, who offered Himself on the cross as the reality of all the offerings. He is the reality of the sin offering, the trespass offering, the burnt offering, the meal offering, and the peace offering.

The central thought of Leviticus is that the universal, all-inclusive, and inexhaustible Christ is everything to God and to God's people. Today we can speak of the enjoyment of Christ, but one day all things will be headed up in Christ (Eph. 1:10). At that time, Christ will be everything to God and man. The enjoyment of this one person will be the unique celebration in the universe.

For Junior & Senior High School Students

Although you might be just a student, you have consecrated as a priest and became an official priest. As a priest, you have to offer the five kinds of main offerings, which are sin offering, trespass offering, burnt offering, meal offering and peace offering. The reality of these offerings is Christ. Christ includes all things and inexhaustible and He is everything to God and God's people.

Christ is the secret of the study in scientific field, He is the secret of the study in liberal arts, He is the secret of the good relationship with teachers, He is the secret of the good relationship with class mates, He is the secret of the good relationship with parents and siblings. Christ is all in all for the junior and high school students like you. From the human viewpoint, there is not such a person who can be the top at the scientific field, the top at the liberal arts, the top at the sports, the top at both art and music and also excels in humanity. So usually we learn from Mr. A in math, we learn English from Miss B, we learn sports from Mr. C and learn music from Mrs. D. So it might be difficult for you to understand and experience immediately that "Christ is all-inclusive and He is all vou need".

Leviticus and Hebrews, as the exposition of Leviticus show how great, excellent, marvelous, all-inclusive and inexhaustible our Christ is. Please pray as below to drop your concept and open your mind to understand the excellency and Christs' all-inclusiveness:

"Oh Lord Jesus. I should not limit Your universal greatness by my own limited experience and knowledge. Lord, I exercise my spirit and open my mind and heart. Grant me the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. Let me realize and experience the allinclusive Christ, the universally extending Christ, inexhaustible Christ. Otherwise, Christ to me becomes the unused treasure. Let me experience Christ richly and let Christ flow out in my school life. Amen!"

Eph. 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, 18 The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,

A brother's testimony: When I was in 1st year of my master's course, I was ordered to do a very

complicated experiment. That was an experiment to determine the quantity of an element by the chemical reaction by adding the various kinds of small amount of reagent in the designated time interval. In its designated timing, I needed to pick up the sample immediately. Every action needed to be quick. I needed to measure the small amount of reagent accurately by a pipette within the limited time. Because its procedure was so complicated, it was known difficult to gain the accurate data even with the university students and professors. Knowing that I am very clumsy, I felt I was not good at this kind of operation. In fact this experiment was a terror to me. Although with fear, I called on the name of the Lord and prayed like this, "Lord, You are my dexterity. As You already know, I am very clumsy compared to the other. But I trust the Lord. Let me experience You in this experiment". As the result of such a prayer, the experiment was successful and I could gain very clear data and surprised my professor. Thank the Lord. Lord is not only my wisdom and strength, He is also my dexterity to do my experiment. Hallelujah!

Experience 2: Exercise your spirit, enter into the Holy of Holies, take Win-win strategy in your church life and business life

Hebrews 10:19-20 says, "Having therefore, brothers, boldness for entering the Holy of Holies in the blood of Jesus, which entrance He initiated for us as a new and living way through the veil, that is, His flesh." In these verses we see that Christ is the Initiator of a new and living way.

As the Initiator of a new and living way, Christ opened the way for us to enter the Holy of Holies by His blood through the veil, His flesh. This refers to His death on the cross, which rent the veil in the temple to open a new and living way for Him to enter through His own blood into the Holy of Holies, where He is in the direct presence of God, ministering as our High Priest all that God is into our being as our life and life supply in the heavenly atmosphere. The Holy of Holies is the place within the veil where we may enjoy Christ ministering the riches of God in the heavenly atmosphere. When we receive such riches of the Divine Being into our being, we enjoy Christ as the Initiator of a new and living way.

The Holy of Holies in Hebrews 10:19 refers to the Holy of Holies in our spirit. Our human spirit is the Holy of Holies, which is God's residence, the chamber in which God and Christ dwell. If we would find God and Christ, there is no need for us to go to heaven. God in Christ is so available, for He is in our spirit. The Holy of Holies in our spirit corresponds with the Holy of Holies in the heavens.

For Young Working Saints

As a business person you should take the win-win strategy in church life and working life.

Matt. 6:31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, With what shall we be clothed? 32 For all these things the Gentiles are anxiously seeking. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

The important thing in the win-win strategy, is priority (prioritization). You will regard Christ and

church as priority No. 1 and the business life as the next. So, if you find conflict between them, prioritize Christ and the church. Then your business life in need for living will be blessed. According to the revelation of Matthew 6, both the church life and the business life can be blessed under correct prioritization, so this is the win-win strategy. Strictly speaking, Win-win strategy is not a matter of balance, but a matter of prioritization. From God's point of view, lose-win or win-lose does not exist, but only win-win or lose-lose exists. Which would you choose, win-win or lose-lose?

You need to recognize that your spirit and the Holy of Holies are connected for you to carry out the winwin strategy. You should constantly exercise your spirit, burn in the spirit, and set your mind on the spirit. The living of the win-win strategy is to bring the heavenly life to earth, therefore we need to exercise the spirit and come to the Holy of Holies to live.

For example, you have recently been busy with work and overtime is on the rise. You need to exercise the wisdom and power of the Lord to properly manage your overtime. In this respect, you need to recognize the following two basic awareness:

- i. The work efficiency in the Japanese companies is the worst among the developed countries. The reason is having too much overtime work. The overtime work is made unlimited behind the Japanese work culture, the ruler of the authority of the air is dominating over Japan and purposely making the overtime work a custom for the Japanese workers to prevent them from believing in the Lord and carrying out the church life. A spiritual battle must be fought by properly managing your overtime work.
- ii. If you work overtime too much, you will lose concentration and make many mistakes. As a result, failure-recovering work is required, work efficiency becomes even worse as you fall into a negative spiral. Do not restrict overtime because for the reason of disliking the company, but with proper management of overtime for the success in the company. Also, it is necessary for you to have a normal church life.

<u>Prayer</u>: O Lord Jesus, save me from Satan's maneuvering, help me so the overtime work will not be in the way of my church life. The overtime work culture is hindering the believers from having a normal church life. I will fight against Satan and Satan's accomplices' hostile power in the air. I will take the win-win strategy for my church life and business life. Allow me to become a business person with testimony. Praying in the name of the Lord.

<u> Hymn 510</u>

I've found the One of peerless worth,
 My heart doth sing for joy;
 And sing I must, for Christ I have:
 Oh, what a Christ have I!
 My Christ, He is the Lamb of God,
 Who full salvation brings;
 He is the Sun of Righteousness,
 With healing in His wings.

- 3 My Christ, He is the Tree of Life With fruit abundant, sweet; My hunger He doth satisfy; Of Him I daily eat.
- 4 My Christ, He is the smitten Rock
 Whence living waters burst;
 He is the fountain in my heart
 Which quenches all my thirst.
- 5 Christ is my life, my light my way, My comfort and my health, My peace, my rest, my joy, my hope, My glory and my wealth.
- 6 Christ is my wisdom and my pow'r, My boast and righteousness, My vict'ry and redemption sure, My truth and holiness.
- 7 Christ is my Savior, Shepherd, Lord, My Advocate above, My Counsellor, my Father, God, My Brother, Friend, and Love.
- 8 Christ is my Captain and my Guard,
 My Teacher and my Guide,
 My Bridegroom, Master and my Head;
 In me doth He reside.
- 9 Christ is my Prophet, Priest, and King; My Prophet full of sight; My Priest that stands 'twixt me and God, My King that rules with might.
- 10 Christ is the Author of my faith, And its Perfecter too, My Mediator, Guarantee, And faithful Witness true.
- 11 Christ is my everlasting home, My all-sufficient land; My fortress, tower, hiding-place, And my eternal stand.
- 12 Christ is my sabbath and new moon, My morning and my day, My age and my eternity That ne'er will pass away.
- 13 Christ is my trust and my desire,In comeliness replete,My satisfaction and delight,Who all my need doth meet.
- 14 My Christ, the all-inclusive One, My Christ what shall I call? He is the first, He is the last, My Christ is All in all.
- 15 Since such a treasure I possess, My heart doth sing for joy; And I must sing, and sing again; Oh, what a Christ have I!