VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament Lesson 35: A Priest for the People

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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Mr. Daniel Van Brugge is a teacher at Timothy Christian School in Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada.

www.timothychristian.ca

Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge 36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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- 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation
- 04. A Gracious Promise
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- 06. Only Noah Found Grace
- 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape
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- 10. Abram: Called by God
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35. A Priest for the People

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- 51. Ruth the Moabitess
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- 60. Thou Art the Man
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- 106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
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- 108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
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- 110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
- 111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
- 112. Zechariah Prophesies of Christ
- 113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 35

A Priest for the People

The Book of Exodus, chapters 28 through 31

Memory Verse

"Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; and it shall be an altar most holy: whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy."

Exodus 29:37

A Place for the People

It was a beautiful thing the Lord had done, to place the Tabernacle among his people. A place of reconciliation for all Israel to see, no matter where they encamped. Whether on the north, the south, the east, or west, the way of reconciliation was before all the people. This is true today for all those that live under a faithful gospel ministry. As rich as this privilege is, we know that it is not enough. The people had to come to the Tabernacle, bringing a sacrifice and confessing their sins.

When the people brought their sacrifice, they could not offer it themselves. Nor could they enter into the Holy Place, or the Holy of Holies. God was of purer eyes than to behold iniquity— "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" (Habakkuk 1:13). How then could the people hope to find mercy and pardon with God?

The Priest's Office is Established

God, in his mercy, called for Aaron and his sons to fill the office of priest for the Tabernacle. As priest, Aaron and his sons would fulfill the duties of the Tabernacle. They and they alone could offer the sacrifices, and only they could come before the presence of the Lord in the Holy Place. Only the high priest could enter in before the Lord in the Holy of Holies once a year.

As priests, Aaron and his sons had to have special clothing. They were to be distinct from all others. Therefore, God commanded that they had to wear special garments for special reasons:

First, it showed that they were separate from the people. The one who interceded for the
people had to be set apart from the people. Jesus Christ was appointed to his office as
Savior in eternity. However, he was consecrated to the office of Savior when he was
baptized and the Spirit descended upon him, and his Father declared his pleasure in his
Son.

• Second, it covered their nakedness. Nakedness is often a reference to the sinfulness of a people. Because Aaron and his sons were conceived in a natural way, they, like all people, were born with a corrupt nature— "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). They could not approach the Lord in their sinfulness. Therefore, they needed a robe to cover their sinfulness.

The priesthood of Aaron pointed to Jesus Christ, the greater Aaron. Jesus Christ is a priest who intercedes for those that come to God by him.

- Unlike Aaron and his sons, Christ did not need a garment to cover his sins, for he was without sin— "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).
- Unlike Aaron and his sons, Christ does not offer the blood of bullocks and rams, but he offers his own precious blood, that blood which was shed on Calvary's cross for the remission of sin.
- Unlike Aaron and his sons who had to offer sacrifices daily, Christ offered his body a sacrifice one time for all time— "Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself" (Hebrews 7:27).
- Unlike Aaron and his sons, who could only come before the presence of God in the Holy
 of Holies once a year, Jesus Christ is on the right hand of the Father in heaven, continually
 making intercession for all them that come to God by him.

Carrying the People

One of the many items made for Aaron which should draw our interest is the breastplate. The Lord commanded that a breastplate be made. In that breastplate were to be contained twelve stones. On each stone was to be engraved the name of a tribe of Israel. In addition to this, two onyx stones were to have the names of the twelve children of Israel engraved on them. Six names on one stone, and six names on the other. These onyx stones were set in pouches on the shoulders of the priest's garment. The priest carried with him their names on the breastplate and the onyx stones, to show that none of the children of Israel were to be forgotten.

In this, we see how the priest did not represent himself, but he represented the people. We see further that his function was not merely form and custom, but he was to carry the needs of the people close to his heart. In addition, he bore the burden of their sins upon his shoulders.

This picture of the Aaronic priest portrays beautifully what Jesus Christ does for his people. First, in the onyx stones, we see how he has borne the sins of his people upon his shoulders. Though never so heavy, he bore them faithfully to the end. Secondly, in the breastplate, we see how he carries them close to his heart. In the life of Peter, we see how the Lord Jesus Christ holds dear all those who put their trust in him. Peter was a man who at one time doubted, at another time

denied, and yet because Christ loved Peter, he would not let him go. "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not" (Luke 22:31–32).

Review Questions

1. All of the following were sons of Aar	on who were to minister	r in the priests office, exce	pt:
a. Abihu			
b. Ithamar			
c. Bezalel			
d. Nadab			
e. Eleazar			
2."Andthoushaltmake	garments for Aaron	nthy brother for	
and for"			
3. The stones in the breastplate were to	appear	·	
a. In a single row of twelve.			
b. In two rows of six.			
c. In three rows of four.			
d. In four rows of three.			
4. Which of the following was not a stor	ne found in the breastpla	ate?	
a. Beryl			
b. Onyx			
c. Jasper			
d. Diamond			
5. The breastplate was called the breastp	plate of		
a. Mercy			
b. Righteousness			
c. God			
d. Judgment			
. "And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the		and the	;
and they shall be upon Aaron's	, when he goe	, when he goeth in before the;	
and Aaron shall bear the	of the	of Israel u	pon his
before the LORD			

7. A plate was to be made of pure gold. The plate was to have engraved upon it the words, "Holiness to the LORD." This plate was to be placed on Aaron's:		
a. Forearm		
b. Right thigh		
c. Right hand		
d. Forehead		
Discussion Questions		
1. We read in Exodus 28:34 that the hem of the priest's garment was to have a "golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate." What was the purpose of the bells?		
2. Discuss how Aaron was a type of the Lord Jesus Christ.		
3. Read Exodus 31:12–17 and discuss the significance of the sabbath day.		