

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Clarke Lee's Commentary: We have in chapter 28 the repeating of the sacrificial laws and sacrifices and the things associated therewith, which we have discussed at length both in Exodus and Leviticus. Why then is God giving them again here? There are numerous reasons, some are as follow:

- We now have a new High Priest, Aaron has died and Eleazar, his son, is his replacement
- We have a new leader set forth, Joshua has been anointed in Moses's place
- Most all the people who were present when the laws were given, and reviewed, in the earlier chapters are dead. Only Joshua and Caleb remain of the people who were there at the beginning. Although Moses is here present he will not enter the Promised Land.

There is also the belief, by many commentators, that some of the sacrifices had been forgotten and not practiced on the wilderness march. We have some scriptural support of this in:

Am 5:25-26 25 Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? 26 But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. We see in this scripture that God is reminding them that they have been neglectful in their sacrifices to Him, but very careful to keep their idols.

Ac 7:42-43 42 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? 43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon. Here in the New Testament we have the same analogy reiterated.

We also know that they have just been rebuked for idolatry and whoredom committed through the council of Balaam. With all these collective thoughts; we see that it was probably necessary that God reiterate all the requirements of worship for himself and the forgiveness of their sins.

One final thought and application of the renewal of these sacrifices is:

The Promised Land was given to Israel on a conditional promise as seen in these references:

De 4:1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

De 4:40 Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, forever.

De 6:20-25 20 And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? 21 Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: 22 And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: 23 And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers. 24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. 25 And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us.

As we observe these references, we see that it is indeed conditional that God's statutes, judgments, and commandments, be kept; to keep one's self in favor with God. This principle would be just as applicable in our lives today as then. We have this specifically directed to us in scripture in:

Joh 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Joh 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

Not only does God tell us to obey his commandments he also directs us to obey his Word:

Joh 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Joh 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

Some would ask; what is the difference in His Commandments and His Word? Commandments are direct orders to do or not do something. God's word is all the bible and though the directives of the word may not be direct orders to do or not do; the word of God is loved and obeyed, in all its teachings and inferences, because of the love that God has given the Born Again sinner, which is like the love of a child who loves and wants to please their parents.

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