

Service Please!

Role of the Laity in the Levitical Priesthood

Service Please!

- Service! What is our Service Role?
- Service! Is a Matter of the Heart
- Service! Service is not enough!

Who's Levi anyway?

Lineage

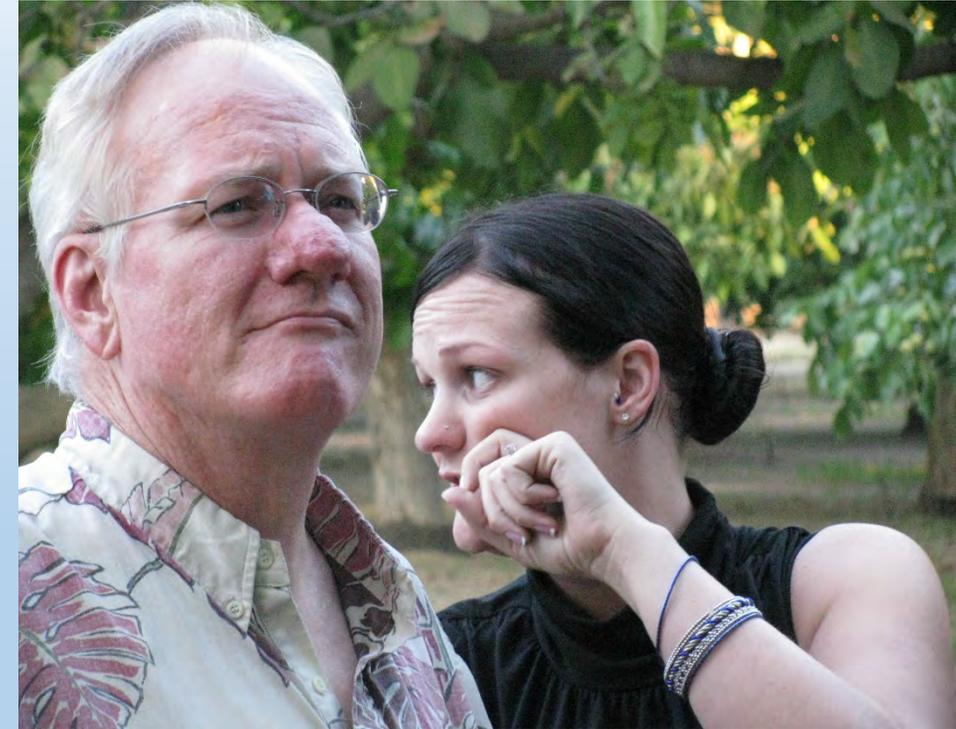
- He was Jacob and Leah's (Rachel's sister) boy!
- Blossoms into his own "Tribe" – the "Levites"
 - Gen. 29:34; Ex. 6:19b-25

Called out

- Remember the Golden Calf?
 - The Tribe of the Levites gets called out Ex. 32
 - – Golden Calf!
 - They chose God over all others

Specific Calling – SERVICE PLEASE!

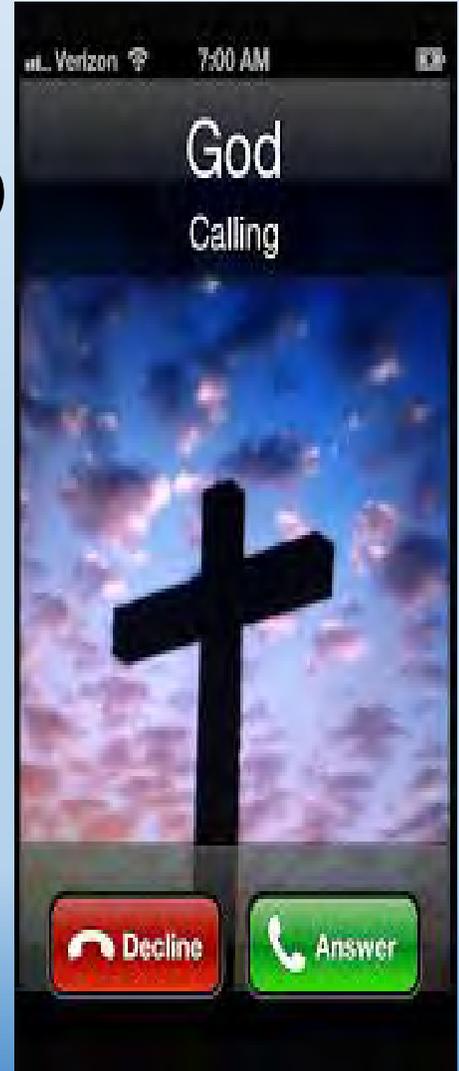
- Two kinds of Levitical priests
 - Aaronic priests and "all others"



Levi is you and me – and “Them”

The call to service gets split in two

- Aaronic Priesthood – “Them” –
Ordained Clergy
- “All Other” – “Us” – not ordained





“Them”

- Aaronic Priesthood – “Them”
- “Spiritual” interface

- Wore the “fancy” clothes
- Sacrificed the livestock
- Heard from God
- Made the offerings
- Tabernacle movement

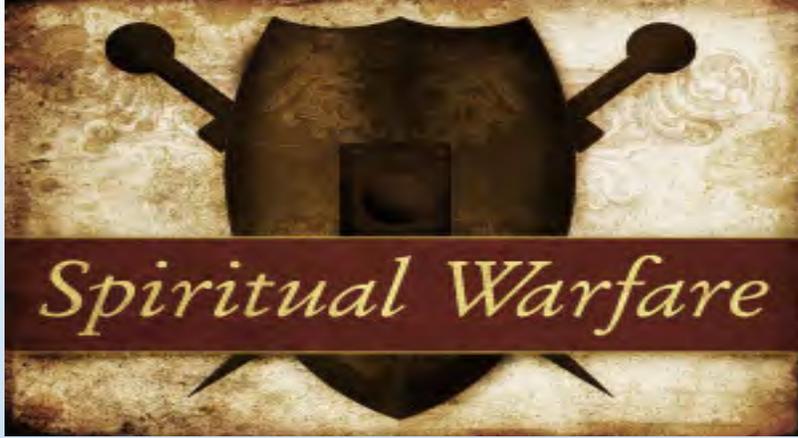


“Us”

We are the Construction Crew

- Called to care for “...the tabernacle of Testimony” Num. 1:50-53
 - Different pieces of the Tabernacle and its uses Num. 4
 - Carrying the burden of the materials
 - Holy Roadies
 - All that needs to be done with these things.





“Us”

We are the Back Office Support / “Special Ops”

- Protect it!
 - Recorded all the goods of the tabernacle (Ex. 38:21)
 - Gatekeepers (2 Chrn 34:9)
 - Musicians (2 Chrn 34:12)
 - Secretaries and scribes



“Us”

We are the Advocates – Protectors of the Found

- Stand in the breach between the divine and the world
 - Placement of the Tabernacle
 - In the middle of the people (Numbers 2:17)
 - But they were between the people and the Tabernacle to protect the people (Numbers 1:53)
 - Warning not to rebel against the Aaronic priesthood nor against God
 - Ground opened and swallowed the up. (Numbers 16)

“Us”

We are the Advocates – Protectors of the Lost

Marketing – evangelism

- Marketing has to go on 24 X 7
- Pastor cannot do it.
- How Christ is present in Yuba City depends on “Us”
 - 99% are not pastors
 - The visitors in the narthex (lobby/atrium) – whatever you call it
 - The Poor – At social events – In the market place
- If marketing fails – look at the salesman

Service Please! Is a Matter of the Heart

- How it's done – being like-minded with Christ
 - Without love I am a sounding gong
 - [1 Peter 4:10](#)
 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to **serve others**, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
 - [Mark 10:45](#)
 - “For even the Son of Man did not come to be **served**, but to **serve**, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Service Please! Is a Matter of the Heart

- How do I get there?

- *Value yourself*

- Volunteering build you and others

- Resume / Personal / Adds meaning to your life

- Inter-relationships / Lower Blood pressure

- Less stress – live longer!

- Valuing others starts with valuing yourself

- Self worth should be embedded in your position as a Child of the King



Service Please! Is a Matter of the Heart

- How it's done – value others above yourselves
- It's not your value system – It's God's
 - The poor, the meek, the down-trodden?
 - The rich, the brazen, those of social status?

Service Please! Is a Matter of the Heart

- How it's done – value others above yourselves
 - It's not about you "Us" – grow up!
 - ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.
 - It's not about you "Us" – Protect!
 - [2 Timothy 2:14](#) Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no **value**, and only ruins those who listen.

Service Please! Matter of the Heart

K.I.S.S.

How's it done?

**Look to the interests of the
others**



Service Alone is not Enough “Highest Priest”

- It's still not enough to save mankind!
 - [Hebrews 7:11](#)
 - Jesus Like Melchizedek] If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood—and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood—why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? 12 For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also. 13 He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. 14 For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. 15 And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, 16 one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is declared:
 - Jesus becomes the high priest and thereby we have access to God.
 - Hebrews 7:10-12 New International Version (NIV)
 - 10 because when Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was still in the body of his ancestor. 11 If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood—and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood—why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? 12 For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also.

Life Application

- Service Please!
 - You have a valued service to offer!
- Service Please!
 - Know the value of your calling
- Service Please!
 - Don't quit!
- Service Please!
 - Live in to it...own your service

