

# Leviticus 9:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.

## Analysis

**And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.**

This verse falls within the section on **Priests Begin Their Ministry**. Aaron's first official sacrifices as high priest, culminating in God's glory appearing and fire consuming the offerings.

The Aaronic priesthood mediated between God and Israel, offering sacrifices and maintaining the tabernacle. This prefigured Christ's superior priesthood after the order of Melchizedek.

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

## Historical Context

Aaron's first official sacrifices as high priest, culminating in God's glory appearing and fire consuming the offerings. Chapters 8-10 describe the priesthood's consecration and early ministry. Aaron and his sons received special anointing for their mediatorial role between God and Israel. The tragic account of Nadab and Abihu (ch. 10) demonstrates that approaching God requires reverence and obedience. Ancient Near Eastern cultures had various sacrificial systems, but

Israel's sacrificial worship was unique in its ethical foundation, monotheistic framework, and emphasis on atonement rather than appeasement. Unlike pagan rituals focused on manipulating deities, Israel's sacrifices acknowledged God's sovereignty and sought reconciliation based on His gracious provision. Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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מֵשֶׁה	וְאַבְרָהָם	וְאַל	וְכָל	וְעַל	וְבְּצִבְעָן
went	And Moses	and Aaron	H413	into the tabernacle	of the congregation
H935	H4872	H175		H168	H4150
וְבָא	וְבָרַךְ	וְאָתָה	וְצִוָּה	וְכִבּוֹד	וְהַלְלוּ
and came out	and blessed	H853	H5971	H7200	H3519
H3318	H1288				H3068
וְכָל	וְבָשָׂר				
H413	H3605	the people	H5971		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 9:6** (Glory): And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commanded that ye should do: and the glory of the LORD shall appear unto you.

**Numbers 16:19** (Glory): And Korah gathered all the congregation against them unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the congregation.

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