



FAITH MAIL

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The Danger of False Fire

Brothers and Sisters,

As you read the book of Leviticus, you'll notice it contains detailed instructions on sacrifices, offerings, and the proper approach to worshipping Yahweh. These guidelines highlight the profound importance of His holiness and the lengths He'll go to safeguard it. The central message is clear: Yahweh is holy, and those who serve Him and dwell in His presence must also strive to be holy.

Leviticus 10:1-3 tells the tragic story of Nadab and Abihu, two of Aaron's sons who failed to show proper respect for Yahweh's holiness. They entered the Tabernacle and offered false fire before Him, and fire consumed them. Aaron's sons made several mistakes that day – here are just two. Firstly, it was not their responsibility to present incense to Yahweh; it was their father's role as high priest (Exodus 30:7–10). Secondly, they used their own incense burners instead of the prescribed burner, which had been anointed with sacred oil (Exodus 40:9). They were guilty of the sin of presumption – assuming they knew better than Yahweh's established order. Their actions resulted in their untimely death, which serves as a stark reminder of the consequences of failing to take Yahweh's holiness seriously.

A few verses later (Leviticus 10:8-9), Yahweh commanded Aaron and his other sons not to have fermented drink (wine) when they came before Him to minister so they wouldn't die. This suggests that Nadab and Abihu's demise was due to them being under the influence of alcohol when they entered the Tabernacle to minister. They weren't fully in control of themselves or focused on the holy thing they were supposed to do.

As we serve Yahweh, let's be mindful of the source from which our worship, prayer, and service to Him flow. In Ephesians 5:18, the Apostle Paul urges us to avoid getting drunk with wine, which can lead to reckless and immoral behaviour. Instead, he encourages us to be filled with the Holy Spirit. When we allow the Spirit to motivate our worship and service, we won't be driven by corrupt or selfish motives. The Spirit will lead us to live and serve in a manner that's holy and pleasing to Yahweh.

Alcot