

[“STRANGE FIRE” is a story of “CONSECRATION” in Leviticus.](#)

Lev 10:1 Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, which he had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the Lord has said: ‘Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.’ ” And Aaron held his peace.

Leviticus is about the way we approach God in service (those that minister before Him)

- The first tabernacle had been erected, and Aaron was doing a lot of sacrificing per God’s instructions ([Leviticus 8–9](#)).
- One day, two of Aaron’s sons, **Nadab and Abihu** came along and offered incense with “strange fire.”
- The Hebrew word translated “strange” means “**unauthorized, foreign, or profane.**” God not only rejected their sacrifice; He found it so offensive that He consumed the two men with fire.
- After Nadab and Abihu were killed, Moses explained to Aaron why God had done this thing:

“This is what the LORD spoke of when he said: ‘Among those who approach me I will show myself Holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honoured’” ([Leviticus 10:3](#)).

1. The exact nature of the profane fire isn’t known, but, as it was **unauthorized**, it’s likely that they were burning the incense with fire **of their own making** rather than taking fire **from** the altar, as specified in [Leviticus 16:12](#).
2. Or the two men entered the tabernacle drunk incapacitated and couldn’t remember what a violation was.
3. Even a youthful prank that backfired and brought Gods judgement ([Leviticus 10:8–9](#)).
We are as young ministers are really like puppies, full of enthusiasm but little discipline and obedience
 - Either way, their offering was considered profane, (neither right or respectful)
 - Their **disregard** for Gods holiness and lack of honour/obedience for God and His holiness.
 - Their carelessness and irreverence before the altar brought their downfall.

In judging **Nadab and Abihu**, God was sending a clear message to the priesthood (***both then and yet to come***), that God demands honour, reverence, and prayerful obedience in **how** we approach the altar with sacrifice and worship (incense).

The importance of worship is seen in how we prepare our own hearts before him.

- **Worship is about reverence and heart and consecration** [Leviticus 19:21-22](#)
- **God knows our hearts**, what **we believe** and our **attitude** toward Him. [Ps 111:10](#)
- We cannot offer Him our proud –self-help “sacrifices” that are unworthy of Him.
- He seeks humility **in us**, and those ready to sacrifice their pride and lay before Him humble and contrite hearts grieving for sin. [Ps 51:17](#), [Heb 12:7-11](#), [1 Cor 11:29-30](#)
- The way we approach worship, sets the standard for **HOW – WHAT** and **WHY** we worship
- Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God [Romans 12:1](#)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.
To him belongs eternal praise. [Psalm 111:10](#)