

- a. Personal Priesthood...the pre-Mosaic ideal..notes on Job, Abraham, etc.
- b. Collective worship...service on the holy days of Israel and direction of the religious life of the people.
- c. Particular service of priestly orders:

- (1) the altar
- (2) the sanctuary
- (3) the temple...

Note there was but one High Priest, many lesser priest, and a host of Levites. Particular service was designated with regard to the individual. There is, of course, only One High Priest today but every believer is a priest...there are no Levites and there is no priestly class as opposed to "regular folks."

- d. Notes on character:

The Old Testament priest needed to manifest as much perfection as possible...including an absence of physical imperfections, blemishes, etc. It is reassuring to know that the New Testament priest is complete in Christ and so has no shortcomings, etc., so far as positional relationships are concerned.

- e. From the Old Testament priesthood and the history of Israel, we may make this general principle: when God is given his rightful place and is seen as being in control of the nation and its economy, etc., there is a growing stress on worship. As the centrality of the Lord decreases, worship is replaced by increased service and exercise. When the loss of centrality is complete, worship is purely ritual and service/exercise is purely social.

## 5. Basic Notes on the New Testament Order

- a. The position: A priesthood of believers...note the following important items:

- (1) Access to the Father is promised by Christ (Eph. 2)
- (2) ( The Apostle has given a number of definitive statements stressing the reality of the office (1 Pet. 2)
- (3) We are accorded the positional reality of entrance into the Holiest of All.
- (4) We have a common concern with all other believers for the glory and will of God.