



# Practicing God's Presence

Numbers 3-4

# The Levites

- The Levites had two primary tasks:
  - Perform guard duty around the tabernacle
  - Carry and care for all the parts of the tabernacle when they were on the march
- The task of moving the tabernacle was the responsibility of the three clans of the Levites:
  - Kohath was to carry the most sacred and important objects like the Ark of the Covenant.
  - Gershon was to carry and care for the 'soft parts' of the Tabernacle like the curtains.
  - Merari was to carry and care for the heavy cumbersome pieces like the bars, pillars, poles and furniture.

# God

- **God is both Transcendent and Immanent at the same time.**
- **Transcendent means that God is so far beyond us that we do not have a chance of ever knowing Him.**
- **Immanent means He is like us, He is close to us, and we can know Him personally.**
- **Every other culture or religion worships a god who is either transcendent or immanent but never both.**
- **The same God, whose ways and thoughts are far above ours, created us in His image.**

# What Is Your View Of God

- Very few people have a balanced view of God because of the way they were raised or taught.
- In a liturgical background you are taught a transcendent view of God, so He is distant, hard to approach and know.
- Just as dangerous is a completely immanent idea of God; the idea that God is my buddy.
- God is so holy that if you were to see Him as He is you would vaporize!
- The threat of death from God's holiness is a clear and present danger so do not take Him lightly.

# God Has Not Changed

- God goes through all this detail in Numbers so that He could dwell with the Israelites without destroying them.
- God has not changed in His commitment to holiness.
- God has given us detailed instructions in His Word, telling us how we should live so we can enjoy a good life.
- When you really understand how wise and holy God is, you begin to love and obey His law.
- None of us can be perfect, but perfection is the standard!

# Conclusion

- Today, nothing has changed.
- God demands perfect holiness.
- Christ died the death our sins deserved so that we can come into the presence of a perfect, holy God and know Him without dying!
- We need to take our duty to serve God as seriously as the Levites took it in Numbers!