

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

June 21, 2026

Leviticus 10:8-11

Introduction:

1. Aaron and his sons were commanded not to mourn for Nadab and Abihu.
 - a) **Leviticus 10.6:** *“Do not uncover your head nor tear your clothes lest you die”*
 - b) Culturally, mourning was an outward expression of grief. (cf. Ezek. 24.15-17)
 - c) Covering your lips was done for three reasons. (Ezek. 25.17; Micah 3.7; Lev. 13.45)
2. In the contextual flow, Aaron and his sons were also given a second command.

I. THE COMMAND NOT TO DRINK ALCOHOL

A. The prohibition.

1. **Leviticus 10.8,9:** *“Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink”*
 - a) *“Wine or intoxicating drink”* is all inclusive. No alcohol of any kind.
 - b) Grammatically, a circumstantial prohibition. (cf. Ex. 20.13)
 - c) What was the circumstance? (Lev. 10.9; cf. Ezek. 44.21)
2. **Leviticus 10.9:** *“you, nor your sons with you.”* Specific to the priesthood.
3. **Leviticus 10.9:** *“lest you die.”* Approaching God intoxicated carried the death penalty. (Lev. 10.2,3; 8.35; Ex. 28.35)
4. **Leviticus 10.9:** *“It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations”*
 - a) Statute: Literally, engraved ordinance. A law set in stone.
 - b) Priesthood laws were often permanent. (cf. Lev 6:18; 7:34; 16:34; 17:7)

B. The purpose.

1. **Leviticus 10.10:** *“that you may distinguish”* (cf. Prov. 31.4-7)
 - a) **Leviticus 10.10:** *“between holy and unholy”* Describes status.
 - b) **Leviticus 10.10:** *“and between unclean and clean”* Describes condition.
2. **Leviticus 10.11:** *“and that you may teach the children of Israel”* Priest were both to sacrifice and to teach. (cf. Ezek. 22.26; 44.23; Micah 3.1)
3. As priests, we have the same responsibilities. (1 Pet. 2.5; Col. 3.16)

II. DOES GOD CONDEMN DRINKING TODAY?

A. The prohibition.

1. **1 Peter 4.3:** *“drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties”*
2. Does Jesus authorize casual consumption? (John 2.7-9)
3. Are there circumstances where alcohol is permitted? (1 Tim. 5.23)

B. The purpose.

1. Alcohol captures your attention. (Prov. 23.29-34)
2. Alcohol compromises your influence. (Phil. 2.14,15)
3. Alcohol clouds your judgment. (1 Tim. 3.3,8)