

Ezekiel 44:1-31 **Laws for East Gate – Prince - Priests**

The East Gate and the Prince

1 Then He brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary which faces toward the east, but it was shut.

2 And Yahweh (the Lord) said to me, "This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter by it, because Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel) has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut.

3 As for the prince, because he is the prince, he may sit in it to eat bread before Yahweh (the Lord); he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way."

Those Admitted to the Temple

4 Also He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple; so I looked, and behold, the glory of Yahweh (the Lord) filled the house of Yahweh (the Lord); and I fell on my face.

5 And Yahweh (the Lord) said to me, "Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears, all that I say to you concerning all the ordinances of the house of Yahweh (the Lord) and all its laws. Mark well who may enter the house and all who go out from the sanctuary.

6 "Now say to the rebellious, to the house of Israel, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "O house of Israel, let Us have no more of all your abominations.

7 When you brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in My sanctuary to defile it — My house — and when you offered My food, the fat and the blood, then they broke My covenant because of all your abominations.

8 And you have not kept charge of My holy things, but you have set others to keep charge of My sanctuary for you."

9 Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart or uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter My sanctuary, including any foreigner who is among the children of Israel.

Laws Governing Priests & Levites

10 "And the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity.

11 Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the house and ministers of the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

12 Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised My hand in an oath against them," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God), "that they shall bear their iniquity.

13 And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.

14 Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the temple, for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it.

15 "But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God).

16 "They shall enter My sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.

17 And it shall be, whenever they enter the gates of the inner court, that they shall put on linen garments; no wool shall come upon them while they minister within the gates of the inner court or within the house.

18 They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen trousers on their bodies; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat.

19 When they go out to the outer court, to the outer court to the people, they shall take off their garments in which they have ministered, leave them in the holy chambers, and put on other garments; and in their holy garments they shall not sanctify the people.

20 "They shall neither shave their heads, nor let their hair grow long, but they shall keep their hair well trimmed.

21 No priest shall drink wine when he enters the inner court.

22 They shall not take as wife a widow or a divorced woman, but take virgins of the descendants of the house of Israel, or widows of priests

23 "And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths.

25 "They shall not defile themselves by coming near a dead person. Only for father or mother, for son or daughter, for brother or unmarried sister may they defile themselves.

26 After he is cleansed, they shall count seven days for him.

27 And on the day that he goes to the sanctuary to minister in the sanctuary, he must offer his sin offering in the inner court," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God).

28 "It shall be, in regard to their inheritance, that I am their inheritance. You shall give them no possession in Israel, for I am their possession.

29 They shall eat the grain offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering; every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs.

30 The best of all firstfruits of any kind, and every sacrifice of any kind from all your sacrifices, shall be the priest's; also you shall give to the priest the first of your ground meal, to cause a blessing to rest on your house.

31 The priests shall not eat anything, bird or beast, that died naturally or was torn by wild beasts.
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

The East Gate and the Prince

✧ Then He brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary which faces toward the east, but it was shut.

And Yahweh (the Lord) said to me, "This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter by it, because Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel) has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut.

As for the prince, because he is the prince, he may sit in it to eat bread before Yahweh (the

Lord); he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way."

[Ezekiel 44:1-3]

✧ Because Yahweh Elohey Yisrael entered through the Eastern Gate, it is closed to everyone but the Prince who may enter the by way of the vestibule, eat there before Yahweh, and go out the same way.

Those Admitted to the Temple

✧ Also He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple; so I looked, and behold, the glory of Yahweh (the Lord) filled the house of Yahweh (the Lord); and I fell on my face.

And Yahweh (the Lord) said to me, "Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears, all that I say to you concerning all the ordinances of the house of Yahweh (the Lord) and all its laws. Mark well who may enter the house and all who go out from the sanctuary. [Ezekiel 44:4-5]

✧ The Spirit brought Ezekiel from the north gate to the front of the Temple where he could see that the Glory of Yahweh filled the Temple.

✧ Ezekiel was commanded to observe well everything concerning the laws of the House of Yahweh, noting especially those who may enter the house and all who go out from the Sanctuary.

✧ "Now say to the rebellious, to the house of Israel, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "O house of Israel, let Us have no more of all your abominations.

When you brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in My sanctuary to defile it — My house — and when you offered My food, the fat and the blood, then they broke My covenant because of all your abominations.

And you have not kept charge of My holy things, but you have set others to keep charge of My sanctuary for you."

Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart or uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter My sanctuary, including any foreigner who is among the children of Israel. [Ezekiel 44:6-9]

✧ This law is based on the past failure of Israel concerning the rights of foreigners pertaining to service in the Temple of Yahweh.

✧ Temple service was originally reserved for the Priests the descendants of Aaron as administrators and the tribe of Levi doing the work of the Temple and Tabernacle.

✧ The general public and foreigners were restricted to the outer court for worship only.

✧ Bringing foreigners into the Temple was forbidden.

✧ When the priests and Levites began hiring the foreigners to be laborers in the Temple Yahweh viewed it as defilement.

✧ Yahweh here renews the same concept of restricting foreigners from the Temple service.

✧ In the Kingdom Temple they must be at least circumcised in the heart and appointed by Yahweh as a reward for their faithfulness and martyrdom through the Great Tribulation.

[Revelation 7:9-16, 20:4-6]

Laws Governing Priests & Levites

✧ "And the **Levites** who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity.

Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the house and ministers of the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised My hand in an oath against them," says Adoney Yahweh (the

Lord God), "that they shall bear their iniquity.

And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.

Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the temple, for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it. [Ezekiel 44:10-14]

- ✧ The **Levites** who strayed from Yahweh to idolatry may not come near to minister to Yahweh or near any of the Holy things of the Temple or into the Most Holy place.
- ✧ They shall bear their iniquity and be restricted to service as gatekeepers, doing the work of the Temple, and ministers to the people, slaying their burnt offerings and sacrifices.
- ✧ "But the **Priests**, the **Levites**, the **sons of Zadok**, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God).

"They shall enter My sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.

And it shall be, whenever they enter the gates of the inner court, that they shall put on linen garments; no wool shall come upon them while they minister within the gates of the inner court or within the house.

They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen trousers on their bodies; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat.

When they go out to the outer court, to the outer court to the people, they shall take off their garments in which they have ministered, leave them in the holy chambers, and put on other garments; and in their holy garments they shall not sanctify the people.

"They shall neither shave their heads, nor let their hair grow long, but they shall keep their hair well trimmed. [Ezekiel 44:15-20]

- ✧ **Priests**, the **Levites**, the **sons of Zadok**, because they remained faithful when Israel went astray, shall come near Yahweh, stand before Him and minister in the Sanctuary, come near His table, keep His charge and offer the fat and the blood.
- ✧ Clothing laws are spelled out. [verses 17-19]
- ✧ Hair length spelled out. [verse 20]
- ✧ No priest shall drink wine when he enters the inner court. [Ezekiel 44:21]
- ✧ They shall not take as wife a widow or a divorced woman, but take virgins of the descendants of the house of Israel, or widows of priests. [Ezekiel 44:22]
 - ✧ Pure & Holy marital relationship.
- ✧ "And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. [Ezekiel 44:23]
- ✧ In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths. [Ezekiel 44:24]
 - ✧ Priests will be examples of perfect justice and obedient behavior in honor to Yahweh.
- ✧ "They shall not defile themselves by coming near a dead person. Only for father or mother, for son or daughter, for brother or unmarried sister may they defile themselves. After he is cleansed, they shall count seven days for him. And on the day that he goes to the sanctuary to minister in the sanctuary, he must offer his sin offering in the inner court," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God). [Ezekiel 44:25-27]
 - ✧ No service in the Temple while unclean.

☆ "It shall be, in regard to their inheritance, that **I am their inheritance**. You shall give them no possession in Israel, for **I am their possession**.

They shall eat the **grain offering**, the **sin offering**, and the **trespass offering**; **every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs**.

The **best of all firstfruits** of any kind, and **every sacrifice** of any kind from all your sacrifices, shall be the priest's; also you shall give to the priest **the first of your ground meal**, to cause a blessing to rest on your house.

The priests shall not eat anything, bird or beast, that died naturally or was torn by wild beasts. [\[Ezekiel 44:28-31\]](#)

✧ Like the original law for the Priests in the Tabernacle, again they will be totally dependant on Yahweh for their inheritance.

✧ In this, Yahweh will demonstrate that His original law is perfect and results in all the blessings He promised His people.

✧ The fruit of righteousness is perfect **prosperity**, perfect **health**, and perfect **peace**.