Ritual Sequence and Narrative Constraint in Leviticus 9

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Aaron and his Sons



hațțat calf



ʻolah ram

Israelites





hațțat goat







ʻolah lamb





š^əlamim ram

Offerings in Lev 9









hațțat calf

š^əlamim ox



ʻolah ram



'olah lamb



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hațțat goat

š^əlamim ram

Offerings in Lev 9

THE INSTITUTION OF THE TAMID

- Year-old male lamb (כבש בן שנה)
- Its only use in P is as a *tamid*

"Now this is what you shall offer upon the altar: two year-old lambs each day, regularly. You shall offer the one lamb in the morning, and you shall offer the other lamb in the evening." (Exod 29:38–39)

"He then brought forward the meal offering and, taking a handful of it, he turned it into smoke on the altar, in addition to the morning burnt offering." (Lev 9:17)



ʻolah lamb

מִלְבַד עֹלַת הַבֹּקֶר

THE FESTIVE MEAT OFFERINGS

"And on your joyous occasions, your fixed festivals, and new moon days, you shall sound the trumpets over your burnt offerings and your sacrifices of well-being." Num 10:10

"When all the people saw [the presence of Yahweh], and rejoiced, and fell on their faces to worship Yahweh." (Lev 9:24b)





Aaron and his Sons



hațțat calf



ʻolah ram

Israelites





hațțat goat







ʻolah lamb





š^əlamim ram

Identifying the first ritual sequence (Lev 9:8–16)

for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites



Lev 16



for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

for the Israelites

hattat goat



for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

Identifying the first ritual sequence (Lev 9:8–16)

TEMPLE/TABERNACLE PURIFICATION FORMULA

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Temple Scroll 25:15–16

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AN

ʻolah ram

+





hațțat goat





+

hațțat goat



-10 +



ʻolah ram

hațțat goat

ʻolah ram

Meshel's Temple Purification Formula

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DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LEVITICUS 16 AND LEVITICUS 9:8–16

- 1. The procedure for offering the *hattat* sacrifices
- 2. The animals used for each sacrifice
- 3. The order in which the sacrifices are offered
- 4. The absence of a *hattat* goat for Azazel in Lev 9

Two Types of *hattat* Sacrifices (Lev 4)

Sanctuary *hattat*:

Offered on behalf of:

- the high priest and his family
- the whole Israelite community

The blood of the animal is:

- brought inside the sanctuary and
 - smeared on the incense altar
 - sprinkled on the *paroket*

The remains of the animal:

• the meat and skin of animal burned outside of the camp

(Lev 4:3–21)

Courtyard *hattat*:

- Offered on behalf of:
- an Israelite leader
- an individual Israelite

The blood of the animal is:

- kept in the courtyard and
 - smeared on the bronze altar

The remains of the animal:

• the meat is divided between the altar and the priests

(Lev 4:22–35)

In Lev 9:8–11



Sanctuary *hattat*:

Offered on behalf of:

• the high priest and his family

The remains of the animal:

• the meat and skin of animal burned outside of the camp

Courtyard *hattat:*

The blood of the animal is:

- kept in the courtyard and
 - smeared on the bronze altar

1: The procedure for offering the *hattat* sacrifices (Lev 9:8–15)



- In Lev 9:1–22, Aaron and his sons have access only to the light blue area, the public area of the tabernacle.
- By Lev 9:23, Aaron and his sons have access to the light red area, and Aaron (the high priest) has access to the dark red area as well.

1: The procedure for offering the *hattat* sacrifices (Lev 9:8–15)



THE ANIMALS USED FOR EACH SACRIFICE

Lev 4



for Aaron and his sons for the Israelites Lev 16



for Aaron and his sons



hattat goat for the Israelites

Lev 9



for Aaron and his sons



hațțat goat for the Israelites

THE ANIMALS USED FOR EACH SACRIFICE



- Only time a calf is used for a *hattat* in P
- Of the same family as the bull (מן הבקר)
- An immature bovine (as opposed to a mature bovine)

THE ANIMALS USED FOR EACH SACRIFICE

• Sanctuary *hattat* is a bull



for the Israelites

- Courtyard *hattat* is a goat
- The procedure for the *hattat* in Lev 9 is mixed, and the

animal reflects that.

for Aaron

and his sons

hattat calf

'olah ram

for the Israelites



'olah calf

Lev 16



for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

hațțat goat

for the Israelites

'olah ram

for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

3: The order in which the sacrifices are offered

for Aaron

and his sons

hațțat calf

'olah ram

for the Israelites



olah calf

Lev 16



for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

for the Israelites

folah ram

hațțat goat

for Aaron and his sons



for the Israelites

3: The order in which the sacrifices are offered



Aaron and his sons





Israelites



hațțat goat

'olah ram

3: The order in which the sacrifices are offered

THE GOAT FOR AZAZEL



The live goat shall be brought forward. Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat and confess over it all the iniquities and transgressions of the Israelites, whatever their sins, putting them on the head of the goat; and it shall be sent off to the wilderness through a designated man. Thus the goat shall carry on it all their iniquities to an inaccessible region; and the goat shall be set free in the wilderness. וְהִקְרֵיב אֶת־הַשָּׁעִיר הֶחֵי: וְסָמֵׁדְ אַהֲרֵׁן אֶת־שְׁתֵּי יָדוֹ עַׂל רַאשׁ הַשְּׁעִיר הַחַי וְהִתְוַדְּה עְלִיו אֶת־בְּל־עֲוֹנֹת בְּגֵי יִשְׂרְאֵׁל וְאֶת־בְּל־בִּשְׁעֵיהֶם לְכָל־חַטּאׁתֶם וְנָתַן אֹתָם עַל־רַאשׁ הַשְּׁעִיה וְשִׁלֵּח בְּיַד־אָישׁ עִהֶי הַמִּדְבְּרָה: וְנִשְׁא הַשְּׁעִיר עָלָיו אֶת־כָּל־עֲוֹנֹתָם אֶל־אֶרֶץ גְּזֵרֶה וְשִׁלֵּח אֶת־הַשְׁעֵיר בַּמִּדְבָּר:

Lev 16:20b-22

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The ritual and narrative components of P are mutually dependent.
- 2. The ritual materials communicate essential information about the priestly worldview.
- 3. P's ritual system is not completely rigid; there is space for ritual innovation and adaptation.
- 4. There are not "two P's," one legal and one narrative, but rather a narrative composition that presents ritual as a literary genre.