

BIBLE STUDY WEEK 76

Set Apart to Serve — The Calling and Character of a Levite

Introduction

Throughout Scripture, the Levites stand as a powerful picture of what it means to be **set apart for God's service**. Chosen from among the tribes of Israel, they were not defined by land, status, or wealth—but by **proximity to God and responsibility in His house**.

Their lives were marked by **consecration, obedience, sacrifice, and service**.

This study explores:

- Who the Levites were
- Why God chose them
- What they were called to do
- How their role points to Jesus Christ
- And what it means for believers today

Because in Christ, we are not just observers of worship—we are **participants, carriers, and ministers of His presence**.

I. The Divine Selection of the Levites

A. Chosen by God

Key Scripture: Numbers 3:12 (KJV)

"Behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn..."

The Levites were divinely selected to belong to God in a unique way. Originally, every firstborn in Israel belonged to the Lord, but God chose the tribe of Levi to serve **in place of them all**.

B. Set Apart for a Purpose

The tribe of Levi was not chosen randomly—they were set apart because of their **zeal for God's holiness** (Exodus 32:25–29).

When others compromised, the Levites stood with God.

👉 **Principle:**

God sets apart those who are willing to stand for Him—even when it costs them.

II. The Role and Responsibilities of the Levites

A. Servants of God's House

Key Text: Numbers 3–4

The Levites were entrusted with the care of the Tabernacle:

- Carrying the Ark and sacred items
- Assembling and dismantling the Tabernacle
- Guarding the holy place
- Assisting the priests

They handled what others could not touch.

👉 **Insight:**

What was common to others was sacred to them.

B. Ministers of Worship and Order

Levites were deeply involved in:

- Music and worship (1 Chronicles 23:5)
- Gatekeeping and security
- Administrative duties
- Temple preparation

They ensured that the presence of God was honored with **order, excellence, and reverence**.

C. Teachers of the Law

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:1–2

Levites were also responsible for:

- Teaching God's Word
- Interpreting the Law
- Serving as judges and spiritual leaders

👉 They were not just workers—they were **spiritual guides**.

III. Their Unique Provision — God Was Their Inheritance

A. No Land, Only God

Unlike the other tribes, the Levites received **no territorial inheritance**.

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 10:9

“The LORD is his inheritance...”

Instead, they were given:

- 48 cities (Numbers 35:1–8)
- Portions of offerings and sacrifices

B. A Life of Dependence

Their provision came directly from God through the people.

👉 Principle:

When God is your portion, you don't have to chase provision—**provision follows purpose**.

IV. The Priesthood Within the Levites

Not all Levites were priests.

A. The Sons of Aaron (The Priesthood)

- Only Aaron's descendants served as priests
- They offered sacrifices
- They entered the Holy Place

B. The Other Levites

- Assisted the priests
- Maintained the Tabernacle
- Supported the work of ministry

👉 Truth:

Different roles, same calling—**serving God's presence**.

V. The Spiritual Symbolism of the Levites

The Levites represent:

1. Holiness

They were set apart from ordinary life.

2. Mediation

They stood between God and the people.

3. Service Over Status

Their work was often unseen but essential.

4. Total Surrender

Their lives belonged fully to God.

VI. Jesus Christ — Our Ultimate High Priest

The Levitical system was not the end—it was a shadow.

Key Truth:

Jesus fulfilled everything the Levites pointed to.

Hebrews 4:14 (KJV)

"We have a great high priest... Jesus the Son of God."

How Jesus fulfills the Levites:

- He is the **perfect High Priest**
- He offered the **final sacrifice (Himself)**
- He removed the need for continual offerings
- He opened direct access to God

👉 The system of priests became a **relationship through Christ**.

VII. The New Testament Reality — A Nation of Priests

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV)

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood..."

Through Christ:

- We are now **spiritual priests**
- We have direct access to God
- We are called to serve, not spectate

VIII. What It Means to Be a "Levite" Today

While we are not Levites by tribe, we are Levites in **spirit and calling**.

A. A Life of Worship

Worship is no longer confined to a place—it is a lifestyle.

Romans 12:1

Present your body as a living sacrifice.

B. Serving Behind the Scenes

Levites did unseen work:

- Setting up
- Carrying burdens
- Maintaining order

👉 Lesson:

Faithfulness in hidden places builds strength for visible assignments.

C. Using Your Gifts for God

1 Peter 4:10

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister..."

Modern "Levites" serve through:

- Music
- Teaching
- Administration
- Helps and service

D. Living Set Apart

2 Corinthians 6:17

"Come out from among them, and be ye separate..."

A Levite lifestyle requires:

- Holiness
- Discipline
- Devotion

IX. Examples of Levites in Scripture

- **Moses** — Deliverer and leader
- **Aaron** — First High Priest
- **The Sons of Korah** — Worship leaders (Psalms)
- **Barnabas (Acts 4:36)** — Encourager and giver

Each reveals a different expression of service.

X. Lessons for Today

1. You Are Called to Serve

Not everyone is called to the stage—but everyone is called to ministry.

2. God Values Faithfulness Over Visibility

The Levites were essential, even when unseen.

3. Your Life Is Your Ministry

Being set apart is not about title—it's about lifestyle.

4. God Is Your Portion

When you give your life fully to Him, He sustains you.

XI. Key Takeaway

To be a Levite is to live a life that says:

- "God, I belong to You."
- "Your presence is my priority."
- "Your house is my responsibility."
- "Your will is my assignment."

Closing Exhortation

The Levites did not chase influence—they carried presence.

They did not pursue recognition—they pursued holiness.

They did not own land—but they walked closely with God.

And today, through Jesus Christ, **that same calling is extended to you.**

You are chosen.

You are set apart.

You are called to serve.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean for God to be your inheritance?
2. In what ways are you currently serving behind the scenes?
3. What gifts has God given you to use in His house?
4. How can you grow in living a set-apart life?