

It is given only in the one chapter and it was a vital thing - it was important that when the Lord should have given them victory over their enemies around about--it was important in peaceful times, but our history doesn't tell us much about normal peaceful times. But the thing the history tells about is the crises and the emergencies and in those special times these laws were almost impossible to maintain unless you are going to give up sacrifice altogether after the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. By the time they had gone back from the Babylonian captivity to 70 A.D. that after 70A.D. when the people were scattered, they never sacrificed anywhere else and they will read today in their synagogues, without the shedding of blood there is no remission of of sin--everyone so often you shall bring these sacrifices to Jerusalem and not one single one of those laws do they obey today because they haven't had the temple of Jerusalem since 70 A.D. but every synagogue at least once a year mentions those particular laws and they read the Word of God and say this is what they are supposed to do, and they listen to these words thinking that they have done a wonderful thing to come and hear those words, when they have paid absolutely no attention to them. The reason is that they don't have Jerusalem and the temple--it stands to reason that the important thing is not the carrying out of the temple sacrifices in Jerusalem, but to carry them out and in those early days, when they couldn't be carried out in Jerusalem, they carried out in other places. Of course as far as the people are concerned, it is in the interest of good order that with a great nation of this type, that certain things be in the hands of certain individuals and that is specifically laid down and Moses selected Aaron and his sons to the priesthood and under normal circumstances that was preserved but on special occasions as when Elijah stood up on Mt. Carmel to defeat the prophets of Baal, we read that Elijah offered a sacrifice to the Lord and the sacrificing to the Lord was far more important, than getting a priest to offer the sacrifice. That doesn't mean at all that it wasn't the normal law of the law, which they were observing in normal peaceful times.