

## 5. Trespass Offering and more

February 5, 2009

We've been studying the Israelites' offerings that mentioned in the Book of Leviticus for last four weeks. One common denominator of these offerings is the Lord Jesus Christ. They all point to His person and work as I mentioned before.

Chapter 5 explains the trespass offering and chapter 6 and 7 talk about the law of the five offerings we learned so far. As I said before, it is a common Jewish literary style to repeat what author already talked about, but in more detailed manner.

I am assuming that you all read the Book of Leviticus before we started to study it, so we are not going to cover every verse in these three chapters. We will hit highlights and move on. By the way, from v1-13 of chapter 5 still explains the sin offering.

### A. LYING AND NOT GIVING THE WHOLE TRUTH

*Leviticus 5:1 'If a person sins in hearing the utterance of an oath, and is a witness, whether he has seen or known of the matter--if he does not tell it, he bears guilt.*

It isn't enough merely not to tell lies. God also requires His people to make the truth known, so even if a person knew about a lie, he is responsible to make the truth known.

I am sure that you remember that I mentioned sins of 'omission' and 'commission' before. Sometimes we sin against God by committing sins as well as committing sins by not speaking out things the Lord tells us to do.

*James 4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.*

If a person witnesses something critical and he says, "I don't want to get involved" so he chooses to keep silent. That is a sin. It is our God-given duty to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

We can say that the same principle applies to our witness of Jesus Christ. We must also take every opportunity to tell the truth about Jesus to others as the Holy Spirit leads.

### B. CEREMONIAL UNCLEanness

*Leviticus 5:2-3 Or if a person touches any unclean thing, whether it is the carcass of an unclean beast, or the carcass of unclean livestock, or the carcass of unclean creeping things, and he is unaware of it, he also shall be unclean and guilty. 3 Or if he touches human uncleanness--whatever uncleanness with which a man may be defiled, and he is unaware of it--when he realizes it, then he shall be guilty.*

I think that this probably is done for health reasons.

At the same time we can learn something from here. We can't be out in the world without becoming unclean by seeing things and hearing things and thinking things. We may not even realize that we have come into contact with the unclean. It may be hidden from us so we are not even aware of it. We should not only pray for forgiveness in general, we are to name our specific failures to God and ask Him for forgive-

ness. But more than that, we should pray for forgiveness of sins that we may be unaware of. Sometimes we are unclean and do not realize it.

Speaking of asking forgiveness from God, can you imagine what it takes to do sin offering? True humility. Because to do sin offering during that time, you have to take your animal to the tabernacle. You cannot hide a lamb or goat in your pocket. Everyone would know that you committed a sin or sins. In other words, you have to be humble enough to admit your sins in the presence of others. That is what the Lord wants from us as well. Without humility that comes from a broken spirit and contrite heart, we cannot truly ask God to forgive us from our sins.

*Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart-- These, O God, You will not despise.*

### C. TRESPASS OFFERING

*Leviticus 5:14-16 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 15 "If a person commits a trespass, and sins unintentionally in regard to the holy things of the Lord, then he shall bring to the Lord as his trespass offering a ram without blemish from the flocks, with your valuation in shekels of silver according to the shekel of the sanctuary, as a trespass offering. 16 And he shall make restitution for the harm that he has done in regard to the holy thing, and shall add one-fifth to it and give it to the priest. So the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and it shall be forgiven him.*

Trespass offering and sin offering are very much related. Sin offering deals with guilt, but trespass offering required restitution for what was lost plus twenty percent. This powerfully demonstrated that one could not get right with God without also making his wrong right with men.

*Leviticus 6:1-7 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 "If a person sins and commits a trespass against the Lord by lying to his neighbor about what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or about a pledge, or about a robbery, or if he has extorted from his neighbor, 3 or if he has found what was lost and lies concerning it, and swears falsely--in any one of these things that a man may do in which he sins: 4 then it shall be, because he has sinned and is guilty, that he shall restore what he has stolen, or the thing which he has extorted, or what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or the lost thing which he found, 5 or all that about which he has sworn falsely. He shall restore its full value, add one-fifth more to it, and give it to whomever it belongs, on the day of his trespass offering. 6 And he shall bring his trespass offering to the Lord, a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a trespass offering, to the priest. 7 So the priest shall make atonement for him before the Lord, and he shall be forgiven for any one of these things that he may have done in which he trespasses."*

Our sins hurt God and hurt others. True repentance will always bring with it a desire for restitution. We will want to make things right with God and with those whom we've sinned against.

Forgiveness comes only because of the death of an innocent substitute in the place of our own lives. The penalty we should have paid, He paid for us.

*Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.*

One thing we should not forget is that Jesus Christ is not only the High Priest but He is also the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.

*Hebrews 10:5-12 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, "Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God." 8 Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,*

What does it mean when it says that "He sat down at the right hand of God"? It means that redemption was complete. It doesn't mean that Jesus was tired and stopped doing His job like we would be tired after a long day's work.

#### **D. CONCERNING THE BURNT OFFERING**

*Leviticus 6:8-11 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 9 "Command Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the law of the burnt offering: The burnt offering shall be on the hearth upon the altar all night until morning, and the fire of the altar shall be kept burning on it. 10 And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen trousers he shall put on his body, and take up the ashes of the burnt offering which the fire has consumed on the altar, and he shall put them beside the altar. 11 Then he shall take off his garments, put on other garments, and carry the ashes outside the camp to a clean place.*

The burnt offering was left on the altar all night long and the fire was kept burning so that the whole offering would be consumed. This speaks of the continual and complete consecration of Christ.

*John 8:29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."*

How much do we need to learn from our Savior who always did everything to please the Father in heaven! I wish I could say that I always do the things that please Him. Even though I ought to be a living sacrifice on the altar as Romans 12:1-2 states, when the fire gets hot I often try to crawl off of it. That is where our trust in His faithfulness comes in.

Note 'linen trousers' in v10, please. What are they for? The flesh must be covered totally. God is teaching us that He cannot and will not accept the works of the flesh. It is only the fruit of the Holy Spirit which is acceptable to Him.

*Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

#### **E. CONCERNING THE GRAIN OFFERING**

*Leviticus 6:16-17 And the remainder of it Aaron and his sons shall eat; with unleavened bread it shall be eaten in a holy place; in the court of the tabernacle of meeting they shall eat it. 17 It shall not be baked with leaven. I have given it as their portion of My offerings made by fire; it is most holy, like the sin offering and the trespass offering.*

God's presence makes any place holy. Remember Moses was told to take off his shoes because the ground on which he stood was holy ground in Exodus 3. And Peter says that at the Transfiguration on the Mount Hermon, they were with Him in the holy mount in 2 Peter 1.

The presence of the Holy Spirit who is God Himself is within the hearts of the born-again believers. It means that the believers' bodies are holy temples due to His presence. That is why we should not put anything that defiles the holy place within us, whether it is ungodly things we can consume or ungodly thoughts we can think.

## **F. CONCERNING THE PEACE OFFERING**

*Leviticus 7:18 And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offering is eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted, nor shall it be imputed to him; it shall be an abomination to him who offers it, and the person who eats of it shall bear guilt.*

The meat from a peace offering had to be eaten in a fellowship meal within three days. God doesn't want stale fellowship from us. Do we bring another ho-hum stale fellowship when we come to Him in our devotional time? Or do we come to Him with excitement in our hearts because we get to talk with the Creator and Master of the universe? I am guilty of this time to time. Mechanically, dutifully we often read the Bible and spend time in prayer and go about our business. Why don't we have joy and excitement to meet the Lord during our devotional time? We need a serious spiritual attitude adjustment.

I am not asking you to fake and make a hoopla without your heart behind it. We can still find plenty of reasons why we should be joyful in the Lord in the midst of turmoil when we remember His faithfulness and sovereignty.

## **G. THE PORTION OF AARON AND HIS SONS**

*Leviticus 7:30-32 His own hands shall bring the offerings made by fire to the Lord. The fat with the breast he shall bring, that the breast may be waved as a wave offering before the Lord. 31 And the priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast shall be Aaron's and his sons'. 32 Also the right thigh you shall give to the priest as a heave offering from the sacrifices of your peace offerings.*

Here we have two more offerings mentioned. They are not actual offering themselves, rather they are methods only.

The waving of the portion of meat or bread dedicated to the Lord, waving it before the Lord in a specific pattern. In this way, even though the priest kept the portion, he had still dedicated it unto God. The portion was laid upon the hands of the donor. Then the officiating priest placed his own hands beneath those of the person offering the sacrifice, and moved the portion first forward and backward, then upward and downward. These motions make a sign of a cross without them realizing it.

By the way, the breast speaks of the love of Christ for us and the shoulder speaks of the power and strength of Christ. And heave offering means a gift.

## **H. THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN JESUS AND THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM**

1) **Jesus fulfilled the burnt offering.** – Leviticus 1

*Ephesians 5:2 As Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma*

- 2) **Jesus fulfilled the grain and firstfruits offering.** – Leviticus 2  
*1 Corinthians 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the Firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*
- 3) **Jesus fulfilled the peace offering.** – Leviticus 3  
*Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ.*
- 4) **Jesus fulfilled the sin offering.** – Leviticus 4  
*2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him*
- 5) **Jesus fulfilled the guilt offering.** – Leviticus 5  
*Romans 4:25 Who was delivered up because of our offenses and was raised because of our justification*

Jesus fulfilled every sacrifice for us!

*Hebrews 10:10 We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*