

1-7 RITUAL SACRIFICES

There are five ritual sacrifices

1. **Burnt Offering** – (*'Ōlâ*) 'Ascension'
2. **Grain Offering** – (*Minḥâ*) 'Tribute',
3. **Fellowship Offering** – (*Šĕlāmîm*) 'Peace'
4. **Sin Offering** – (*Ḥaṭṭâ't*) 'Purification'
5. **Guilt Offering** – (*'āšām*) 'Restitution'

The first three → Thank you

- The last two → Atonement
- Burnt offering were both.

And in all honesty, there is a bit of overlap between the whole lot.

BURNT OR ASCENSION OFFERING

(*'ōlâ* - to go up/ ascend)

This is referring to the smoke ascending from the altar ...

- When the offering is burned.

Leviticus 1:1–2 ¹ YHWH called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting.

He said, ² “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When anyone among you brings an offering [*qorbān* – “come close” or “draw near”] to YHWH, bring as your offering [*qorbān* – “come close” or “draw near”] an animal from either the herd [*v.5 bull*] or the flock [*v.10 sheep or v.14 bird*].”

So, to paraphrase ...

Speak to the Israelites and say to them, “If anyone among you want to *qorbān* [*draw close to me*] bring as your *qorbān* [*your means of drawing close to me*] an animal from you herd or flock.”

Remember what the book of Leviticus is trying to achieve.

- They want to meet with God. (Slide 16-17)

So, if any of you want to *qorbān* draw near or close to me

- They way to do so, is by bring one of three offerings.
- Bring a bull, sheep or bird.

Why a bull, sheep or bird?

- Why give three options?

Remember what we said last week ...

- The laws are a window or reflection of the values of the law giver.

What do we learn about God?

- He didn't want anyone to be excluded from drawing close to him.
- So, rich, poor or middleclass ... (on clicks below drawings of bull, bird & sheep)
- Bull, bird or sheep.
- Everyone had an opportunity to draw close to him?

How was this offering [*qorbān* – means of drawing close] made?

- It more or less consisted out of seven ceremonial acts.

1. CHOOSE THE PROPER ANIMAL

Leviticus 1:3 “ ‘If the offering [*‘ōlā*] is a burnt offering from the herd, [or flock v.10] you are to offer [*qorbān*] a male without defect. [*Tāmîm*]

Ok, so I want to draw close to God?

- You want to come into the tabernacle structure.

How do I do it?

- I need to bring an animal as an offering ...
- A Burnt Offering – [*‘ōlā*] – ascension offering.

What kind of animal?

- One that is without defect [*Tāmîm*]

Why a gift that is without defect? Why? a gift that is *Tāmîm*?

At least two reasons ...

- a) The gift that you give should reflect the person to whom you are giving it to.

Remember the Hebrew word *Tāmîm*?

- We looked at that last week.

Psalm 18:30 “As for God, His way is blameless [*Tāmîm*] ...”

- *Tāmîm* = (Gebruik “glory” tekening???)
- Complete, unscathed, intact ...
- Without fault, free from blemish ...
- Impeccable, honest, devout

So, the gift you are to bring are to reflect the person to whom you are giving it.

- My gift reflects my view of him.

If I bring a diseased animal ...

- It would mean that that is the way that I view YHWH.
- Bring a cripple animal.
- It would mean that that is the way that I view YHWH.
- ...

So, what does that mean for us today?

- In ancient times, what mattered to them ...
- Their currency (\$\$\$\$) if you may? ...
- Was their livestock. (Bull, sheep, goat, bird)

So what matters to us today?

- What is our currency (\$\$\$\$)?

Three T's.

- Time
- Talent
- Treasure

So, what I bring as a gift?

- Is a reflection of my view of him.

So ...

- a) The gift that you give should reflect the person to whom you are giving it to.

2nd reason for picking a Blameless animal is that ...

- b) Your life as a follower of YHWH is to be blameless [Tāmîm]

Leviticus 19:1–2 ¹ YHWH said to Moses, ² "Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy [qo-desh – Distinct + Blameless] because I, YHWH your God, am holy. [qo-desh – Distinct + Blameless]

Your life as a follower of YHWH is to be [Tāmîm] ...

- And as we will see next week ...
- In what is called the hand leaning rite ...
- The blameless lamb is to be representing you before God.

So, the first step was to choose blameless animal.

1. Gift reflected your view of God.

2. Represent you and your surrendering your whole life to YHWH.

So, first step, I need to go and **CHOOSE** ...

Example of

- Very fluffy one.
- Three legged one.
- No teeth.
- Muscular one.

Did heart (prentjie van dude se hart – mannetjie bo) ...

- Matter back then and does it matter today?

Did it matter whether they just did the right thing?

- Or was God looking for the right heart as well?

So, in our context ...

- How important is it that there is some form of match between ...
- My heart before God and what I do?
- My life and my worship?

Amos 5:21–24 ²¹ “I **HATE**, I **DESPISE** your religious festivals; [take a look two weeks from now] **your** assemblies are a **STENCH** to me.

²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have **NO REGARD** for them.

²³ **Away with the noise of your songs!** I will not listen to the music of your harps.

How important is heart in order to be able to enter the presence of God ...

- Through ritual sacrifices ?
- Dude met hart buite tent?

It is EVERYTHING!

Leviticus 1:1–2 ¹ **YHWH** called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting.

He said, ² “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When anyone among you brings an offering [qorbān – “come close” or “draw near”] to **YHWH**, bring as your offering [qorbān – “come close” or “draw near”] an animal from either the herd [v.5 bull] or the flock [v.10 sheep or v.14 bird]

³ “ If the offering ^[‘ōlā] is a burnt offering from the herd, ^[or flock v.10] you are to offer ^[qorbān] a male without defect. ^[Tamīm]

Will have to wait for next week to see how the rest of the ritual unfolds.

The book has a really amazing uniform design.

- It explores the three main ways that God helps Israel to live in his presence.

Begin met overall uitleg (soos Bible Project)

1. Two outer sections of Rituals

RITUAL SACRIFICES

6. **Burnt Offering** – (*‘Ōlâ*) ‘Ascension’
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RITUAL FEAST

1. Passover
2. Unleavened Bread
3. First Fruits
4. Weeks/ Pentecost
5. Trumpets
6. Day of Atonement
7. Tabernacles

2. Then next inner sections focus on the role of Israel's **PRIESTS**

PRIESTS ORDAINED

- Someone needs to facilitate this whole thing.

Chap 8-9 Moses Ordains the Priests

- Aaron and his sons 1st ordained
- To enter into God's presence on behalf of Israel..

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PRIESTS

- The priests were called ...
- To the Highest level of Moral Integrity & Ritual holiness
- The Priest Represents the people before God
- But then also Represent God to the People.

3. Final outer section PURITY

RITUAL PURITY

About the ritual purity required of the Israelites

- Can and cannot touch.
- Can and Cannot eat ...
- And ... and ... and ...

MORAL PURITY

- About the moral purity of the people.
- The Israelites were called to live differently than their neighbours.
- Way view things like ...
- Sexual Integrity
- Care for the Poor
- Social Justice ...

4. 16-17: DAY OF ATONEMENT

We find a long description (copy bible project image) of one of Israel Annual Feasts

- That brings the whole book together
- (Draw a connection between the sections)

5. 26: CALL TO COVENANT FAITHFULNESS

- BP prentjie

6. 27 – Appendix

Numbers 1:1.

- It begins "The Lord spoke to Moses **IN** the tent"
- So, we can see that Moses was **NOW ABLE** to enter Gods presence ...
- On behalf of Israel.

So, Despite Israel's failure ... (worshipping calf at bottom of Sinai)

- God has provided a way for their sin to be covered ...
- (Tabernacle complex in middle of tents)
- So that God can live with sinful people in peace.

And that's what the book of Leviticus is all about

Let's populate it a bit.