

Outline ...

- Making presence possible.

SUNSCREEN & HOLINESS

1-7 RITUAL SACRIFICES

There are five ritual sacrifices

1. **Burnt Offering**
2. **Grain Offering**
3. **Fellowship Offering**
4. **Sin Offering**
5. **Guilt Offering**

The first three → **Thank you**

- The last two → **Atonement**

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

FELLOWSHIP OFFERING "Peace" or "Well-being"

- That also serves as the communion rite ...
- That was the last segment of the burnt offering.

Its overarching purpose was to provide a ritual ...

- By which the Israelites could acknowledge the miracles of their lives ...
- And express gratitude for them ...
- While fellowshiping with him and their kin.

What did it look like?

Leviticus 3:3 ³ From the fellowship offering you are to bring a food offering **[i'sseh – gift by fire]** to **YHWH ...**

the internal organs and all the fat that is connected to them, ⁴ both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the long lobe of the liver, which you will remove with the kidneys.

⁵ Then Aaron's sons are to burn it on the altar on top of the burnt offering ^[burning rite] that is lying on the burning wood; it is a food offering, ^['iššeh – gift by fire] an aroma pleasing to YHWH.

This offering was divided into three portions.

God -

- Internal organs + fat. [Fat = suet – considered choicest part of animal]
- 2 x Kidney's + fat. [associated with the heart as the seat of thoughts, emotions and life]
- Long lobe of the liver.
- The Tail [7kg-22kg]
- ['iššeh – gift by fire] – SMOKE
- Pleasing Aroma

Priest (Leviticus 7:28-36)

- Breast
- Right thigh
- So I expect some ribs to come my way.

The People

- The Rest

Why did they get the rest?

- So that they could fellowship with God.
- By eating the meat with their family in the presence of God.

In the ANE, as is still the case in various cultures today ...

- Friendships were solidified and covenants sealed by a shared meal ...
- And hospitality itself was a serious matter of honour.

Through the sacrificial system God treats the worshipper as a son ...

- That he invited into his house.
- In order to enjoy the hospitality and fellowship of God.

Psalm 36:7–9 ⁷ How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. ⁹ For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

He is describing God's unfailing love in his temple with Edenic language and imagery.

- Shadow of your wings (echoing cherubim)
- Rivers of delight
- Fountain of life.

This is life with God in the **Portable Eden**

- And it is made possible through his sacrificial system.

How can we do this today?

- How can we communally acknowledge miracles ...
- And express gratitude?

Next up ...

1. Burnt Offering
2. Grain Offering
3. Fellowship Offering
4. Sin/ Purification Offering

5. GUILT OFFERING

- **Ā-š ām** → (A-shaam) – Restitution
- Like the purification offering ...
- It was **Mandatory** ...
- **For the Atonement of Sins**

Leviticus 5:17–19 ¹⁷ “If anyone sins and does what is forbidden in any of the **YHWH’s** commands, even though they do not know it [aka unintentional] they are **guilty** and will be **held responsible**.”

So, ignorance doesn’t remove Guilt or Responsibility.

So, you have sinned unintentionally ...

- What are to do?

¹⁸ They are to bring to the priest as a **guilt offering** a ram from the flock, one **without defect** [Tāmîm] and of the proper value.

In this way the priest will make atonement [kippūr] for them for the wrong they have committed **unintentionally**, and they will be **forgiven**.

¹⁹ It is a guilt offering; [Ā-š ām – Restitution] they have been guilty of wrongdoing against **YHWH**.”

Atonement by sacrifice depends on three factors:

1. The Unintentionally of the Sin
2. The Remorse of the Worshiper
3. And the Reparation the worshiper brings to rectify the wrong.

Which of these words to you find most problematic?

- Unintentionally
- Remorse
- Reoperation

So, What if you sin Intentionally?

Numbers 15:30–31 ³⁰ “But anyone who sins **defiantly**, [aka intentionally] whether native-born or foreigner, **blasphemes YHWH** and must **be cut off** from the people of Israel.

³¹ Because they have **despised YHWH’s** word and broken his commands, they must surely **be cut off**; their **guilt remains** on them.’ ”

This is pretty serious stuff.

- Deliberate sin = Defiance = Blaspheme

They must be CUT off!

- Cut off from people, nation and the world to come.

Pretty severe ...

- Thank God that is in the Old Covenant.

Hebrews 10:26–31 [New Testament] ²⁶ If we **deliberately** keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth ... [what then?]

no sacrifice for sins is left ²⁷ but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

²⁸ Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

²⁹ How much **more severely** do you think someone **deserves to be punished** who has **trampled the Son of God underfoot**, who has **treated as an unholy thing** the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has **insulted the Spirit of grace?**

³⁰ For we know him who said, “It is mine to **avenge**; I will **repay**,” and again, “**the LORD will judge his people.**” ³¹ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the **living God**.

That obviously sounds very scary, why so severe?

The person who sins deliberately does three things ...

1. Trample the son of God underfoot.
2. Treat as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant.
3. Insult the Spirit of Grace.

So, was there a way of reconciliation for deliberate sinners back then?

- And is there a way of reconciliation for deliberate sinners today?

We are going to read two passages and then overlap them.

Leviticus 6:1–3 ¹ YHWH said to Moses: ² “If anyone sins and is **unfaithful to YHWH ...** ^[How?] by deceiving a neighbor about something entrusted to them or left in their care or about something stolen ...

... or about something stolen or if they cheat their neighbor ³ or if they find lost property and lie about it, or if they swear falsely about any such sin that people may commit ...

...

Numbers 5:5–6 ⁵ YHWH said to Moses, ⁶ “Say to the Israelites: ‘Any man or woman who wrongs another in **any way** and so is **unfaithful to YHWH is guilty ...**

Someone sins intentionally ...

1. By deceiving a neighbour about
 - Something entrusted to them or left in their care.
 - Or about something stolen.
2. They cheat their neighbour ...
3. Or if they find lost property and lie about it.
4. They swear falsely about any such sin that people may commit
5. Numbers 5 – They wrong another person in ANY way

What to do?

Leviticus 6:4–7 ⁴ ... **when** they sin in **any** of these ways and **realize their guilt** they must **return** what they have stolen or taken by extortion ...

... or what was entrusted to them, or the lost property they found, ⁵ or whatever it was they swore falsely about.

They must **make restitution in full**, add a fifth ^[20%] of the value to it and give it all to the owner on the day they present their guilt offering.

...

Numbers 5:7-10 ⁷ ... they must **confess** the sin they have committed. They must make **full restitution** for the wrong they have done, add a fifth ^[20%] of the value to it and give it all to the person they have wronged.

⁸ But if that person has no close relative to whom restitution can be made for the wrong, the restitution belongs to **YHWH** and must be given to the priest, along with the ram with which atonement is made for the wrongdoer.

⁹ All the sacred contributions the Israelites bring to a priest will belong to him. ¹⁰ Sacred things belong to their owners, but what they give to the priest will belong to the priest.' ”

So, let's bring these passages together and what do we learn.

- You have sinned intentionally, what now?
- Is there any hope for you?

What to do?

1. Need to **Realize your Guilt.**
 - Difference between I know that I have a problem.
 - And I know that my problem is indeed a problem.

 - Difference between feeling sorry for myself.
 - And sorry about the hurt that I have caused God and others.

2. Confess

- To God and those sinned against.

- The restitution process cannot begin before you get open.
- If there is to be any chance of forgiveness and healing ...
- The Sin needs to get out.

3. Make Full Restitution

- Give back what you have taken or lied about.

What if the person that you sinned against cannot be found?

- Give it to a close relative.

What if a close relative cannot be found?

- The Restitution belongs to YHWH and must be given to the Priest.

4. Add 20%

- We see that same spirit in Zacchaeus.

...

Does any of this bring about forgiveness or atonement? NO!

- What it does seem to do ...
- Is to make your allegeable for the Guilt Offering ...
- That can bring about atonement.

Remember, there is NO sacrifice for intentional sin.

- But somehow it seems from Leviticus 6 ...
- That following those steps almost “downgrades” it ...
- From the “status” of an intentional sin ...
- To the “status” of an unintentional ...
- And therefore, makes it allegeable for atonement.

So where to from here?

- How can they get forgiveness or atonement?

Leviticus 5⁶... as a penalty they must bring to the priest, that is, to YHWH, their guilt offering, a ram from the flock, one without defect and of the proper value.

⁷ In this way the priest will make atonement for them before YHWH, and they will be forgiven for any of the things they did that made them guilty.”

Bring a ram without defect and of the proper value.

- The text doesn’t indicate the exact way that it had to be sacrifices.
- One can only assume that it followed the normal ritual process.

1. Choose
2. Presentation Rite
3. Hand leaning Rite
4. Slaughtering Rite
5. Blood-splattering Rite
6. Burning Rite

What do we learn from this?

Only after you have made restitution with your neighbour ...

- Can you make restitution with God.

Talmudic Rabbi's believed that even the **Day of Atonement** ...

- Would not atone for or bring about forgiveness of sin ...
- Between people and other people ...
- Until they have made restitution to each other.

Matthew 5:23–24 ²³ “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Is the **New Testament** any different?

1. Realize Guilt

Acts 2:37 ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

2. Confess

James 5:16 ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

3. Make Restitution

Acts 2:37–39 ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

That is the Guilt and also **final offering**.

- Next week we will look at the **Ritual Feasts**.