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GOD DOES NOT IGNORE SIN

Leviticus 4

The Lord had spoken to Moses regarding the first three sacrifices which were voluntary in an ongoing fellowship with God and spoke of the person of Christ.

- The burnt offering was for dedicating and consecrating of ones life to God.
- The grain offering was for yielding ones life for service to God.
- The peace offering was for fellowship with God.
- * All three were called a "sweet aroma to the Lord", it pleased God when a man came of his own free will in the act of worship.

But there is an enemy of worship that interrupts it as sure as water puts out a fire, it is sin!

- * Whenever sin enter the believers walk; worship is denied and access to God is obstructed Ps.66:18, Is.59:1.
- * Sin nature and its fruit are evident by various acts, deeds, thoughts and attitudes contrary to God's will and revelation and no one is an exception.
- * Charles Spurgeon put it this way:

It would be an awful experiment to set a house on fire, intending to let it burn just so much and no more. Can you say to the fire, "This far you shall come, and no farther"? If you could say it to fire among standing corn, blown by the wind, yet you would say it in vain to sin. Sin swiftly grows from a pygmy to a giant, and, ever increasing in its awful power, it crushes down the man who is in its grip and holds him under its dreadful sway.

God knowing the bent of man towards sin provided mandatory offerings for the forgiveness of sin; to restore fellowship with Him, which speaks of the work of Christ, the sin offering and the trespass offering.

For our study we want to look at the sin offering only which speaks of expiation of sin for restored fellowship.

- I. The particulars of sin offering.
- II. The people identified with the sin offering.
- III. The prophetic announcement in the sin offering.

I. The particulars of the sin offering.

- A. The sin offering is the longest of the five .
 1. The burnt offering has 17 verses.

2. The grain offering has 16 verses.
 3. The peace offering has 17 verses.
 4. The trespass offering has 13 verses. 5:14-6:7
 5. The sin offering has 48 verses. 4:1-5:13
 - * Some are the trespass offering beginning at Chapter 5:1, but they really describe various cases of sin. Not till 5:14 the introductory formula is found and the word trespass appears 5:15 and 6:2, which means unfaithful and treacherous.
- B.** The sin offering reveals and affirms mans fallen sinful nature.
1. The provision is for a person who sins unintentionally, through ignorance, weakness, or inadvertently against the commandments of the Lord. vs.2, 13, 22-27, Ps.51:4
 2. The "missing the mark" through error doesn't nullify or ignore personal guilt. vs.3, 13, 22-27
 3. The person comes to God not as a worshipper as in the first three offerings called "a sweet aroma to the Lord" but as a sinner in need of forgiveness to restore his walk and worship. vs.20, 26, 31, Ps.139:23-24

- C.** The sin offering was new, unlike the first three that existed before Moses, though the idea of expiation and substitution for sin were evident from the Garden. Gen.3:21
- * The reason is not that sin didn't exist but that the law had not been given to impute sin Rom.5:13, 3:20

II. The people identified with the sin offering.

- A.** The anointed High Priest. 4:1-12
1. He brought a breach between God and the people as the mediator Ex.29:43-46.
 2. He brought guilt on the people as their representative. vs.3a
 3. He had the greater responsibility based on privileges as a type of Christ therefore the greater judgment.
 - * Eli the priest didn't restrain his sons. 1 Sam.3:13
 4. He offered the most expensive offering required of him, a bull. vs.3-4 (Repentance)
 5. He offered the blood by taking and atoning three places.
 - a. The veil between the Holy place and Most Holy, reconciling his access to God as mediator. vs.5-6, Heb.10:19:22

- b. The horns of the alter of incense of gold in the Holy place, reconciling worship and prayer to God. vs.7a-b
 - e. The alter of brass in the courtyard, reconciling the individual to God. vs.7c-d, Rev.5:8-10
6. He offered the fat, kidneys and liver etc. on the brass alter but the entire bull was burned outside the camp where the ashes are poured out. vs.8-12, Heb.13:10-13
 * The reason being the camp was holy and sin had to be expelled.
- B.** The congregation of Israel 4:13-21
- 1. The nation represented God as a holy nation and kingdom of priest. Ex.19:6
 - 2. The nation was accountable to the priestly assembly to respond in confession and repentance to regain access to God. vs.13-14
 - 3. The elders would represent the nation in the sacrifice. vs.15 (a bull also).
 - 4. The blood atoned all three places as the High Priests offering. vs.16-18
 - 5. The fat, kidneys, liver, etc. as well as the entire sacrifice was the same as the High Priest vs.19-21
 * Israel was sent into captivity for her sin to Babylon!
- C.** The ruler or leader in Israel. 4:22-26

- 1. He was one to lead the people by examples. Ex.15:21
 - 2. He was a man of like passions as other men. 1Cor.10:13
 - 3. He had to acknowledge, confess and offer sacrifices, a kid of the goat, a male. vs.23-24
 - 4. The priest would offer the blood only on the alter of brass for his privilege wasn't as great as the High Priest or congregation. vs.25-26
 - 5. The sacrifice was also burnt outside the camp, but the priest ate of it because the blood was not brought into the Holy Place. 6:30, 7:1-7
 * Saul and David both brought consequences to the people. 1Sam.15, 2 Sam.24
- D.** The common person. 4:27-35
- 1. He was one who had broken fellowship with God and was part of the community, effecting it sooner or later.
 - 2. He offered a kid of the goat, a female, having less responsibility from the other three. vs.28-29.
 - 3. The priest would do as for the ruler at the alter of brass. vs.30-31
 * vs. 32-35 are the optional offering of a lamb.

* No person was excluded from the sin offering! 1Jn.1:9, 2:1

Sin bribes the judgment, intoxicates the will, and perverts the memory. Like a sea which comes up and floods a continent, penetrating every valley, deluging every plain, and invading every mountain, so has sin penetrated our entire nature. (Spergeon)

III. The prophetic announcement in the sin offering.

- A.** Jesus is the sin offering for our sins. He was our substitute. Is.53:4-6, 10, 2 Cor.5:21
 * He was the ram, the High Priest and the individual the anti-type as the book of Hebrew tells us. Gen.22
- B.** Jesus holds Pastors responsible for their life style as the High Priest, which can hinder the congregation.
1. He is not to be a hireling. Jn.10:13
 2. He is to feed the flock of God. 1Pet.5:2
 3. He has the greater judgment. Ja. 3:1, 4:17
- C.** Jesus holds churches accountable for their complacency and compromise with sin to be a witness to the community.
 * The seven churches of Revelation.

- D.** Jesus holds each believer liable for their sins and the consequences are greater with responsibility.
- F.** Jesus holds nations and the world responsible according to the light they have received.
1. Noah's world. Gen.6
 2. The Amorites. Gen.15:16
 3. Sodom and Gomorrah. Gen.18:20-21, 19:13
 4. Ninevah. Nah.1
 5. America, "in God we trust" our coins say!

Nothing can give perfect peace of conscience with God but what can make atonement for sin. And whoever attempts it in any other way but by virtue of that atonement will never attain it, in this world or hereafter. JOHN OWEN

Conclusion

- I.** The particulars of the sin offering
 - * You come as a sinner not a worshipper, acknowledging and confessing your sin for forgiveness.
- II.** The people identified with the sin offering.
 - * Every person on the face of the earth.

- III.** The prophetic announcement in the sin offering.
* Jesus is the only One who can atone for you sins.