

# What Church's Aren't Telling You About Sin!

**Leviticus 1:1-2 (NKJV)** Now the LORD called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of ...

## I. Holiness

Large section of Leviticus deals with the topic of cleanness which is a direct correlation to holiness! Holy is mentioned 87 time in Leviticus alone.

Holy: 6944 קֹדֶשׁ [**qodesh /ko-desh/**] 1 apartness, holiness, sacredness, hallowedness, separateness.

**There are two main understandings of HOLINESS to consider.**

### 1.) Ritual Holiness

This means in order to approach the holy God, the priest, the articles of worship and the worshipers all had to be cleansed or (made holy). The animals used had to be perfect without blemish. The Priest had to go through a ceremonial cleansing before even performing their duties. The tabernacle and the articles in the tabernacle had to be built a certain way. Only in that way could God preserve His holy name in the midst of an elect but sinful nation.

**No Sloppy Worship, No haphazard worship!**

**The Brazen Alter / The Alter of Sacrifice... The Fire is to never go out!**

**Leviticus 6:12-13 (NLT)** Meanwhile, the fire on the altar must be kept burning; it must never go out. Each morning the priest will add fresh wood to the fire and arrange the burnt offering on it. He will then burn the fat of the peace offerings on it. Remember, the fire must be kept burning on the altar at all times. It must never go out.

**God Lit the fire**

**Leviticus 9:22-24 (NLT)** After that, Aaron raised his hands toward the people and blessed them. Then, after presenting the sin offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offering, he stepped down from the altar. Then Moses and Aaron went into the Tabernacle, and when they came back out, they blessed the people again, and the glory of the LORD appeared to the whole community. Fire blazed forth from the LORD's presence and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When the people saw this, they shouted with joy and fell face down on the ground.

**A reminder that God is the Source of Power**

**The fire on the altar, therefore, served as a constant reminder of God's power. It was a gift from heaven. No other source of fire was acceptable to God.**

**Numbers 3:3-4 (NLT)** These sons of Aaron were anointed and ordained to minister as priests. But Nadab and Abihu died in the LORD's presence in the wilderness of Sinai when they burned before the LORD the wrong kind of fire, different than he had commanded.

**God's Presence**

**Deuteronomy 4:24 (NLT)** The LORD your God is a devouring fire; he is a jealous God.

The Shekinah glory was visible in the fire at the altar of burnt offering. This ongoing presence of God reminded the Israelites that salvation is of the Lord. The atonement made at the burnt offering could only be made through Him.

**Matthew 3:11 (NKJV)** I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**Fire served as a sign of judgment and refining, but it also reminds us of the Holy Spirit's coming at Pentecost in the form of "tongues of fire"!**

The continuously burning, divine fire at the altar of burnt offering helped remind the Israelites of the reality of God's presence and of their need for God. **The sacred fire endured throughout the 40 years in the desert and likely beyond that, as tabernacle worship continued until the time of King Solomon and the building of the Jewish temple.** When the temple was dedicated, God once again lit the fire on the altar (2 Chronicles 7:1).

### 2.) Ethical Holiness

This is a separation from sin, a Holiness Code which you can find all through Leviticus, outlines numerous ethical command that were applicable in many areas of life. **This ethical holiness is how we treat each other!**

**Leviticus 19:2 (NKJV)** "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

**1 Peter 1:15-16 (NKJV)** but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

**There are Character traits or Ethical behaviors that didn't go away from OT/NT**

**\*\*Romans 12:9-21 (NKJV)** Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

**Proverbs 6:16-19 (NLT)** There are six things the LORD hates— no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.

**If God hated these things then, do you think He hates them now?**

## II. Five Main Offerings

### 1. Sin Offering

**Purpose:** Mandatory atonement for specific unintentional sin, confession of sin, forgiveness of sin, and cleansing from defilement.

**Leviticus 4:2 (NLT)** "Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. This is how you are to deal with those who sin unintentionally by doing anything that violates one of the LORD's commands.

**\*\*Leviticus 5:1 (NLT)** "If you are called to testify about something you have seen or that you know about, it is sinful to refuse to testify, and you will be punished for your sin.

**If was important to God then, do you feel it would be important to God Now?**

### 2. Guilt Offering

**Purpose:** Mandatory atonement for unintentional sin requiring restitution; cleansing from defilement; make restitution; pay 20% fine.

The difference between the sin offering and the guilt offering was in the nature of the sin. The Sin offering was for what might be called general sins; the Guilt offering was for sins that injured other people or detracted from the sacred worship.

**Leviticus 5:15 (NLT)** "If one of you commits a sin by unintentionally defiling the LORD's sacred property, you must bring a guilt offering to the LORD. The offering must be your own ram with no defects, or you may buy one of equal value with silver, as measured by the weight of the sanctuary shekel. You must make restitution for the sacred property you have harmed by paying for the loss, plus an additional 20 percent.

**The guilt offering had more reference to sins that had done definite damage to the tabernacle service or to a neighbor. Probably it could include withholding tithes or first fruits or other required offerings.**

**Unintentional:** Lying, stealing, cheating and false swearing are surely intentional and covered by the guilt offering. Remember God know your heart. It's a hart thing!

### 3. Burnt Offering

**Purpose:** Voluntary act of worship, atonement for unintentional sin in general, expression of devotion and commitment and complete surrender to God.

**Leviticus 6:12-13 (NLT)** Meanwhile, the fire on the altar must be kept burning; it must never go out. Each morning the priest will add fresh wood to the fire and arrange the burnt offering on it. He will then burn the fat of the peace offerings on it. Remember, the fire must be kept burning on the altar at all times. It must never go out.

The Burnt offerings were to be made every day, in the morning and the evening. An additional burnt offering was to be offered up each Sabbath day. Also, at the beginning of each month at the celebration of Passover on the 14th day of the 1st month, along with new grain offering at Feast of Weeks, at the feast of trumpets, on sacred day in the 7th month and for the celebration of the new moon. A burnt offering was often offered in conjunction with another sacrifice.

### 4. Grain Offering

**Purpose:** Voluntary act of worship recognition of God's goodness and provisions; devotion to God.

This offering is more of a "memorial" offering. I was fine flour with oil, incense, and salt, not yeast. The offering was burnt on the altar and the rest was given to the priest for their food.

### 5. Fellowship Or Peace Offering

**Purpose:** Voluntary act of Worship; Thanksgiving and fellowship (it included a communal meal)

The fellowship offering includes the ideas of health, wholeness, welfare, and peace. It is reflected in the common Jewish greeting "Shalom!" this offering symbolizes peace with God because the worshiper joins in the sacred meal. This meal was also often known to be shared with the poor!

**\*\*\*Hebrews 10:28 (NKJV)** Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?