



*Go for God!*

# **THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS**

## **Chapters 5 – 7**

### **“THE TRESPASS OFFERING & OFFERING LAWS”**

> **Let us review: Offerings to God in Old Testament times by which man hoped to atone for his sins and restore fellowship with God.**

The Bible depicts man as a sinner abiding in death and destined for death. He abides in death because he is separated from fellowship with God and unable to restore that life-giving fellowship (**Romans 5:12; 8**). The sentence of death hangs over man because of his identity with Adam's fall (**Romans 5:14**), his enmity toward God, and his constant sinning (**Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Romans 3:10**). Ultimately, this will result in physical death and eternal suffering in hell.

God, however, provided a method by which man's penalty can be paid and fellowship with God can be restored. This method is the sacrificial offering of Jesus Christ (**Hebrews 9-10**). This perfect offering was anticipated throughout the Old Testament by various sacrificial offerings. These Old Testament sacrifices were effective only when offered in faith in the promised sacrifice (**Genesis 3:15; Hebrews 9:8-9; 10:8-9,16-17**). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

> **Chapter 1 – “THE BURNT OFFERING”**

- **Bullocks, lambs, goats, or pigeons were offered upon the altar. This offering represented DEDICATION or TOTAL SURRENDER to God as well as a SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT for the offerer.**

The *Burnt Offering* was described as *“that which goes up (to God).”* It was termed *“whole”* (Leviticus 6:22) because the entire offering was to be burnt upon the altar. It was termed *“continual”* (Exodus 29:38-42) to teach the nation of Israel that their sinfulness required a complete and continual atonement and consecration.

~ **This sacrifice, offered every morning and evening, pointed to Christ's atoning death for sinners (2 Corinthians 5:21) and His total consecration to God (Luke 2:49).**

> **Chapter 2 – “THE GRAIN OFFERING”**

– The *Grain (meal or cereal) Offering* was made up of fine flour, unleavened bread, cakes, wafers, grain – always with salt. A handful was burned on the

altar; the rest was for priests, who ate it in a holy place – always followed the morning and evening burnt offerings. These two offerings together represented sacrifices of THANKSGIVING and DEVOTION to God.  
~ Christ's sinless life is represented by the absence of leaven (Heb. 4:15), whereas the oil signifies Christ born of and baptized with the Holy Spirit (Jn. 1:32).

### > Chapter 3 – “THE PEACE OFFERING”

– Oxen, sheep, or goats were offered in the *Peace Offering* representing FELLOWSHIP with God. This sacrificial offering was also called a *heave offering* and a *wave offering*. This was a bloody offering presented to God. Part of the offering is eaten by the priest (representing God's acceptance) and part is eaten by the worshiper and his guests (non-officiating priests or Levites and the poor, Deuteronomy 12:18; 16:11).

Thus, God hosted the meal, communing with the worshiper and other participants.

This sacrifice celebrated covering of sin, forgiveness by God, and the restoration of a right and meaningful relationship with God and with life itself (Judges 20:26; 21:4).

There were three kinds of peace offerings:

- (1) thank offerings in response to an unsolicited special divine blessing;
- (2) votive (vowed) offerings in pursuit of making a request or pledge to God; and
- (3) freewill offerings spontaneously presented in worship and praise.

~ Jesus Christ is our eternal peace offering, whereas He provides our fellowship with God.

### > Chapter 4 – “THE SIN OFFERING”

– Bullocks, goats, lambs were used for the *Sin Offering* representing a CLEANSING for the sinner. This bloody offering, also known as a guilt offering, was presented for unintentional or intentional sins for which there was no possible restitution (Leviticus 4:5-13; 6:24-30). If the offering was not accompanied by repentance, divine forgiveness was withheld (Numbers 15:30).

Expiation or covering (forgiveness) of sin was represented by the blood smeared on the horns of the altar of incense or burnt offering and poured out at the base of the altar. Sin offering was given each new moon Numbers 28:15; at the Passover, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets and Tabernacles, Numbers 28:22,30; 29:5,16,19,22,25,28,31,34,38; the offering of the two goats for the

people and of the bullock for the priest himself, on the Great Day of Atonement. Leviticus 16:1.

~ In His death Christ bore the believer's sin in His own body in place of the sinner (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24).

> Chapter 5 – “THE TRESPASS OFFERING”

– The *Trespass Offering* represented RECONCILIATION to God and RESTITUTION to the offended. This was a bloody offering presented for unintentional or intentional sins of a lesser degree and for which the violator could make restitution (Leviticus 5:15).

The sprinkling of the blood on the sides of the altar rather than on its horns gave further evidence that this offering addressed sins of a lesser degree. Special provisions were made for the poor by allowing less valuable offerings to be substituted in this kind of sacrifice. The amount of restitution (money paid) was determined by the officiating priest. Restitution declared that the debt incurred was paid.

~ Significantly, Christ was declared a trespass offering in 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.

He not only bore the sinner's penalty but made restitution, restoring the sinner to right standing with God.

(v1) [Swearing] The case appears to be that of one who has been put upon his oath as a witness by a magistrate, and fails to utter all he has seen and heard, or misrepresented the facts.

(v2-3) [Hid from him] Either through forgetfulness or indifference, so that purification had been neglected. In such a case there had been a guilty negligence, and a sin-offering was required.

(v4) [Pronouncing] Idly speaking (Psalms 106:33 - *Because they rebelled against His Spirit, So that he spoke rashly with his lips.*). The reference is to an oath to do something uttered in recklessness or passion and forgotten as soon as uttered.

**(v5-10) Confession must accompany the sacrifice as the outward expression of a repentant heart which openly acknowledged agreement with God concerning sin. Sacrifice minus true faith, repentance, and obedience was hypocrisy (cf. Ps 26:4; Isa 9:17; Am 5:21–26).**

**(v11-13) Provisions for the poor in regard to the offerings.**

**(v14-19) [In the holy things of the LORD] The reference is to a failure in the payment of firstfruits, tithes or fees of any kind connected with the public service of religion by which the sanctuary suffered loss; compare Numbers 5:6-8.**

**- Warren Wiersbe brings our Lord Jesus into perspective through these offerings by saying, “The trespass offering illustrates the solemn fact that it is a very costly thing for people to commit sin and for God to cleanse sin. 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. The passage in Isa 53:10 states clearly that when Jesus died on the cross, God made His Son "a guilt offering". The penalty we should have paid, He paid for us!**

**We haven't been able to probe into the details of these offerings; but what we have studied should make us realize the awfulness of sin, the seriousness of confession and restitution, the graciousness of God in forgiving those who trust Jesus Christ, and the marvelous love of our Savior in His willingness to die for undeserving people like us.**

**Jesus provides all that we need. He is our burnt offering, and we must yield ourselves wholly to Him. He is our meal offering, the seed crushed and put through the fire, that we might have the bread of life; and we must feed upon Him. He is our drink offering who poured Himself out in sacrifice and service, and we must pour ourselves out for Him and for others. He is our fellowship offering, making life a joyful feast instead of a painful famine. He is our sin offering and our guilt offering, for He bore our sins on His body (1 Peter 2:24) and paid the full price for our sins (1:18-19).”**

### **> Chapter 6 – “THE LAWS OF THE OFFERINGS”**

**(v1-7) The sin and trespass offerings were for crimes against God and fellow man and their restitution.**

**- In the New Testament we read a story restitution in Luke 19:1-10 - *Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see***

*who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."*

(v8-30) These were laws of sacrifice for the priesthood. Leviticus 1:1—6:7 has dealt with five major offerings from the worshiper's perspective. Here instructions for the priests are given, with special attention to the priests' portion of the sacrifice. The command and instructions for Aaron and his sons in regard to the Burnt, Grain & Sin offerings.

> **Chapter 7 – "THE LAWS OF THE OFFERINGS" (continued)**

(v1-10) The command and instructions for Aaron and his sons in regard to the *trespass offering*.

(v11-18) The command and instructions for Aaron and his sons in regard to the *peace offerings*.

(v19-27) The command against those who disobey the LORD and are to be "*cut off from his people*."

(v28-34) The breast and thigh of the Peace offering are to be given to Aaron and his sons, representing affection and strength.

(v35-38) Summary explanation.