

“The Price of Guilt & Priority of Holiness”

October 11, 2026

C. Holy Blood: God Provides Atonement (6:24–30; 7:1–7, 22–27)

These taught that guilt must be dealt with, impurity must be cleansed, and fellowship with God requires atonement.

The sacrifices of the old covenant anticipated the final sacrifice of Jesus, who offered Himself once for all.

We must hold two truths together:

- God is so Holy that sin cannot be ignored.
- God is so Gracious that He has provided the atonement sinners need.

D. Holy Fellowship: God Welcomes His People (7:11–21, 28–36)

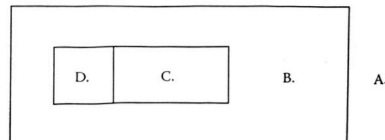
The peace offering included a meal that celebrated thanksgiving, devotion, and fellowship in God's presence.

In Christ, God does not merely remove our guilt; He reconciles us to Himself and welcomes us!

Grace does not make holiness unnecessary. Our sanctification is not the price we pay to earn fellowship with God, but the fruit of the fellowship Christ has secured for us.

Levels of Holiness Required:

Zone	Access
A. The camp	All people (unless otherwise excluded)
B. The courtyard	Priests (and ritually pure Israelites at the entrance)
C. The holy place	Only priests
D. The most holy place	Only the high priest



Sermon Text: Leviticus 5:14-7:38

Main Truth: A holy God calls his people to demonstrate genuine repentance and worship him according to his holy provision.

Main Questions of Leviticus: How can sinful people live in the presence of a holy God?

The Price & Priority in Leviticus 5:14-7:38

1. The Price for Guilt: Repentance Pursues Restitution

We want the relief of confession without the responsibility of restitution.

The guilt offering brings together two dimensions of sin:

1. Our responsibility before God.
2. Our responsibility toward Others.

A. Sin Creates Real Guilt (5:14-19)

Sin is an act of unfaithfulness against God

God provides a way for our guilt to be addressed through atonement and forgiveness.

B. Sin Damages Relationships (6:1-5)

Sin against our neighbor is also an act of unfaithfulness against the **LORD**.

We cannot claim a healthy relationship with God while refusing to address the wrongs we have committed against **others**.

Matthew 6:23-24 — “*So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.*”

Take seriously the wrongs that remain between you and others, even as you prepare to **worship**.

C. Repentance Pursues Restitution (6:5-7)

Key: Restitution is the **evidence** of genuine repentance.

- Restitution does not **buy/earn** God's forgiveness.
- Restitution demonstrates a willingness to bear the cost of making things **right**.

Isaiah 53:10— “*Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.*”

The Suffering Servant's life is a **guilt offering**.

Christ has borne our guilt through His **sufficient** sacrifice.

Is there a sin you have confessed but for which you are still unwilling to take **responsibility**?

2. The Priority of Holiness: A Holy God Provides Holy Worship

God determines how His people **must** worship Him.

“Fundamentally, in the Old Testament, holiness describes God—it is a descriptor of ‘God-ness’ (see especially Isa. 6:3). Thus, as people, objects, places and times are made holy, they are made fit for God’s presence and are set apart for His use. Hence, holiness is ‘by invitation only’. God alone is intrinsically holy; anything or anyone else needs to become holy through the means God provides. Accordingly, the closer one gets to God, the greater the degree of holiness required (which will also include ethics and character).”
(G. Geoffrey Harper)

A. Holy Fire: God Sustains Worship (6:8–13)

The fire on the altar was to be kept **burning** and must not go out.

Faithfulness in worship is often demonstrated through ordinary **obedience** rather than extraordinary experiences.

B. Holy Food: God Orders Worship (6:14–7:10)

Holy things must be treated as holy because they belong to the **LORD**.

God, not human **preference**, determines faithful worship.

Questions to ask regarding formal, gathered worship:

- Did we honor God according to His **Word**?
- Did our worship direct attention toward His character and saving **work**?
- Are we submitting to God or merely seeking an experience that suits our **preferences**?

Scripture connections: Deuteronomy 12; John 4