



The Quarry Gospel Church

BIBLE STUDY - 24.02.21

BIBLE STUDY - LEVITICUS - 5. THE MANUAL OF SACRIFICES - Part 5 - THE GUILT OFFERING

Leviticus 5:14 - 6:7

We must never think of "grace" cheaply - it cost God the life of His Son.

The Guilt Offering is the 5th offering - God reminds His people that Grace is not cheap!

2 major differences from sin offering:

- It is concerned with specific sins
- It incorporates elements of reparation/restitution

1. THE FOCUS OF THE GUILT OFFERING

There are 3 classes of sin dealt with:

A) The Sin of Sacrilege (5:14-16)

- Sacrilege = violation or misuse of what is regarded as sacred;
v15 - The sin of sacrilege is explained as sinning unintentionally in regard to any of "*the Lord's holy things*" e.g. *Lev.22:14-16*
- The sin is unintentional sin (unlike the sin of Achan - *Joshua Ch.7*)

B) The Sin of Disobedience (5:17-19)

Anything "against the Lord's commands" - this has been interpreted differently:

- (i) General disobedience as in the sin offering;
- (ii) Disobedience with reference to the Tabernacle (God's holy things)

Since (i) would be covered already by the Sin Offering, (ii) is probably the more accurate interpretation.

C) The Sin of Unfaithfulness (6:1-7)

- "*...sins and is unfaithful to the Lord.*"
- It refers to "unfaithful behaviour" - behaviour towards others
- Responsibilities to others and relationships with others matter to God
To break faith with ones neighbour is to break faith with God.
- Particular sins listed in *Lev.6:1-7* .. Failure to look after another's property, stealing, gaining possessions by false means etc.

There is evidence that suggests this sacrifice was used by Israel as a "just in case" sacrifice. (This is like Job when he sacrificed on behalf of his children "in case" they had sinned by cursing God in their hearts)

2. THE DETAILS OF THE GUILT OFFERING

The Guilt Offering was composed of 2 parts - the Sacrifice and Restitution:

A) The Sacrifice

- A ram from the flock without blemish or defect
- *Lev.7:1-7* gives details of how the priest was to sacrifice the ram
- The ram "belonged to the priest" - therefore the priest was allowed to eat certain parts that remained;

N.B. this does not contradict instructions for the Sin Offering regarding the priests not being allowed to eat any meat (*Ch.4-5*) - those were instructions when it concerned the "priest's own sin" (from which he was not allowed to benefit. Here, if the ram was for the sin of just the worshipper, the priest was entitled to eat the meat that remained. This rule applied to the sin **and** the guilt offering.

- **One Unique detail of the Guilt Offering - (5:15,18) - "and the proper value in silver"**

Different interpretations of this:

- (i) Priest would calculate value of the ram required based on seriousness of offense in his eyes;
- (ii) Based again on the seriousness of the offense, the Priest would take a certain amount of silver and would buy the ram for the sacrifice.

B) The Reparation/Restitution

- Required when God/a neighbour had been deprived of something that belonged to them;
- Offender should make full restitution + 20%, (given to owner when offering made);
- Extra 20% was a punishment and an deterrent.

Sacrifice without Reparation would not be accepted.

Reparation without Sacrifice would not be adequate.

Both God and man must be satisfied for atonement to be made

3. APPLICATION

4 Spiritual Truths that emerge from the study of the Guilt Offering:

A) The claim of God on our lives

- Our society has lost its consciousness of the "sacred" - only ever concerned with "our rights";
- BUT GOD HAS RIGHTS! - and we have no excuse not to give God what He rightly demands and is entitled to.

Malachi 3:8-10 Tithes and Offerings due to God

Malachi 1:6-8 Reverence and the best to be offered to God and nothing less

Malachi 2:13-15 We should demonstrate our faithfulness to God in the faithfulness of our relationships with others, particularly marriage.

These passages cover the 3 types of sin: Transgression, Sacrilege and Unfaithfulness.

- Paul covers similar issues in his letters: *Galatians 6:7-10; 1 Cor.16:1-2; 2 Cor.8:1-7.* Giving is a key aspect of faithfulness

B) Our debt of sin

- Sin is a debt that need paying
- Jesus saw sin as a debt- *Luke 7:41-47; Matthew 18.*
- Paul talks of our "indebtedness" in *Colossians 2:13-15*
It is a debt we cannot pay.

C) The blessing of Substitution

- **Jesus is "THE CROWNING GUILT OFFERING" in Scripture - *Isaiah 53:5-12***
- Jesus has paid "our" debt - so we enjoy the blessing of Substitution.
- Jesus is our Sin and Guilt Offering

D) The need for restitution/reparation

- The responsibility for restitution still applies. *Matthew 5:23*
- *Luke 19* - the story of Zacchaeus (He made restitution of 4x the amount he had cheated anyone out of)
- O.T. attitude - 20% was required restitution
N.T. attitude - Zacchaeus "chose" to give 400%!
"Under grace" - we have premission and the opportunity to give EVERYTHING!
- If we offend, we do have an obligation to "put things right"

CONCLUSION

The Guilt Offering speaks of a gracious God who provides a way for guilty sinners to be freed from their debt of sin.

It is not cheap - "Grace" never is.

In the Old Testament - Grace cost the life of an animal,

In the New Testament - Grace cost the life of the Son of God.