

Study Guide

Leviticus | Confession

Introduction

Confession is such a painful topic when it is actually a gift from God? God knows that we need purification and restitution, and that is why He created the sin and guilt offerings.

1. Read Leviticus 4:1-2.

"The Lord said to Moses, ²"Say to the Israelites: 'When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them...'"

Discuss the following observations:

a. "Sin" involves misdirected desires that lead to missing the mark of love (James 1:14-15; Rom. 3:23; Matt. 22:37-40).

b. "Unintentionally"- (Lev. 4:2, 13, 22, 27). "...and realizes..."

Discuss the idea that most of us don't wake up looking for ways to hurt others and sin intentionally. Discuss the process of "realization" in your own life.

c. "Lord's Commandments"- Discuss the concept that sin is defined by God. (Romans 3:23; Psalm 119:37b; Judges 17:6, 21:25).

2. The Sin Offering (Lev. 4-5; 6:24-30)- I Need Purification

a. Discuss the meaning behind the rituals:

Bull or goat or dove..., lay hands on head, kill, portions of blood sprinkled, burn the fat, kidney's and liver, burn the rest outside the camp.

b. Discuss the various groups addressed:

Whole congregation (v.13-21); Tribal leader (v.22-26); Common People (v.27-35); What can be afforded (Lev. 5:7-13). Why do you think there was a higher cost to the High Priest, or leader than for common folk?

c. Why do you think we need purification (Hebrews 9:13-14; 1 John 1:8-9).

3. The Guilt Offering, (Lev. 5:14-6:7& 7:1-10)- I Need to be Restored

a. Defiling sacred things (v.14-16)- Ram + 20% for reparation

b. Suspected of defiling sacred things (v.17-19)- assurance of forgiveness – offer a Ram

c. Swearing falsely (lying) (6:1-7)- Ram + Restore property + 20%

Why do you think God created a system for reparation (to restore or make amends)?

4. Read 2 Cor. 7:10-11. Why do you think some people ask God to forgive them, but never go to the people they have offended with a desire to make amends?

Application- Take some time for personal, quiet reflection

1. Was I unloving this week? What are the root issues behind being unloving?
2. Is there a need to make amends with someone?
3. What would I like prayer for?

Message Slides

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Offerings that express felt needs that we have!

Burnt Offering, ch. 1 & 6:8-13- I Need to Worship (Love)

Grain Offering, ch. 2 & 6:14-18 – I Need to Depend (Joy)

Peace Offering, ch. 3 & 7:11-34- I Need to Belong (Peace)

Sin Offering, ch. 4-5:13 & 6:24-30- I Need to be Purified

Guilt Offering, ch. 5:14-6:7& 7:1-10- I Need to be Restored

A. What is sin?

Leviticus 4:1-2

“The Lord said to Moses, ²“Say to the Israelites: ‘When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord’s commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them...”

1. Sin involves misdirected desires that lead to missing the mark of love.

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Misdirected desires- James 1:14-15

“But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.”

Missing the mark- Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Missing the mark of love- Matt. 22:37-40

Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

2. Sin is mostly unintentional

Leviticus 4:1-2

“The Lord said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites: ‘When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord’s commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them...”

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- v. 2 "sins unintentionally..."
- v. 13 "sins unintentionally...and they realize their guilt"
- v. 22- "sins unintentionally...and realizes his guilt."
- v. 27 "sins unintentionally...and realizes his guilt."

3. Sin is defined by God.

Leviticus 4:1-2

"The Lord said to Moses, ²"Say to the Israelites: 'When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them..."

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Psalm 119:37b "...give me life in your ways."

B. Sin Offering (Lev. 4-5:13; 6:24-30)- I Need Purification

1. The "Anointed" (High) Priest- (v. 3-12)

Lev. 4:3

"...if it is the anointed priest who sins, thus bringing guilt on the people, then he shall offer for the sin that he has committed a bull from the herd without blemish to the Lord for a sin offering."

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- a. Bring a bull
- b. Lay hands on head
- c. Kill it!
- d. A portion of blood to the tent of meeting.
- e. A portion of blood to put on the horns of the altar of incense.
- f. Rest of the blood. Poured out at the base of the altar of burnt offering.
- g. Burn the fat, kidneys and liver there, and take the rest out of the camp and burn it.

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1. The "Anointed" (High) Priest- (v. 3-12)- Bull

2. The whole Congregation (v. 13-21)- Bull

3. Leader (v.22-26)- Male Goat

4. Common People (v.27-35)- Female goat/lamb

Whatever can be afforded (Lev. 5:7-13) – Turtle doves/pigeons/bag of flour

C. What is the Purpose of Purification?

Hebrews 9:13-14

"For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God."

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1 John 1:8-9

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

D. Guilt Offering, ch. 5:14-6:7& 7:1-10- I Need to be Restored

Lev. 5:14-15

"Then the Lord said to Moses, "If one of you commits a sin by unintentionally defiling the Lord's sacred property, you must bring a guilt offering to the Lord."

Lev. 6:5

"...he shall restore it in full and shall add a fifth to it..."

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1. Defiling sacred things (v.14-16)- Ram + 20% for reparation
2. Suspected of defiling sacred things (v.17-19)- assurance of forgiveness – offer a Ram
3. Swearing falsely (lying) (6:1-7)- Ram + Restore property + 20%

Guilt offerings in the NT

Luke 19:8-9

"And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham."

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Proverbs 14:9

"Fools mock at reparation, but among the upright there is favor."

2 Cor. 7:10-11

"For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, ... For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, ...what zeal, ...at every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter."

James 5:16b

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

Illustration of hand feeding wild deer- 0:00 – 1:25 Min.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXPb8kOo_2k

What does love require?

Prayer/Reflection time

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1. Was I unloving this week?

2. What are the root issues behind being unloving?
3. Is there a need to make amends with someone?
4. What would I like prayer for?