

Set Before – Leviticus Chapters 1-7

God is holy, and His people must be holy.

Class Outline

1. Set Before (*Ch. 1-7*)
2. Set Apart (*Ch. 8-15*)
3. Set Free (*Ch. 16-25*)
4. Set Futures (*Ch. 26-27*)

Discussion

- What does the kind of food served indicate about the importance of an event?
- How does someone's presence at an event indicate the significance of an event?

Types of Offerings

Voluntary offerings

- **Burnt** (*Lev. 1*)
- **Grain** (*Lev. 2*)
- **Peace** (*Lev. 3*)
 - Thanksgiving
 - Vow
 - Free-will

Mandatory offerings

- **Sin** (*Lev. 4*)
- **Guilt** (*Lev.5*)

Readings

Leviticus 1:1-9 – The Burnt Offering

- What does the quality of an offering reveal about the one offering it?
- What does the physicality of the burnt offering reveal about it?

Leviticus 2:1-3 – The Grain Offering

- How is a grain offering different from a burnt offering? What might this mean?

Leviticus 3:1-5 – The Peace Offering

- How is an offering an act of gratitude? How can it be a promise?
- What does the "Free-Will" offering mean?

Leviticus 7:1-16

- Note what is done with each separate offering after it is offered. Why do you think this is?
- What is the significance of the priest and worshiper sharing a meal?

Dictionary of Bible Themes

The OT laid down complex regulations by which the guilt of sin could be removed through the sacrificial system. Particular emphasis was placed upon the role of the high priest, who was required to make annual atonement for the sins of the people.

The covenantal framework of atonement

As God's covenant [people], the Israelites undertook to keep his laws

Ex 24:3 *See also Dt 26:17; Jos 24:24*

The sin offering made atonement for unintentional sins under the covenant

Lev 9:7 *See also Lev 4:13-14; Nu 15:22-26*

The guilt offering atoned for sins where reparation was required **Lev 19:20-22** *See also Lev 6:1-7*

Deliberate flouting of God's law could not be atoned for

Nu 15:30-31 *See also Nu 35:33; 1Sa 3:14*

The Day of Atonement provided for the removal of the nation's sin

Lev 16:34 *See also Ex 30:10; Lev 16:1-33* *The nation's sin was atoned for by sprinkling the atonement cover in the Most Holy Place with the blood of the sacrificial goat; the removal of the people's sin was symbolised by the driving of the scapegoat into the wilderness; Heb 9:7*

Atonement was effected by the blood of the sacrifice

Lev 17:11 *The blood signified that the life of the animal had been given in place of that of the worshipper. See also Heb 9:22*

The role of priests in making atonement

Priests were dedicated to God in order to make atonement for others

Ex 29:44 *See also Lev 8:22-30*

The priests had to make atonement for their own sins

Heb 5:1-3 *See also Lev 9:8-11*

Abuses of the system of atonement

The sinful conduct of the priests who made atonement

Hos 4:7-8 *See also 1Sa 2:12-17; Jer 6:13-14; Eze 22:26; Mal 1:6-8*

The sinful conduct of the people who sought atonement without repenting of their sins

Hos 8:11-13 *See also Isa 1:10-17; 66:3; Jer 7:21-24; Am 4:4*

The need for repentance for a relationship of atonement **Pr 16:6** *See also 1Sa 15:22; Ps 51:16-17; Mic 6:6-8¹*

¹ Martin H. Manser, *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies* (London: Martin Manser, 2009).

Daily Devotions Schedule

Day 1 – The Burnt Offering

Read Leviticus 1; 6:8-13

Note the details of the sacrifice:

How does the physicality of the offering demonstrate the seriousness of sin and the cost of a sacrificial life given for sin?

Day 2 – The Grain Offering

Read Leviticus 2; 6:14-23

What makes an offering acceptable?

What does the quality of the offering reveal about the one who offers it?

How does the grain offering show honor to the Lord?

Day 3 – The Peace Offering

Read Leviticus 3: 7:11-36; 22:17-30; 27

What is fellowship? Peace? How does this offering symbolize fellowship or peace?

Why do the priest and worshiper share a meal? What does it have to do with our relationship with God?

Day 4 – The Sin Offering

Read Leviticus 4-5:1-13; 6:24-30; 12:6-8

What does it mean to be unclean?

How is this offering a way of God's providing for his people?

Day 5 – The Guilt Offering

Read Leviticus 5:14-6:7; 7:1-6; 14:12-18

How would you define "sacrifice"?

Does true sacrifice have to hurt?