

## Leviticus Chapter 3

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1. Burnt offering: An offering of consecration, dedicating our lives to God.
2. Meat / meal offering, a grain offering: An offering of thanksgiving to God, and expression of gratitude towards God.
3. Peace offering:
4. Sin offering:
5. Heave offering:
6. Wave offering:
7. Drink offering: A life that is poured out in service to God.

Hymns: In our world peace is the cessation of hostilities, it is elusive – impossible apart from a relationship with Jesus: Only believers really know what peace is.

- Frances Ridley Havergal – Like A River Glorious.
- Horatio Spafford – It Is Well With My Soul.

**Peace Offering:** The offering of communion or fellowship. With the peace offering, the meat was roasted, and you got a portion of it and God got a portion of it.

- The idea was that as you would take your portion and sit down and eat it, it was like having a meal with God. As you ate your meal you were having fellowship with God because you were both eating from the same piece of meat, you were becoming one through the eating of a common meal together.
- The “heave offering” is giving God His part of the meal.
- As we go through this chapter we see again that there are 3 grades of offering.
  1. V: 1-5 An animal from the herd, oxen or cattle – male or female.
  2. V: 6-11 A lamb from the flock, male or female.
  3. V: 12-17 A goat from the flock, male or female.
- There are the respective duties of the parties involved:
- The worshipper making the offering:
  1. Was to present the animal before the Lord, at the gate or door of the Tabernacle.
  2. Laid his hand upon the animal, confessing his sins.
  3. Killed the animal, and removed certain portions of the animal.
  4. Ate a portion of the animal in fellowship with God & the priest.
- The priests:
  1. Sprinkled the blood around the altar.
  2. Burned the Lord’s portion on top of the burnt sacrifice.
  3. Ate a portion of the animal in fellowship with God & the people

- One of the real distinctions about this sacrifice is that it is not mandatory, it was optional, the worshipper could offer the peace or fellowship offering whenever they wanted to, it's left up to them.
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V: 1 The peace offering – pointing to Jesus:

**Ephesians 2:14** “For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us.”

- Having joined together that which was separated (reconciliation), having removed the partition / barrier between God and man, that barrier being our sin.
- Being from the herd: ox, bull, or cow: representing Jesus as a servant.
- 4 Gospels / 4 Tribes / Cherubim in Revelation & Ezekiel.
- The peace offering, or fellowship offering can be a male or female – this is different than the burnt offering of consecration which could only be a male.
- Our peace with God, our fellowship with God is not limited by gender:

**Galatians 3:28** “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

“... he shall offer...” 6X's (vv: 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 14) It's to be personal.

**Leviticus 7:29-30** <sup>29</sup>“Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, he that offereth the sacrifice of his peace offerings unto the Lord shall bring his oblation unto the Lord of the sacrifice of his peace offerings. <sup>30</sup>His own hands shall bring the offerings of the Lord made by fire,...”

- “Without blemish”; not “without spot or blemish” as with the burnt offerings.
- A blemish is an acquired defect, but a spot is an inherited defect.
- Jesus had no inherent sin, no sin nature; at the same time Jesus did not have any acquired sin – He led a sinless life.
- No body could control the spots except God Himself, but a blemish could in some ways be prevented.
- The requirements are not so stringent; God is making it easier to have fellowship or peace with Him. J.V. McGee, cookies on the bottom shelf.

- “**Before the Lord**” – it is an offering that is to be made in the presence of God, here in a practical and geographical sense – also in the sense of being aware of the presence of God.

**Colossians 3:17, 23-24** “<sup>17</sup>And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.” –  
“<sup>23</sup>And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;  
<sup>24</sup>Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.”

**Romans 12:1** “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

V: 2 “... *he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering...*”

- Similar to the burnt offering, there is the imparting or the imputing of our sins to the sacrificial animal.
- This may seem odd when talking about a “peace offering” – but how is it that we have peace with God? By confessing our sins and being reconciled to Him, making peace with Him.
- We’ll see in the next chapter that the sin offering is similar in that there is again the laying on of the hands upon the animal and the confession of sin, the imputing of sin.
- Whenever we approach God it is from a position of humility and general unworthiness apart from His provision for us to do so.

**Matthew 5:9** “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”

**Romans 5:1** “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

- The sacrifice is to be killed at the door of the Tabernacle, the way into the Holy Place, the way to worshipping God.

**John 10:9** “I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

**John 14:6** “Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father except by Me.”

- It is at the door that God will meet with His people – remembering that Jesus is the door. It is through Jesus that we have access to God.

- Aaron's sons, the priests then "sprinkled" or sprinkled abundantly the blood round about the altar.

**Hebrews 9:22** "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

- The priest is the only one who is allowed to sprinkle the blood; there has to be a mediator between God and man in the sprinkling of blood.

**1 Timothy 2:5** "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"

V: 3-4 3 different kinds of fat: the fat that covers the inwards, the fat that is upon the inwards, and the fat that is upon the kidneys.

- Fat that covers the organs – referred to as suet. This is the desirable fat that covers the inward parts, validates or determines the inward health and vigor of the animal; something that cannot be seen until after the animal is slain.
- The fat belongs to the Lord, and it smells good as it is consumed in the fire.
- Kidneys, also translated "reins", meaning the thoughts or intents, motives.

Kidneys: (H-3629) translated kidneys 18X's, "reins" 13 X's.

**Psalm 26:1-2** "1 Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the Lord; therefore I shall not slide. 2 Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart."

- Speaking of the inward motives and the secret affections, the hidden desires are known to Him.

**Psalm 7:9** "Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins."

**Jeremiah 17:10** "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

**Psalm 139:23-24** "23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

- "Caul" (above the liver) – midriff; diaphragm. The diaphragm divides the animal in half and it what enables the animal or us to breath to draw breath.
- What is symbolized here is that every breath is now consecrated, sacrifice to God.

The Kry: “every breath I take, I breathe in you, you are my way Jesus...”

V: 5-11-16 All these things shall be burnt upon the altar – and “it shall be a sweet savour unto the Lord:” pleasing and acceptable in His sight.

V: 6-11 If the peace offering is a lamb of the flock.

- Representing Jesus as the Lamb of God that takes away all our sins.
- It has all the same requirements as a cow from the herd except for verse 9.

V: 9 The whole rump taken off hard by the back bone. The entire fatty tail.

- Can weigh up to 50-70 lbs.

V: 10 There is application about the “reins” or thoughts of our hearts, our innermost thoughts and feelings, this says specifically “the two kidneys” – this would seem to mean specifically the physical kidneys of the animal.

V: 11 “... *it is the food of the offering made of fire unto the Lord.*”

- Leviticus chapter 7 will elaborate upon the peace offering; but one of the things that we will see is that the peace offering was unique in that it was the one offering in which all the parties partook of the meal.
  1. A portion was presented to and consumed by the Lord.
  2. A portion was given to the worshipper and his family to be eaten.
  3. And a portion was given to the priests who would partake as well.

**Deuteronomy 12:7** “*And there ye shall eat before the Lord your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the Lord thy God hath blessed thee.*”

- Basically when they offered a peace offering unto the Lord, it was a time of celebration and feasting with the family, rejoicing over God’s blessings and goodness.

When Solomon dedicated the Temple:

**1 Kings 8:62-66** <sup>62</sup>And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifice before the Lord. <sup>63</sup>And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered unto the Lord, two and twenty thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the Lord. <sup>64</sup>The same day did the king hallow the middle of the court that was before the house of the Lord for there he offered burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the

peace offerings: because the brazen altar that was before the Lord was too little to receive the burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings. <sup>65</sup>And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the Lord our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days. <sup>66</sup>On the eighth day he sent the people away: and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the Lord had done for David his servant, and for Israel his people.”

- 142,000 animals sacrificed – a great feast!
- Besides inclusivity, it demonstrated the connection between God and man; which at that time in the OT was through the priesthood – who were included.
- Eventually the priesthood would be replaced by our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ.

**1 Timothy 2:5** “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”

**Romans 5:1** “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

- Eating together was a very symbolic act, it signified becoming one with those whom you ate with.
- As we break bread together, I tear off a piece and hand the loaf to you, we both partake of the same loaf, the same bread.
- As I assimilate the bread into my body, you are doing the same – with the same bread – and so we become part of each other – unity in the body of Christ.

**1 Corinthians 10:16-17** <sup>16</sup>“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, it is not the communion of the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup>For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.”

- All of this is points to the communion table: the sacrifice is slain, a portion consumed by God, a portion to the priest, and a portion eaten by the worshipper.

**John 6:53-57** <sup>53</sup>“Then Jesus said unto them, verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Whoso eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup>For My flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. <sup>56</sup>He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup>As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me.”

V: 12-17

V: 12 A goat: Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. One goat was slain, sacrificed. The other, the scapegoat received / represented the sins of the nation and was set free in the wilderness.

- Our Lord Jesus received the penalty for our sins, He is our scapegoat.

V: 16 "... all the fat is the Lord's." (Some of us belong to the Lord more than others...)

- Ancient culture vs: modern – the fat was the best / premium part of the animal.

V: 17 No fat, no blood.

**Leviticus 17:11** "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

**Acts 16:29** "That you abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well."

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- In the peace offering there is the idea of becoming one with God, being joined with Him.

We have peace with God through Jesus:

**Colossians 1:20** "And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself;..."

We have fellowship with God through Jesus:

**1 John 1:3** "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ."

**Psalms 116:17** "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord."

**Hebrews 13:15** "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name."

**Philippians 4:6-7** "<sup>6</sup>Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."