

pour out his blood at the bottom

4:13 – 35 Leviticus

~ The first few chapters of the Levitical leg of our Spiritual Safari revealed the burnt offering, the meat offering and the peace offering. Those three are sweet savor offerings to the Lord. In our last report, we began looking at the sin offering. If you have not read our last report, I highly suggest you go back and do so now. The instructions for the sin offering are so long that two reports are required to cover it all. It is not a sweet savor offering to the Lord. The sin offering is where we saw a radical change in the focus of the offerings from the emphasis on Who Christ is, to the sinner for whom Christ died. I cannot properly stress the depths of awfulness encompassed in the fact that Jesus was made sin for us. It defies articulation.

We also saw a radical change in the instructions for the sin offering as the bull is taken outside the camp and the whole thing is burned. That didn't happen with the other offerings. This was done to teach the children of Israel the exceeding sinfulness of sin. There is no thought here of the Person or the consecration of Christ. This is where Christ is made sin for us. We have a tremendous spiritual statement in Hebrews chapter thirteen at verse ten: We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

Religion is simply not going to satisfy your heart, friends. You have a sinful nature deep down that comes with a conviction of unrighteousness. Every person has it and the only people that claim not to have it are not truthful with themselves. You can make all the self-effort you can muster, and you can think you are saintly to your fingertips - and you're only lying to

yourself. When you say that's not true, no one else believes you except those stumbling in the dark with you. Only one thing can remove our guilt complex: the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Attempting self-control is futile - and not Biblical. Try Christ and deny yourself for a change - and see how that works for you - because His death on the cross is the only way to remove our sin complex. It hangs on like a leech! Christ alone offers you forgiveness of sins....

13 And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing be hid from the eyes of the assembly, and they have done somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which should not be done, and are guilty;

14 When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the tabernacle of the congregation.

~ We're going to see all manner of sins in this report; sins of the congregation; sins of the rulers; sins of the common people; then, we will get the law of the sin offering. The sins of the priest's required a young bullock be slain. The high priest, Aaron, would have required the same offering. The bull, when it was young, was the most valuable of all the animals. That speaks of the responsibility of the priests. As we have learned, the priests have a greater responsibility to God. Here, the offering for the congregation is the same as that of the priests, a young bull.

We see beyond our individual responsibility in this section of Scripture - and we see corporate responsibility. God judges nations; and many people who did not participate in the sins of the nation, get caught up in that nation's judgment. When Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D. the whole nation went to Babylon - priest, prophet, and all. When the Roman Empire fell, every single province went down. We are part of a nation today that I am convinced is on the brink of judgment - but I digress, sort of.

God also judges churches and local congregations. If your church goes liberal, you are not supposed to stay and witness. I seriously doubt that is God's intent for your ministry because you don't find that in the Word of

God. If you want to remain in a liberal church, then God will judge you right along with them! This idea that we can separate ourselves from that which we belong to is fools reasoning. Your individual responsibility comes first; and when you decide to join up with that which is wrong, you'll be held equally responsible. Remember the Lord speaking to the seven churches in Asia; every single member was guilty. What do you belong to today? Where do you think you belong? Has the Lord led you there – or - have you picked out the place you want to be, and put yourself there, and now insist the Lord bless you? Let's be very careful with the answers to those questions. As we move along, the elders represent the nation Israel's leadership, just as the elders in Revelation represent the leaders in the church. The ritual in Leviticus is identical to the offering for the priests, so we'll pass by this instruction with a stipulation that we already understand it. If you have doubts, then go back and read the previous five safari reports from Leviticus....

15 And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the bullock before the LORD: and the bullock shall be killed before the LORD.

16 And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation:

17 And the priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood, and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD, even before the vail.

18 And he shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar which is before the LORD, that is in the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

19 And he shall take all his fat from him, and burn it upon the altar.

20 And he shall do with the bullock as he did with the bullock for a sin offering, so shall he do with this: and the priest shall make an atonement for them, and it shall be forgiven them.

21 And he shall carry forth the bullock without the camp, and burn him as he burned the first bullock: it is a sin offering for the congregation.

22 When a ruler hath sinned, and done somewhat through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD his God concerning things which should not be done, and is guilty;

23 Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish:

~ Here we come to the offerings for the civil rulers of the tribes. They bring an offering for the same reason as everyone else – they're sinners! They have a differing responsibility, though, because of their position and understanding. Guilt has been established already; this is not an allegation and hearsay or gossip. Many people in the place of responsibility are falsely charged with inaccurate statements; but God is very careful and specific to establish guilt here before the offering is to be brought.

Our politicians today do not seek to please God. I have yet to hear a single one in my lifetime make any sort of statement that even remotely declares they acknowledge any responsibility to God. Once in a while they'll touch on a religious hot button issue, but they aren't concerned with anything except being popular with the people. These politicians are completely fabricated and conflicted, and responsibility to God is the last thing on their minds as they drink away the day's problems over a dinner, the cost of which could have fed a hundred people. God says they are responsible to Him!

I, personally, feel that any man or woman running for, or even just ambitious for, a prominent office in the community is dangerously narcissistic. They do not consider their responsibility to God for that position they assume – not – a – single - one. Well, this offering is not as valuable as the bullock, to be sure; but the goat as an offering reveals an elevated responsibility in the fact that a male is required....

24 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the LORD: it is a sin offering.

25 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out his blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering.

26 And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.

27 And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and be guilty;

~ This is you and me and the regular man on the streets. This offering is for sins of ignorance that are against the commandments of God. This would be something that has been specifically stated as being forbidden, but we didn't know it until it was too late. Again, guilt must be established for this offering to proceed and be acceptable. This offering is to lift the guilt complex and bring peace to the anxious mind. The death of Christ alone can lift the crushing weight of the guilt complex from modern man. Modern psychological procedures have not been able to accomplish this alleviation of the guilty mind. Psychiatry may move the problem of guilt from one area to another, but it can never remove it. That guilt is waiting deep in the human heart to spring back up like a weed. It will linger on and on and on without the Lord Jesus Christ in your life....

28 Or if his sin, which he hath sinned, come to his knowledge: then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he hath sinned.

~ Today, we turn to Christ as lost sinners and accept Him as our Savior. Then, as believers - if we are honest with ourselves - we discover that we still sin. So, what are we to do? If we confess our sins, Christ is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This offering is a

baby female. This is the least valuable animal for any offering. What that means is that ALL sins – big and small - are placed on the death of the Lord Jesus Christ! ~

29 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering.

30 And the priest shall take of the blood thereof with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar.

31 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings; and the priest shall burn it upon the altar for a sweet savour unto the LORD; and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and it shall be forgiven him.

32 And if he bring a lamb for a sin offering, he shall bring it a female without blemish.

33 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay it for a sin offering in the place where they kill the burnt offering.

34 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar:

35 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed.....and it shall be forgiven him.

~ So, we're going to end this leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God with complete and total forgiveness for the sinner who has admitted his sins and has come to Christ and has accepted the sacrifice made by our High Priest for us. Total absolution was accomplished

when Christ died; in Whom we have redemption through His blood; the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace and mercy!

We're going to see meticulous laws surrounding these offerings coming up in our safari. You didn't think a legal Book would be just that easy, did you? No, we haven't even begun with the precepts and statutes. All of these offerings refer to Christ and His work down here on earth for us. You and I do not know what suffering really is. I think it's a little strange that the sin offering is holy, but it is. Remember, Jesus, on the cross, asked God why He had forsaken Him? Well, after that question is asked, Jesus says, "Thou art Holy!" When Christ became sin, He was STILL holy! God did withdraw from Him, but God was working through Christ reconciling the world to Himself. See, God inhabits the praises of Israel. This book of the Bible and this Spiritual Safari are only about one thing – Christ! Christ was holy and our sins were put on Him and – then – He was still Holy! Maybe you have the answers to this mystery? I'll be looking for your comments.

This offering we have examined in this report and the last is for sin and sin just isn't holy – it's the opposite. God is continually saying to each of us, "let the wicked forsake his ways." If the unrighteous turn to the Lord He will have mercy on them. Have you turned to God today to save you? His thoughts are not our thoughts, and His ways are not our ways. As the Heaven is higher than the earth His ways are higher than ours. Many people ask, "... what would Jesus do?" – Well, you have no idea what Jesus would do. You and I need reminding every day that God saved us from sins. God did not save us TO sin. Shall we continue in sins? God forbid!

In the next leg of our safari, we come to the trespass offering and that means sin as a willful act. Many treat the first fifteen verses of the next chapter, chapter five, as part of this sin offering. That can be justified but the wording is important, and this should simply be read as being an offering for our guilt. However, the sin offering is required for a trespass offering to proceed because the ACT of sin is caused by the NATURE of sin! We're going to have to pull up the roots of the sin tree to properly clear this spiritual land. All sin comes from the same source – our sin NATURE. A "trespass" is going where we don't belong. Ignoring a sign that reads "No Trespassing" is to invade and ignore the rights of others. Liberty is the most

abused ideology going around. Interference in other people's liberties might get you legally shot at! The interference that God labeled a trespass against Him is what we will examine completely in our next report ~
