

**He hath  
certainly  
trespassed against  
the lord**

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*5:1 – 19 Leviticus*

~ Our Spiritual Safari has now received the instructions for four of the five sacrificial offerings found in the Bible. In this report, we are given the trespass offering – another non sweet savor offering – given for sin. The state of mankind is total depravation today. We have no capacity for God or the things of Christ whatsoever. This world is quickly coming under judgment. God cannot and will not accept the works of the unsaved man, because God is not saving the unsaved man by his works. I don't care if that person repents every day and feeds every single starving person in Africa a gourmet meal for eternity, it's not good enough. Their righteousness is filthy rags and God says, "it is not by works of righteousness, but by grace are ye saved." Because the carnal mind is enmity against God, neither is it subject to the law of God, neither, indeed, can it be. The religious rulers asked how they could do the works of God. Well, the work of God is that ye believe on Him Whom He hath sent. That means believing in the Lord Jesus Christ to bring your salvation to you. You and I have a sin nature and we've been over that exhaustively in our last report from chapter four. We don't have to wait until we sin to be a sinner – we ARE sinners....

***1 And if a soul sin, and hear the voice of swearing, and is a witness, whether he hath seen or known of it; if he do not utter it, then he shall bear his iniquity.***

~ In this section of Scripture, we will consider specific sins committed as deliberate acts of disobedience against God. That is the purpose of the trespass offering: atonement for specific willful transgressions. The law for this offering will be given later in chapter seven. So, what does Moses mean by "... he shall bear his iniquity?" Well, notice that there are four specific sins listed here. These are not the only sins they were committing, but these are given as examples. We could fill up the rest of the Book of Leviticus with specific sins – but – let's not.

A certain preacher made a list of all sins; and he spent some time compiling it. The list had more than eight-hundred specific sins. This list was in such high demand that I can only assume that many people wanted to see if their sin was on the list! I am sure no one thought they were committing eight-hundred transgressions, so I guess they really needed the list to help narrow it down! Well, we have four examples given that cover anything that could be categorized as a trespass sin.

"Swearing" in verse one refers to swearing out an oath and then turning around and witnessing against that oath. This is the case of a witness that does not tell everything he knows! This refers to truth withheld to the detriment of another individual. That would be a sin of omission. Many people in the church come in thinking their hands are clean. They didn't steal anything this week and they didn't break any laws on the way to church, so they feel they are pretty good people. In fact, they feel like they are better than YOU! Interestingly, truth was withheld in their lives this week; and to him that knoweth to do good and do it not, to him it is sin, as James would say, and did say, in his fourth chapter. We also read:

*1 Kings 8: 31 If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: 32 Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness ~*

We're talking about lying, friends; and we ought not lie. Consider the gossip in a little town as she crosses the street. Halfway across, she sees the mayor of the town helping a lady that has been struck by a car. The mayor picked the lady up and rushed her into the hotel to call the doctor. Well, this gossip calls the mayors wife and says she just saw the mayor enter the hotel with a young lady. Well, that was a factual statement. It's the withheld information that is the sin; even if it is done in ignorance.

Many sins are simply half-truths. Half-truths are a whole lie. We usually say them with a smirk on our faces. Accurate information can be dangerously misleading and deceptive. When one is willing to allow that to stand as the record, it is vicious and egregious, it is a trespass. God hates the lying

tongue, my beloved. When Jesus was tried, He remained silent. Caiaphas adjured Jesus by the living God – whether He was the Christ. That’s the only time Jesus spoke to him; and Jesus answered only because He was under oath; so, under oath Jesus said they would see Him coming in the clouds. Turn that over in your mind a few times and see what you come up with....

***2 Or if a soul touch any unclean thing, whether it be a carcass of an unclean beast, or a carcass of unclean cattle, or the carcass of unclean creeping things, and if it be hidden from him; he also shall be unclean, and guilty.***

~ Here we have a law concerning uncleanness. You can come into contact with a dead thing and not be aware of it while others are witnesses; they know what you did. A dead body causes uncleanness on contact. This was true because death is the wages of sin. Man is to stay away from that which represents sin and appears as evil. This is applicable to the Christian in the world today. You can’t help but coming in contact with dead people within five minutes of hitting the streets in this town. We see and hear things that make us think things – you can’t help but being unclean. Some of these things will be hidden from us and we won’t realize them. The Psalmist says, “.... who can understand his errors; cleanse Thou me from my secret faults?” Most people pray, “.... Lord, IF I have sinned, forgive me.” Well, trust me – you have!

Some people get tired of hearing that and they usually, honestly, cannot realize what their sins are. I think if these people would just guess at their sin in prayerful confession, God would show them that they had guessed right the very first time! Why not pray and ask God to point out your sins that you don’t know about? If you want to talk revelation – give it a try! Your ignorance, friends, is an offense to others, and an abomination to God and a transgression of the law - all at once! Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law. Sin IS the transgression of the law – that’s one of the Biblical definitions....

***3 Or if he touch the uncleanness of man, whatsoever uncleanness it be that a man shall be defiled withal, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty.***

***4 Or if a soul swear, pronouncing with his lips to do evil, or to do good, whatsoever it be that a man shall pronounce with an oath, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty in one of these.***

***5 And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath sinned in that thing:***

~ Sometimes we forget to do something we promised to do. We can all be forgetful. Other times, we make rash vows to serve the Lord. Jephthah comes to mind as a man that promised a very rash vow to offer his daughter. Simon Peter boldly declares that he will die for Jesus and then turns around immediately and denies the Lord. I hear very rash statements all day long; and many hymns and songs are clearly not thought through correctly and completely. Singing, "I'll go with Him through the garden" is blasphemy when you won't even study the Bible every day! These people singing that stuff usually don't even go to church if it's raining. They are careless people doing nothing in the world except living a lie!

If you sing a song and you don't mean it that makes you a liar, my friend. That's not my statement – that is what the Bible says. Further, we have no right to demand that God answer our prayers. That is presumptuous and careless to "claim" things in His Name. We are told if we will ask according to His WILL – not OUR will – HIS will, then, He heareth us! I just have to shake my head and laugh at all the demands made of God around this forum on which I teach. Verse five implies there are many more things that could have been included in the sin list, too. How's your prayer of confession going? If you do not have proper confession, then you do NOT have fellowship with the Father! Will you go to God today – right NOW – and confess it all? He already knows everything! Tell Him the details you are ashamed of, friends; and you'll be amazed at the wonderful level of fellowship God will bring you into with Him....

***6 And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD for his sin which he hath sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats, for a sin offering; and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his sin.***

~ So, this offering is, technically, a sin offering because of a trespass. Confession is commanded here for the first time, though. Of course, up until this time, the law hadn't been dealing with secret sins, so God hasn't mentioned them. In fact, this offering makes that secret sin an open admission of guilt. Everything needs to be brought out in the open between you and the Lord, my beloved, or you're never going to get anywhere with Christ. Confession comes first, and then the offering is made subsequently. In the sweet savor offerings, the offering preceded any thoughts of confession. The offering was made and then you just attached whatever you needed to it. The opposite is true here....

***7 And if he be not able to bring a lamb, then he shall bring for his trespass, which he hath committed, two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, unto the LORD; one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering.***

***8 And he shall bring them unto the priest, who shall offer that which is for the sin offering first, and wring off his head from his neck, but shall not divide it asunder:***

***9 And he shall sprinkle of the blood of the sin offering upon the side of the altar; and the rest of the blood shall be wrung out at the bottom of the altar: it is a sin offering.***

***10 And he shall offer the second for a burnt offering, according to the manner: and the priest shall make an atonement for him for his sin which he hath sinned, and it shall be forgiven him.***

***11 But if he be not able to bring two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, then he that sinned shall bring for his offering the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering; he shall put no oil upon it, neither shall he put any frankincense thereon: for it is a sin offering.***

***12 Then shall he bring it to the priest, and the priest shall take his handful of it, even a memorial thereof, and burn it on the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: it is a sin offering.***

**13 And the priest shall make an atonement for him as touching his sin that he hath sinned in one of these, and it shall be forgiven him: and the remnant shall be the priest's, as a meat offering.**

**14 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**15 If a soul commit a trespass, and sin through ignorance, in the holy things of the LORD; then he shall bring for his trespass unto the LORD a ram without blemish out of the flocks, with thy estimation by shekels of silver, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for a trespass offering:**

**16 And he shall make amends for the harm that he hath done in the holy thing, and shall add the fifth part thereto, and give it unto the priest: and the priest shall make an atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and it shall be forgiven him.**

**17 And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he knows it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity.**

**18 And he shall bring a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest: and the priest shall make an atonement for him concerning his ignorance wherein he erred and wist it not, and it shall be forgiven him.**

**19 It is a trespass offering: he hath certainly trespassed against the LORD.**

~ So, can't afford two birds? The tenth part of an ephah with no oil or frankincense amounted to a piece of bread with no butter. The poorest of the poor are never left out. I'm sure any man could have easily borrowed a piece of bread from his neighbor if he really wanted to make this offering. I wish we could really spend some time on this subject, but I am afraid we might over-do it if we did. We're talking about nonspecific sins of ignorance; friends, we're talking about robbing God in connection with tithes and offerings and not even knowing what we are doing! Ignorance of the law is no excuse! How much time, money or resources do you give to the furtherance of the Gospel?

In the next leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God, we are going to examine more specific acts of our sin that we commit deliberately. Have you ever been praying while knowing in your mind that you were going to specifically sin at some future point? Of course, no one reading this so-called safari knows anything about that, right? Well, that's part of what we bring to God, my beloved. This must be dealt with Biblically in our lives. A sin against others is a sin against God. Whatsoever ye would men do to you, do ye also unto them. This is the law of the prophets ~

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