

# sacrifices unto devils after whom they have gone a whoring

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## *chapter seventeen Leviticus*

~ We successfully completed the offerings and ceremonies required on the Great Day of Atonement - Yom Kippur - in the last leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God. In this report, we will examine a key verse of the Bible, which we come across in various places as we make our way along through the balance of Scripture. In this section of Leviticus, we have come to another extremely important chapter. We see a narrow-minded God now; we are going to view the dogmatism God sets forth on His Own behalf and demands of us in a most bigoted way. By the time we get done with this report, friends, if you do not feel that God has demanded there is only one altar on which a sacrifice is to be made, then you simply haven't read correctly. Either way, let's pray that the Spirit of God will open our understanding to truth and wisdom.

The shedding of blood for the remission of sins is a truth that spans the whole Bible. The Lord Jesus said He is the way, the truth and the life and that no man cometh unto the Father but by Him! The Lord Jesus Christ on the cross is the ONLY way to God for you – or me - or anyone at any time under any circumstances. We have forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace and those who were sometimes afar off are now made near by the blood of Christ. You can't get within a half a universe near God the Father without coming through the shed blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ! There is so much phony gospel stuff going around today that it's no wonder most saints have a spiritually communicable disease – and it's a disease of the blood, too! They really think they are going to explain their way right into His presence; but they aren't getting anywhere near God, and they never have! All they do is make other people spiritual lepers, too. Labeling them Christian Tragedy is an understatement.

I hope this dry and dusty book is opening some basic and bedrock truths about the Word of God. I call Leviticus dusty because very few Christians

ever study it properly; in fact, no one seems to even read it at all - so it is just covered in dust. When someone does dare to quote this section of Scripture you can usually see the cobwebs being spread all over the place as the book is opened. They correlate to the cobwebs in their minds regarding a woeful lack of understanding of the laws found in Leviticus. These rituals, and the reason for even doing them, has long since passed away, but there is so much spiritual truth found here, and so many of life's questions are answered, that to neglect the study and understanding of this book of Leviticus is irresponsible and just plain reckless for the man or woman that deigns speak of the Lord Jesus Christ or handle the Sword of the Word of God in any way, shape or form.

The theme of this chapter is that there is but one place to sacrifice and the prominence of the blood in that sacrifice. Most people try to make this chapter a sequel to the Great Day of Atonement, that we just concluded examining in the last chapter, and there is a sequence here - but this is not an extension of the commandments for the Great Day of Atonement. The subject is different, but I think the chapter placement follows in a logical manner to facilitate our growth in the grace and knowledge of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. While it may seem as if we are merely waxing hyper-technical in places now, it's actually a critical piece of our puzzle.

This chapter has direct application to the nation Israel on the wilderness march and to the specific period of time that the children of Israel were camped round about the tabernacle. Clean, domesticated animals and how they are to be slain at the tabernacle for food is the order of business today. When Israel gets into the land, some of them will be several hundred miles from the tabernacle. It would not only be difficult, but it would also be impossible for them to bring an animal to the tabernacle for an offering. The question we seek to answer is: why would God give these instructions? Many people feel the main point of this chapter is to refrain from eating blood. That is certainly a very important theme, because there is no remission of sins without the shedding of blood, and yet they were forbidden to shed blood. So, it seems we are on the horns of a dilemma. Well, there are other aspects we will have to consider in order to obtain a proper, correct and complete viewpoint, such as occultic goat worship. So, let's go....

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

***2 Speak unto Aaron, and unto his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them; This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, saying,***

~ The instructions that follow are directed specifically towards Aaron and his sons; but these commands are for the entire nation of Israel, also. Like priest, like people. God is going to reach down deep into the private and personal lives of the children of Israel - and me and you, too. God not only made a distinction between which animals were clean and which were not, but He lays down the regulations by which they are to eat the designated animals. God is very interested in all areas of the life of a believer; and a believer is to be different from the nations that are round about them! We will see that in the next chapter....

***3 What man soever there be of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth it out of the camp,***

***4 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people:***

***5 To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD.***

***6 And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD.***

~ It would seem as if we are back to talking about sacrifices again in this strange law, but we're not seeing a sacrifice at all. What we are seeing is the food for the children of Israel being set before us and God is demanding

HIS place at the dinner table, because that was the way they are instructed to shut out heathen gods! This is just absolutely remarkable to me. If God's people could only get this ONE thing straight – that we do NOT approach God except for in the Lord Jesus Christ – then their lives would become rich and full of meaning.

There is so much mediocre and loose thinking in the church about God today. God is ONLY approached as a Holy God; and we can only approach Him by acknowledging that we are the sinners He says we are! There is simply no other way to bridge the great gulf between us and God. Neither one of us have enough goodness in us – even if we combined our goodness resources – to negotiate with the Lord concerning our souls. The only bridge is the Man in the Glory that came from Heavens glory and died for our sins. God has made a way and Jesus says no man cometh unto the Father but by Him!

God is strict and unbending about all of this because the things you eat are to be brought to the door of the tabernacle first. You may not want your neighbors to see what you're eating tonight for dinner – God says, "bring it out in the open." That's because of their background of eating meat that had been offered to idols. That's what they did down in Egypt. God is constructing a roadblock to prevent the children of Israel from starting back down that long road that always returns to idolatry, spiritual misjudgment and eternal darkness. These people were rank idolaters back there in Egypt! They were absolutely exactly the same as the Egyptians when they were in slavery! Some people may assume that the children of Israel were down there in slavery serving the true and living God – that's just false! God didn't redeem them because they were a superior people; we established that WAY back before they even left Egypt. No, friends, God heard their cries and God remembered the covenant He had made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God never forgets what He has promised, and He always makes His promise good. However, to be absolutely SURE, the children of Israel were in rank idolatry when they were in Egyptian slavery.

*Ezekiel 26: In the day that I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land that I had espied for them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands: Then said I unto them,*

*Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt ~*

There are several absurd apostasy's going around this forum on which I teach that are absolutely contradicted by the Word of God. When their error is pointed out to them, they simply insist on their ignorance. Well, may I say, friends: I can back up every single statement that I have ever made with the sound doctrine of the apostles if you want to get ugly about it. God is attempting to break the children of Israel from their long and sordid history of blatant disbelief and rebellion of idolatry which they brought with them out of Egypt. The Egyptians worshipped every animal that breathed, you will recall. The offering of blood and the eating of meat were always used in idolatry and, by the way, without an educated understanding of this section of Scripture, you'll never fully comprehend what Paul is talking about in Corinthians. The Corinthian people were also rank idolaters that brought their meat as an offering to their idols. They would leave the meat there with the idol for a little while, and then they took it and sold it in the meat market. If you wanted the best quality filet mignon in Corinth, the place to buy them was at the heathen temple. Some pious, godless Israelite would come along and say, "... I'm not eating that!" None of the Israelites wanted to eat with a converted Gentile who had no qualms about receiving meat from the heathen temple, that's for sure.

In the wilderness, the children of Israel didn't have very much meat to eat at all, of course. The upcoming quail incident reveals this is true. The children of Israel complained for no other reason than they had no meat to eat, asking Moses, "... who shall give us flesh to eat?" - that was their cry - and that was the cry of ALL nations in antiquity, also. Present day nations in the east still have this problem, and many are heavily vegetarian in their diets as a result. So, the meat on the dinner table of the children of Israel had undergone a laborious process of offering and preparing; naturally, they resented a Gentile taking meat from a heathen temple and eating it with no regard for the true and living God. Interestingly, James tells us the Great Council of Jerusalem handed down their decision, saying, "....

*wherefore, my sentence is, that we trouble not them which, from among the Gentiles, have turned to God; but that we write to them that they abstain from the pollution of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.”* God stresses this point because life is sacred, friends....

***7 And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.***

~ This strange interjection in verse seven is a reference to a “hairy” or “shaggy goat” when it speaks of “devils.” I could probably make an entire report on the shaggy goat - but I won’t. The children of Israel are guilty of worshipping the nature gods of Egypt. The Egyptians had a specific goat-god, Mendes; and the Greeks and other nations of antiquity round about worshipped the goat-goddess Pan – from whence we get the word "panic." Pan had the pipe and the garlands in his hair as the symbol of nature. This figure is familiar in Greek literature and folklore; and he had a long, pointed tail with cloven feet, too. This image later manifested itself in medieval Christianity and has remained the common caricature of the devil. Panic was the word used to describe the terror the devil caused in their life. The children of Israel are being warned here against worshipping these nature gods.

The man that killed the clean animal to eat out on the range may have been tempted to just pour the blood out on the ground as an offering to Pan. This time period we are examining is a dark time of idol worship and gross immorality. Today, we have huge masses of people turning to nature worship. The real problem with nature worship is that mankind is not exactly the something special he wants to think he is on earth. People are turning to everything and every gimmick, and to ANY teaching these days if it makes them feel good emotionally. Modern man simply refuses to learn the Word of God properly, correctly and completely. It’s the same thing we have in Leviticus. We don’t seem to recognize that God’s laws and precepts were designed to protect His people in the wilderness in the time in which we are studying; and they were also designed to speak to me and you today....

**8 And thou shalt say unto them, Whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers which sojourn among you, that offereth a burnt offering or sacrifice,**

**9 And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer it unto the LORD; even that man shall be cut off from among his people.**

~ I trust you are reading this section carefully and have noticed that God allowed the man to make a sacrifice out there in the field; however, God NEVER let's them take the offering and eat it. The offering was never returned back to them when they did it this way. This speaks of the physical food aspect of the offering only. Later, if they wanted to make a burnt offering that was a separate ceremony and it spoke of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is where we are admonished to FLEE from idolatry. The danger of association with the unbeliever, or make-believer, in religion, politics, marriage, business and social life, has been given a red light and a No Turns sign placed squarely in front of it by God Himself at the intersection of Life Avenue and Wrong Decision Parkway. I am here to tell you that the so-called Christian world is SO extremely inconsistent in this area that it's positively shameful. These people are always the ones trying to regulate everyone else. I could spend an entire report just on this subject; and I might. This is a rich and creamy section of the Word of God, but it doesn't taste so good to those who refuse to eat the Bread of Life God's way....

**10 And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people.**

**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.**

**12 Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood.**

**13 And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust.**

**14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.**

**15 And every soul that eateth that which died of itself, or that which was torn with beasts, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even: then shall he be clean.**

**16 But if he wash them not, nor bathe his flesh; then he shall bear his iniquity.**

~ Verse eleven is one of the key verses of this book of the Bible, as well as one of the key verses to the entire Mosaic System of Levitical Law – “... *the atonement is in the blood!*” The life of the flesh is IN the blood. The Lord Jesus saith, “whoso eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood hath life everlasting.” The flesh of Christ is meat, indeed; just as the blood is drink! Those who partake in the feeding on the body of Christ have part with God in fellowship. Christ sets down the principle here in this chapter concerning the blood. Drinking the blood of Christ spiritually means you accept His redemptive death on the cross in faith. Eating the Bread of Life spiritually means to study the Word of God. The entire spiritual truth here is that we must receive His sacrifice on the cross if we are to be saved. There is nothing more important than this in this life. We sure need more REAL teaching and preaching in the church; and God have mercy on that preacher, or even the church member, that begins a church and does not center on the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God OR that deny the deity and the blood atonement He made for us! My friends, God has just presented us with the keys to our human troubles in this report. Did you

recognize it? Did you receive it? Our problem is a human situation – and that situation – without Jesus – isn't good. It's not good at all ~

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