

“Understanding the Sin Offering”  
Leviticus 4:1-5:13 & 6:24-30

- The Basics of the Sin Offering:
  - The Sin Offering was a reminder that everyone has broken the Law of God. From the High Priest to the poorest peasant, all are guilty before a Holy God of breaking His Law (Romans 3:23-25). This offering was a reminder that our sins deserve death (Romans 6:23) and that we cannot atone for our sins ourselves (Romans 3:10-12). All of these sacrifices point to the work of Christ (Hebrews 10:3-4 & 10-12; 1 Peter 1:18-19), the perfect sacrifice for our sins.
  - “*If anyone sins unintentionally...*” (Leviticus 4:2): An *unintentional sin* can be summed up in these two categories: 1. Sinning in ignorance; 2. Sinning in a reactionary way or unpremeditated way; that is because of being in the flesh. An *intentional sin* would be to sin with a rebellious heart, knowing and not caring, to purposely oppose the will of God, to justify our sin (Numbers 15:30-31). Both of these types of sin require atonement.
  - “*Sprinkle part of the blood seven times before the Lord...*” (Leviticus 4:6): The number seven in the Bible represents completeness, perfection, or the result being totally dependent upon God. Many theologians believe this action is symbolic of God saving us from Himself, by the Work of Christ, the God-man. That is, only God and God alone can save.
  - “*Shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar...*” (Leviticus 4:7): Blood being sprinkled or applied represents the sealing of a covenant and the forgiveness of sins. The horns of the altar represented protection from the judgment of God (1 Kings 1:50-53; Amos 3:14-15). We were under the wrath of God, but because of the work of Christ we are reconciled with God (Romans 5:9-11).
  - “*He shall carry outside the camp to a clean place...*” (Leviticus 4:11-12): This action represented the sin, what was unclean, being taken outside the camp. As Jesus took on our sin (2 Corinthians 5:21) He suffered outside the camp (Jerusalem) for our sins (Hebrews 13:11-16).
- The Greater the position the greater the impact for sin and the more costly the sacrifice: *The Priest* would offer a bull; *The whole congregation* would offer a bull; *The leaders* would offer a male goat; *The common person* would offer a female goat (1 Timothy 5:17-20; Acts 5:11; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 1 Corinthians 11:30-32).
- Specific sins that effect reconciliation with God and man (Leviticus 5:1-13):
  - Fail to give a testimony: This could prevent justice taking place from an earthly sense.
  - Fail to deal properly with ritual uncleanness: This could lead to the Tabernacle being defiled.
  - Fail to fulfill an oath: Profane the Name of the Lord and cause relational discord in the community.
  - God made a way regardless of someone’s economic status to have their sins atoned for (Romans 10:12-13).

**Worship:** Grace alone (The Modern Post)

Be Thou My Vision (Norton Hall Band)