

March 17, 2021

Thank God for Jesus

Shalom,

This week's study in **Leviticus 1:1-5:26***, **Vayikra**, or "**He called**" is the portion where the people of God are shown **an incredibly detailed system of blood sacrifices** to give them **temporary covering of their sins**. Every sacrifice had specific requirements, and they were offered with meticulous attention to every detail. **Another name for this system in Scripture is "The law of sin and death."**

"Speak to the people of Isra'el; say to them, 'When any of you brings an offering to ADONAI, you may bring your animal offering either from the herd or from the flock. If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he must offer a male without defect. He is to bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, so that it can be accepted by ADONAI. (Leviticus 1:2-3 CJB)

What an amazing system of sacrifices and offerings were required to bring about the atonement, **or temporary covering of sins!** Each offering had intricate steps that were to be followed by the people and the priests to complete every requirement. **I am so glad that Jesus became sin for us so we that are made righteous through Him** without bringing livestock to bring about redemption. Praise God! **The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death.** Certainly, any person who carefully considers what He has accomplished for us through the shedding of His blood should rejoice and thank Him for His love. Think of it! **There is no condemnation; no adverse sentence, pronounced by God against any person who puts their trust in the eternal blood sacrifice offered by Jesus when He died for us, paying the entire penalty for our sin enabling us to live as new creations led by the Spirit of God.**

In considering the Torah portion for this week and all of its detailed instructions for each of the various sacrifices: the burnt offerings, the peace offerings, the grain offerings, the sin offerings, and the guilt offerings, it is difficult to comprehend it all and easy to get bogged down with the many details and requirements. It may be that we, especially we believers who are set free from the law of sin and death, fail to see that **this is not about God giving people busy work to keep them occupied with religion.** We need to understand that every minute instruction He gave them is fulfilled in the eternal sacrifice of Jesus, the Messiah. **When He was offered for us and became sin for us through offering His body and blood, He fulfilled every detail of the Levitical process, and we need to understand that all the offerings required by God**

were not just about the physical sacrifices, but could only be fully realized by trusting.

I am not presently aware of all of the depth of understanding that is contained in this magnificent plan of God, but I am so thankful for the revelations He has given us to be able to receive the great salvation and redemption He has provided, (Now we know in part) but one word was given to my heart. Remember this word, “**Restoration!**” What an amazing thing has been wrought through the blood sacrifice of Jesus the Messiah!

Don’t forget that all our problems began with sin which produces death, or separation from God. From the moment that sin entered the world, God’s love was manifested to bring about His solution that was ordained from the foundation of the world to reconcile His children to a place of restoration, or right standing, with Him. When we view the system of sacrifices introduced in the book of Leviticus, we should always start with that foundational truth before us, and know that every part of His teaching and instruction are to point us in that direction.

Be glad, people of Tziyon! rejoice in ADONAI your God! For He is giving you the right amount of rain in the fall, He makes the rain come down for you, the fall and spring rains—this is what He does first. Then the floors will be full of grain and the vats overflow with wine and olive oil. “I will restore to you the years that the locusts ate, the grasshoppers, shearer-worms and cutter-worms, My great army that I sent against you.” (Joel 2:23-25 CJB)

Every work of the devil has to do with theft, murder, and destruction. When we think of locust, grasshoppers, shearer-worms, or cutter-worms, we understand that they are agents of destruction, and it is certain that every evil thing that attacks the safety, welfare, health, and lives of peoples originates in Satan as attacks on the minds of mankind.

The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy; I have come so that they may have life, life in its fullest measure. (John 10:10 CJB)

What comfort and assurance we have from the Word of God that whatever the thief comes to do, Jesus reverses its effect with life, divine life of the greatest measure that is able to nullify all the works of the devil. Another way to say it is, “What the devil means for evil, God will turn it for our good.”

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. (2 Corinthians 5:19 KJV)

The work of Jesus on this earth was to restore everything the 'fall into sin' had lost and return to everyone who receives the truth by faith a place and position in Him as a new creature able to partake of His divine nature.

... It was for this very reason that the Son of God appeared, to destroy these doings of the Adversary. (1 John 3:8 CJB)

God's power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through our knowing the One Who called us to His own glory and goodness. By these He has given us valuable and superlatively great promises, so that through them you might come to share in God's nature and escape the corruption which evil desires have brought into the world. (2 Peter 1:3-4 CJB)

So grateful for the blood of the Lamb,
Terry

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