



INTRODUCTION:

- Chapter 6 continues with the end of Chapter 5 concerning the guilt offering
- It's important to note that the chapter divisions we have in the Bible were not in the original text.
- The original text was one continuous stream of thought with no division
- So for whatever reason, the translators decided to put a chapter break in the middle of the section dealing with the guilt offering

Leviticus 6:1–7 (NKJV)

6 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ² “If a person sins and commits a trespass against the LORD by lying to his neighbor about what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or about a pledge, or about a robbery, or if he has extorted from his neighbor, ³ or if he has found what was lost and lies concerning it, and swears falsely—in any one of these things that a man may do in which he sins: ⁴ then it shall be, because he has sinned and is guilty, that he shall restore what he has stolen, or the thing which he has extorted, or what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or the lost thing which he found, ⁵ or all that about which he has sworn falsely. He shall restore its full value, add one-fifth more to it, *and* give it to whomever it belongs, on the day of his trespass offering. ⁶ And he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD, a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a trespass offering, to the priest. ⁷ So the priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD, and he shall be forgiven for any one of these things that he may have done in which he trespasses.”

You remember the guilt offering had to do with those who sinned unintentionally

- However, there are times that we sin unintentionally because we don't believe there is anything wrong with what we're doing
- We justify it
- Or we get caught in our sin and then lie to cover up our sin
- We didn't mean to lie, it just sort of happened and then we find ourselves in a difficult spot
- God says, when you realize your guilt... deal with it



- If you're guilty of stealing property through lying or extortion you need to return the property or make full restitution plus 20%
- All of this is due to the offended party on the day you make your guilt offering

I love Vs. 7 – God says... they will be forgiven for any of the things they did that made them guilty.

- Forgiveness is simple - we begin by realizing we did something wrong
- You can't be forgiven for something you didn't do wrong
- We make restitution for what we did wrong with a 20% blessing
- Remember, under the law it was eye for an eye – that's justice
- But in this case, God says go beyond justice, be a blessing
- When we make our peace with man, God forgives us – simple

In the first 5 chapters of Leviticus, we see God giving Moses detailed instructions on the sacrifices that the priests would perform

- In Chapter 6 and in part of Chapter 7, Moses relays this information to Aaron the High Priest
- ⁸ The LORD said to Moses: ⁹ "Give Aaron and his sons this command

So Moses gives Aaron instructions concerning

- The Burnt Offering (6:8-13)
- The Grain Offering (6:14-23)
- The sin Offering (6:24-30)
- The Guilt Offering (7:1-10)
- The fellowship Offering (7:11-21) also known as the Peace Offering

Then Moses repeats the prohibition of eating the fat and the blood

- Why the fat? Because it belonged to the Lord
- Why the blood? Because life is in the blood – both physical and eternal
- If you ate the fat or drank the blood you were cut off from God's people

The prohibition against blood continues today...

- At the Council in Jerusalem, there were certain people who were teaching the believers that you needed to be circumcised to be saved.
- After a long debate it was decided that the only requirement made of the Gentiles would be to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from drinking blood, from eating the meat of strangled animals and sexual immorality



7:28-37 – The Priest’s share of the burnt offerings is distributed by the Lord

- The Lord provides for those who are set apart to minister to Him out of the freewill offerings of the people
- There are many different ideas concerning the correct way to do church and how we pay for it
- But God has already established that a portion of the freewill offerings is to go to those who are in the ministry
- Part of it is consumed by the Lord
 - In today’s understanding I would apply that to ministry that is done by the church
- Part of it is consumed by the priests
 - In today’s understanding that applies to supporting those who are set apart by God for full time service in the preaching of the gospel
- The priests were to care for the Tabernacle – meaning the building
- The people were responsible to transport the building or to do the work of setting things up and tearing things down
- Simple Church

Verse 37 we read...

Leviticus 7:37–38 (NKJV)

³⁷ This *is* the law of the burnt offering, the grain offering, the sin offering, the trespass offering, the consecrations, and the sacrifice of the peace offering, ³⁸ which the LORD commanded Moses on Mount Sinai, on the day when He commanded the children of Israel to offer their offerings to the LORD in the Wilderness of Sinai.

In my estimation, the five offerings represent the five key areas in the life of a mature believer

- The burnt offering: Consecration
- The grain offering: Service
- The sin offering: Forgiveness
- The guilt offering: Restitution
- The peace offering: Reconciliation

Chapter 8 we come to the ordination of Aaron and his sons



- There is an elaborate ordination service that involves garments, anointing oil, sacrificial offerings and worship...
- All pointing to one thing...
- Consecration or being set apart to be used for God only

Leviticus 8:1–5 (NKJV)

Aaron and His Sons Consecrated

8 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ² “Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, the anointing oil, a bull as the sin offering, two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread; ³ and gather all the congregation together at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.”

⁴ So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. And the congregation was gathered together at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ⁵ And Moses said to the congregation, “This *is* what the LORD commanded to be done.”

NOTE: God commands Moses, Moses does what the Lord commanded Him and then Moses instructs the people – this is what the Lord commanded to be done

This is the order of leadership

- We hear from God,
- We obey God and then
- We instruct others about what God commands us to do
- It's leadership through example

Vs. 6-13 We see Moses preparing Aaron and his sons to be set apart or consecrated for God

- He washes them with water – reminiscent of baptism, which is an outward demonstration of our commitment or consecration to God
- He puts the tunic on them – symbolic of how we are now clothed in robes of righteousness
- He puts on them the priestly robes – symbolic of how we are now a royal priesthood
- He anoints them with oil – symbolic of the Holy Spirit's power for service
- He anoints the utensils – symbolic of how God uses ordinary things, but anointed by the Holy Spirit they become supernatural.



Vs. 14-36 Moses offers a sin offering and a burnt offering on behalf of Aaron and his sons

- Then he does something a little different
- He takes blood and puts it on the tips of their right ears, the thumb of his right hand and the big toe of his right foot.

J Vernon McGee says...

The blood-tipped ear symbolizes the ear that will hear the voice of God. Without that, friend, you are not going to hear Him. The natural man does not receive the things of Christ. The blood-tipped hand was essential for service. It is impossible to serve the Lord before one is saved. The blood-tipped foot was essential for the walk before God. All of this is symbolic of the fact that the *total* personality must be presented to God.

In the liturgical church, one of the meditations they use in the service says...

God be in our minds and in our understanding.
God be in our eyes and in our seeing.
God be in our mouths and in our speaking.
God be in our hearts and in our living.
God be in our ears and in our hearing.
God be in our hands and in our doing.
God be in our feet and in our walking.
God be with us now in our departing.

- The blood on the ear, the thumb and the toe represented this total dedication of our bodies to the Lord
- After this dedication service, Aaron and his sons were to stay in the Presence of the Lord

Leviticus 8:35–36 (NKJV)

³⁵ Therefore you shall stay *at* the door of the tabernacle of meeting day and night for seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, so that you may not die; for so I have been commanded.” ³⁶ So Aaron and his sons did all the things that the LORD had commanded by the hand of Moses.



- In Chapter 8 they are set apart to be used by God
- In Chapter 9, they have their first day at the office and God wants to appear to them
- They are told to make a sin offering, burnt offering, peace offering and a grain offering to the Lord

Leviticus 9:5–7 (NKJV)

⁵ So they brought what Moses commanded before the tabernacle of meeting. And all the congregation drew near and stood before the LORD. ⁶ Then Moses said, “This *is* the thing which the LORD commanded you to do, and the glory of the LORD will appear to you.” ⁷ And Moses said to Aaron, “Go to the altar, offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, and make atonement for yourself and for the people. Offer the offering of the people, and make atonement for them, as the LORD commanded.”

- Aaron performs the sacrifices just as God commands
- Vs. 8-22 we see a detailed description of the sacrifice
- Jewish scholars study this passage at great length... why?
- God is a God of incredible order and He cares about the details of how He is to be worshiped just as He cares about the details of how we are to live
- After seven days at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, on the eighth day Moses and Aaron enter into the tabernacle

Leviticus 9:23–24 (NKJV)

²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people, ²⁴ and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw *it*, they shouted and fell on their faces.

- On the eighth day – the day of new beginnings – the glory of the Lord appears
- God is a God of new beginnings

In Chapter 10 we come to the story of Nadab and Abihu – two of Aaron’s sons



Leviticus 10:1–3 (NKJV)

The Profane Fire of Nadab and Abihu

10 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. ² So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. ³ And Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the LORD spoke, saying:

‘By those who come near Me
I must be regarded as holy;
And before all the people
I must be glorified.’ ”

So Aaron held his peace.

There is some debate on what is meant by profane or strange fire (KJV)

- The most plausible explanation is the fire in the censer was to come from the bronze altar – it was considered sacred or holy fire
 - The sons of Aaron just grabbed whatever fire they could
 - In other words, they were careless and didn’t care to do things God’s way
 - The offerings were completed for the day and they shouldn’t have even been there in the first place
- There are some who believe they were ministering in a way that was intended to call attention to themselves and not to God
 - This would explain why God said – I must be regarded as holy, I must be glorified
- There are those who believe that they were ministering drunk because later God would prohibit the priests from drinking
- A final thought could be that they entered through the veil into the Holy of Holies because they took the profane fire before the Lord
 - This would have meant certain death because they hadn’t properly prepared themselves to meet with God
- We don’t really know what happened here
- We do know that whatever they did, it got them fired
- Aaron tells his other sons to carry their bodies outside the camp

Leviticus 10:6–7 (NKJV)



⁶ And Moses said to Aaron, and to Eleazar and Ithamar, his sons, “Do not uncover your heads nor tear your clothes, lest you die, and wrath come upon all the people. But let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD has kindled. ⁷ You shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die, for the anointing oil of the LORD *is* upon you.” And they did according to the word of Moses.

Neither Father nor brothers were to mourn the deaths of Nadab and Abihu

- Why? Because that would imply that God was unfair
- God how could you have done this?
- The truth is, they did it to themselves by not following God’s ways
- How often do we blame God for things we do to ourselves because we don’t follow God’s ways?
- Revelation 19:2 we hear the multitudes of heaven say – Righteous and true are thy judgments O Lord
- They have the perspective of eternity and understand God’s ways are absolutely perfect without fail

Finally, we close Leviticus 10 with God’s standard of conduct for priests

Leviticus 10:8–11 (NKJV)

Conduct Prescribed for Priests

⁸ Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying: ⁹ “Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. *It shall be* a statute forever throughout your generations, ¹⁰ that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean, ¹¹ and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses.”

God wants us to minister to Him with a clear mind

- I had a friend tell me how awesome the Vineyard Worship tent in the UK was because they had an open bar in the tent during worship.
- The Bible says that you won’t be able to distinguish between holy and unholy, clean or unclean when you’re intoxicated while ministering
- This injunction against drinking is repeated by Paul in his admonition to bishops and elders



- This issue is that of having a clear mind to be able to discern

After the incident with Aaron's sons – Moses tells Aaron to eat the offerings in the holy place because it is due to them - But Aaron doesn't eat it...

Leviticus 10:16–20 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Then Moses made careful inquiry about the goat of the sin offering, and there it was—burned up. And he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron *who were* left, saying, ¹⁷ “Why have you not eaten the sin offering in a holy place, since it *is* most holy, and *God* has given it to you to bear the guilt of the congregation, to make atonement for them before the LORD? ¹⁸ See! Its blood was not brought inside the holy *place*; indeed you should have eaten it in a holy *place*, as I commanded.”

¹⁹ And Aaron said to Moses, “Look, this day they have offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD, and such things have befallen me! *If* I had eaten the sin offering today, would it have been accepted in the sight of the LORD?” ²⁰ So when Moses heard *that*, he was content.

Moses was upset at Aaron because He didn't want Aaron to die like his sons died

- But Aaron gives a good explanation
- He tells Moses, I just lost my kids... I can't really eat right now
- Here we see love, mercy and compassion superceeding the law

HOMEWORK: LEVITICUS 11-16 (READ ????)

One thing to note is that the sin offering was always presented first – why?

- Because they were presented from God's viewpoint
- When man comes to God he comes as a sinner in need of forgiveness
- The sin question is the first question that needs to be settled with God