



WEEK 1

STUDY GUIDE

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Monday, April 8, 2024

Read: Leviticus 1:1-9, Isaiah 53:7

Scripture Verse: *"The LORD called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock." Leviticus 1:1-2*

Today's Thought:

Before we study Leviticus 1:1-9 which relates to sacrifices in the Old Testament, let's look at the theme of the series, which is "Jesus in Every Book." If we try to delve a little deeper into certain books of the Old and New Testaments, we can really see the total coherence that exists between the two Testaments. If we carefully study each book separately from the Old Testament, we can obviously see that everything pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who was to come and redeem humanity from the condemnation of sin. From the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation, Jesus is vividly present in one form or another. Many passages and verses refer to Jesus, the Messiah, the one who should come into the world for a special purpose. In the book of Genesis, we see that Jesus was promised as the only redeemer of mankind. God made this promise at the very beginning of the fall of man. We read in Genesis 3:15, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." This verse clearly presents Jesus as God's ultimate redemptive plan for humanity.

Additionally, through the prophets inspired by God, they wrote about Jesus as the sacrificial lamb of God. Through the book of Isaiah, we read about the virgin who will conceive and give birth to Emmanuel, God is with us. We read about him in Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and bear a son, and she will call him Immanuel." Throughout the Old Testament, prophets continually advocated the arrival of Jesus. In Isaiah 53:1-6, the author paints a bleak picture of the life and suffering of Jesus, the Messiah. In Psalm 22, the author of the Psalm, in his prophecy, depicts Jesus as the suffering servant and the triumphant king. In the book of Proverbs, the author described Jesus as wisdom personified, which is also found in the New Testament where the apostle Paul presented Jesus as the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24).

Throughout the Old Testament, we find scores of verses announcing the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus, even before his incarnation. The book of Jeremiah, through the prophet Jeremiah, predicts a righteous branch, a direct reference to Jesus as the offspring of David (Jeremiah 23:5). Thus, all these prophecies and more find their fulfillment in the New Testament. As the Apostle Paul declared in Colossians 2:17, "This is but a shadow of things to come: yet the reality is found in Christ." Once the time was fully fulfilled, Jesus himself materialized everything that had been prophesied about him.

Through the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, we see the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus predicted in the Old Testament. Throughout the writings of the apostles, for examples: Paul, Peter, etc., we discover the profound value of Jesus' sacrifice, his pre-eminence in creation and in his redemptive plan. We read: "Whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins." Romans 3:25. Therefore, the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies in the New Testament shows us the perfect cohesion that exists throughout the Bible. Furthermore, throughout the Bible we can discover the divine identity of Jesus. It is not without reason that he himself declared: "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Revelation 22:12 -13.

Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing yourself throughout the Bible. Thank you for keeping all your promises to us. You promised us your Son, you gave him to us. Lord Jesus, thank you very much for who you are. Thank you for agreeing to come and die for our sins. Lord Jesus, we await your return as you promised us in John 14:2-3.

- What can you discover by reading the Old Testament, and what does this mean to you?
- What do you notice in Genesis 3:15?
- How do the prophets describe Jesus in their prophecies?
- What makes the Bible an indisputable book?
- As Christians, what is the latest Bible prophecy that we are looking forward to?

Further Reading: Colossians 1:15-20

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Read: Leviticus 1:1-9

Scripture Verse: *“If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.” Leviticus 1:3-4*

Today's Thought:

Throughout our introduction to Jesus in each book of the Bible, we discovered that Jesus was present from the book of Genesis to Revelation. As he himself says in the book of Revelation: “I am Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End”. Revelation 22:13. We don't need to travel a thousand paths or use a thousand tongues to prove Jesus in every book of the Bible. What is important to us is why Jesus is in every book of the Bible and what does the presence of Jesus throughout the Bible mean to us? Why is the presence of Jesus in all the books of the Bible important to us? To answer these questions, consider the book of Leviticus. We will focus on Leviticus 1:1-9.

From these few verses, we will discover that all the sacrifices made at this time are a foreshadowing of the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. The Apostle Paul made this very clear to us in Colossians 2:17. We read of sacrifices and rituals in the Old Testament: “They are but a shadow of the things which were to come to pass; the reality, however, is found in Christ.” To better understand the studies on Leviticus 1:1-9, let's dissect the verses and make a comparison with some verses in the New Testament. So, in verses 3 and 4 of Leviticus 1 we see that the Lord spoke to Moses and gave him some principles regarding the burnt offering. Moses explained to the people that when it comes to a burnt offering that they offer to the Lord, the animal must be a male without blemish; and the person in turn must place his hand on the head of the burnt offering and it will be accepted on his part to make atonement for him.

What we can notice, the choice of an unblemished male in Leviticus 1:4 can be compared to 1 Peter 1:19 in the New Testament where Jesus is described as the sinless Lamb of God. We read: “But with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in

the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” 1 Peter 1:19–21. The book of Leviticus describes what will happen in the New Testament for the forgiveness of all humanity. In verse 4 of Leviticus 1, the Lord declares that the one who is to offer the offering must place his hand on the head of the burnt offering, which symbolizes a transfer of sins through complete consecration, which is a personal act.

This verse can be compared to 2 Corinthians 5:21 where one, through a personal act of receiving Jesus as their Savior, finds forgiveness of their sins. We read: “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21. Through a personal act of obedience to God by laying his hand on the head of the burnt offering, the person had obtained forgiveness of his sins. So, in the New Testament, by an act of obedience to the voice of God through Jesus, one can be saved. We read: “If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is through your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” Romans 10:9–10.

Jesus is therefore the fulfillment of the rituals of the Old Testament. The external ritual described in Leviticus 1:1–4 found fulfillment in the internal transformation we found in Jesus by accepting him as our only redeemer. We read: “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.” Ephesians 1:13. All this will happen when we realize that “salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12.

Lord Jesus, thank you so much for what you did for me on the cross. If it wasn't your ultimate sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins, I don't know what it would be like for me because I don't know where I would find animals to offer from time to time for my sins, because they are a lot. Lord, for all this, receive my life on your altar like a fragrant aroma.

- What do you discover through this study?
- What did the burnt offering symbolize in the Old Testament?
- How do you understand Leviticus 1:3–4 in relation to 1 Peter 1:19–21?

- What does Acts 4:12 tell us?
- What does this study tell you?

Further Reading: Hebrews 7:24-25

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Read: Leviticus 1:1–9

Scripture Verse: *“Then he shall kill the bull before the LORD, and Aaron’s sons the priests shall bring the blood and throw the blood against the sides of the altar that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting.” Leviticus 1:5*

Today’s Thought:

Through the parallel that we made in Leviticus 1:3–4 between certain verses of the New Testament, we saw that the male animal offered in the Old Testament is the foreshadowing of Jesus, who is the lamb of God who must slaughter for the sin of humanity. The hand of the person in question placed on the head of the burnt offering symbolizes the complete dedication and total abandonment of the person to God. This image foreshadows that the day will come where everyone will be able to approach God personally through Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. We read in Hebrews 4:16, “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” We saw through Jesus, we moved from external ritual to interior purification.

Now let’s look at verse 5 of Leviticus 1. In this verse we can notice the involvement of several people in the purification process. We see a lot of establishments during the burnt offering. A look at Leviticus 16:15–16 gives us more descriptions of the day of atonement ritual. In the Old Testament, the offerings had different sequences: offering for the forgiveness of sins, total dedication, then fellowship. We read: “Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. 16 Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses.”

Do you really see all the establishments and episodes for the atonement of sins in the Old Testament? It was very complicated. Can you imagine the importance of blood in the atonement process? In Leviticus 17:11, the word of God declares: “For the life of the creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for your life.” We see that all of this has to do with the blood of animals. Can an animal really pay for

our sins? God required a greater sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins.

Compared to the New Testament, we see that Jesus declared: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28. Jesus himself clarifies the meaning and importance of his blood. In Old Testament, we saw that all of Aaron's sons, as priests, are involved in the atonement process. All these Old Testament rituals had a specific purpose.

God wanted the Israelites to be different from other nations. He wanted them to maintain a constant relationship with him. God therefore saw that the sacrifice of animals was not enough to bring humanity closer to him. It took the sacrifice of his own Son Jesus, once and for all, to reconcile us to Him. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate sacrifice good enough to restore our relationship with God. We read: "He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption." Hebrews 9:12. Therefore, the animal sacrifices in the Old Testament for the forgiveness of sins were temporary and ineffective in taking away sins, but that of Jesus is the ultimate and perfect one capable of taking away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

Heavenly Father, thank you for your ultimate provision for humanity. In the past, people had to slaughter animals on an altar to find grace before you for their sins. Now, thanks to the perfect sacrifice of your perfect Son Jesus, once and for all, we no longer need the blood of goats or bulls shed to find forgiveness for our evil deeds. Nor do we need the intervention of a third party to intercede for us. Thanks to Jesus, we can approach you with confidence. Thank you for this grace in your Son Jesus.

- What do you notice about the atonement for sin in the book of Leviticus?
- What is the role of blood in atonement in the Old Testament?
- What did God want through all these Old Testament rituals?
- Ultimately, what did God do to reconcile humanity to Him?
- How might you interpret Jesus' blood sacrifice?

Further Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Read: Leviticus 1:1–9

Scripture Verse: *“Then he shall flay the burnt offering and cut it into pieces, and the sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. And Aaron’s sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, the head, and the fat, on the wood that is on the fire on the altar.” Leviticus 1:6–8*

Today’s Thought:

The study above showed us how the purification process takes place. We saw that Aaron’s sons who were priests were all involved in the atonement process. In Leviticus 16:15–16 we saw all the sequences that should have taken place to lead to the consecration of the people to God. In verses 6 to 8 of Leviticus 1, these verses present to us the intervention of the Sons of Aaron in the atonement rituals in another dimension. We read: “You shall flay the burnt offering and cut it into pieces. The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and place wood on the fire. Then Aaron’s sons, the priests, will place the pieces, including the head and the fat, on the wood that is burning on the altar.” Leviticus 1:6–8. What foreshadowing! What a beautiful picture of Jesus’ complete abandonment, obedience, and dedication to God to offer his life for the sin of humanity!

We read in the New Testament: “And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” Philippians 2:8. Thus, Leviticus 1:6–8 also foreshadows the Christian’s total surrender and dedication to Jesus for complete transformation. We see through the above verses in Leviticus that no part of the animal during the burnt offering is set aside. Everything was on the altar for the burnt offering. All these rituals of the atonement process foreshadow the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, for the forgiveness of the sins of humanity. Thus, thanks to Jesus, everyone can personally encounter God.

Now, thanks to Jesus, no one needs to offer an animal as a burnt offering to God. Jesus has already given himself for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2). All anyone must do is offer themselves to God as a living and acceptable sacrifice. Therefore, Leviticus 1:6–8 is also in comparison with Romans 12:1 which says, “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies

as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

Complete surrender and dedication to Jesus is enough to satisfy God's wrath against someone's sin. By accepting Jesus into one's life as the only Savior, one has the right to become a child of God through an internal transformation wrought by the blood of Jesus in the lives of all believers in his name. We read in John 1:12, “John 1:12 (ESV) But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” This is what the blood of Jesus made us to become.

Through the book of Leviticus, we can see the foreshadowing of the atonement for humanity's sin through Jesus' death and better understand the significance of his blood sacrifice. In fact, God has no favoritism. One thing to do is to confess your sins to Jesus with sincere faith, which is the only way to become a sweet fragrance of God. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9.

Lord, thank you for giving your Son Jesus as a burnt offering for my sins. From now on I confess my sins before you, please cleanse me with your cleansing blood, transform me and make me a sweet aroma on your altar.

- What was the role of the Sons of Aaron in the atonement process?
- What do the actions of Aaron's sons foreshadow?
- Why do we Christians today not need to offer animals as burnt offerings?
- What should we offer to God as a burnt offering, and how should we do it?
- What would you like to offer God right now?

Further Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Friday, April 12, 2024

Read: Leviticus 1:1–9

Scripture Verse: *“but its entrails and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall burn all of it on the altar, as a burnt offering, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the LORD.” Leviticus 1:9*

Today’s Thought:

In our previous study in Leviticus 1:6–8, we saw the role of Aaron’s sons in presenting the burnt offering to God. They arranged the wood and lit the fire on the altar. As priests, they placed all the parts of the animal, including the head, on the altar. Then they washed the internal organs and the legs with water, and everything was burned on the altar of burnt offering. We can see that the priests played an important role in the process of the holocaust. Therefore, without the intervention of the priests, the holocaust would be completely impossible. All of this foreshadows the coming of Jesus as the ultimate High Priest who should come to take away the sin of humanity.

This verse emphasizes Jesus as the perfect and ultimate sacrifice, fulfilling the symbolism of the offerings described in Leviticus 1:9. Here, Jesus is the ultimate High Priest and the Lamb of God who should be slain for the sin of humanity. It is not without reason that John the Baptist, seeing Jesus approaching, said: “The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said: “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29. This verse alludes to the lamb that took place in the book of Leviticus that we are studying. In the Old Covenant we read: “The blood of goats and of bulls and the ashes of a heifer poured out on those who are ceremonially impure thus sanctify them. that they are externally pure.” Hebrews 9:13. Therefore, the blood of animals affects an outward cleansing, while the spotless blood of Jesus affects an inward cleansing that brings about spiritual transformation in the believer’s life.

However, if the blood of animals can carry out an external purification through a ritual ceremony. “How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.” Hebrews 9:14. The shed blood of Jesus, the blood of an everlasting covenant, has cleansed us from all iniquity. What silver and gold, blood goats and bulls could not do, Jesus did it for us by his own blood. We read: “Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers,

not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was fore-known before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God." 1 Peter 1:18-21.

Now, through sincere faith in Jesus and perfect love for him and for others, you could be a sweet aroma of God. For he who is in Jesus must cultivate the characters of Jesus such as love, humility, forgiveness, and the fruits of the Spirit, which are the sweet fragrance of God. In fact, these fragrances should spread to the people around us for an eternal change for Jesus.

Lord, thank you for your word. What silver and gold, the blood of goats and bulls cannot do for me to have eternal life and be a sweet aroma to God, you have made by the shedding of your blood. Lord Jesus, help me each day to understand the meaning and value of such a sacrifice for my sins. Help me to be a sweet aroma to you and to set a good example to others in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.

- What was the function of Aaron's sons?
- What did their role foreshadow?
- What did John the Baptist say about Jesus in John 1:29?
- How do the sacrifices of the Old Testament differ from those of Jesus?
- How could we be a sweet fragrance of God?

Further Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Today is Friday. Saturday and Sunday are on the way. "Oh come, let us sing to the LORD. Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God." Psalms 95:1-3.



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