

Leviticus 7:11–21
Peace, Praise and Purity
November 25, 2012
Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Children’s Sermon

- A. Eating for Friendship/Celebrate
- B. Eating to Identify With
- C. Eating to Publicly Praise God

II. The Feast is Slaughtered

- A. Review: Sacrifice/Slaughter
 - 1. Meal (Cf. Leviticus 7:12–15 – Leavened and Unleavened Bread)
 - 2. God is the Guest of Honor
 - 3. Communion with God

1 Corinthians 10:18

Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices *participants in the altar*?

- B. Who is in View?

Leviticus 6:9

⁹ “Command *Aaron and his sons*, saying, This is the law of the *burnt offering*. ...

(14) ¹⁴ “And this is the law of the *grain offering*. *The sons of Aaron* shall offer it before the Lord in front of the altar.

(25) (Cf. Leviticus 7:7) ²⁵ “Speak to *Aaron and his sons*, saying, This is the law of the *sin offering*. ...

Leviticus 7:11 (Cf. v. 30)

¹¹ “And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings *that one may offer to the Lord*.

- C. The Community Feast

Leviticus 7:15–17

¹⁵ And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for *thanksgiving shall be eaten on the day of his offering*. *He shall not leave any of it until the*

*morning.*¹⁶ But if the sacrifice of his offering is a **vow** offering or a **freewill** offering, *it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what remains of it shall be eaten.*¹⁷ **But** *what remains of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned up with fire.*

1. Three Kinds of Peace Offerings

a. Thanksgiving (*Praise*)

“When people brought peace offerings for praise, they were expected to declare to the congregation what God had done for them. The classical psalms that developed into what we know as declarative praise psalms were the kinds of expressions that accompanied these sacrifices (e.g., see Ps. 22:22–31 [MT 22:23–32]; 32; 66; Jonah 2). The whole process of offering the sacrifice of praise, according to these psalms, was considered to be “paying one’s vows.” That is, when the Israelites prayed to the Lord for some provision of life, they promised their praise in anticipation of the provision, often rehearsing what they would say when they went into the sanctuary.”¹

Psalm 50:14–15

¹⁴ Offer to God *a sacrifice of thanksgiving*, and perform your vows to the Most High,¹⁵ and *call upon me in the day of trouble*; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

b. Vow (Cf. Hannah - 1 Sam. 1:11, 24)

c. Freewill offering

“...the freewill offering, was an offering that could be made at any time. The soul of the worshiper might simply be overflowing with joy over God and his benefits. Such freewill offerings were (and are) the essence of a living faith. The worshiper was not waiting for some great answer to prayer or some great deliverance, but might simply be responding to holy meditations or the goodness of life under God. To express this joy, a peace offering was brought as a testimony of gratitude.”²

2. Eaten on the First and Second Days

¹ Ross, A. P. (2002). *Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus* (181). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

² Ibid. (182).

- a. Encouragement to share
- b. Would not putrefy

Leviticus 7:18

...he who offers it shall *not be accepted*, neither shall it be credited to him. **It is tainted**, and he who eats of it shall *bear his iniquity*.

3. A Holy Meal

Leviticus 7:19–21

¹⁹ “**Flesh that touches any unclean thing shall not be eaten**. It shall be *burned up with fire*. **All who are clean may eat flesh**, ²⁰ **but the person who eats of the flesh of the sacrifice of the Lord’s peace offerings while an uncleanness is on him, that person shall be cut off from his people**. ...[specific examples]”

III. A Holy Communion of Praise

A. We Are Participants in Christ’s Offering

1 Corinthians 10:6–18

⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ *Do not be idolaters* as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

⁸ *We must not indulge in sexual immorality* as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ *We must not put Christ to the test*, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents (Num. 21:5–6), ¹⁰ *nor grumble*, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ...

[[[Psalm 78:18–19

¹⁸ **They tested God** in their heart by demanding the food they craved. ¹⁹ They spoke against God, saying, “Can God spread a table in the wilderness?]]]

...¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were **written down for our instruction**, on whom the end of the ages has come.

¹² **Therefore** let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ...

¹⁵ I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not **a participation in the blood of Christ?** The bread that we break, is it not **a participation in the body of Christ?** ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. ¹⁸ Consider the *people* of Israel: **are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?**

Key Idea

Our communion with Jesus, at the Lord's Table, is our participation in the true peace offering. We publicly identify with and declare our confidence in the life and death of our savior.

B. We Have an Altar

Hebrews 13:9–16

⁹ Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰ **We have an altar** from which ***those who serve the tent have no right to eat.*** ¹¹ For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp.

¹² **So Jesus** also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.

¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵

Through him then let us continually offer up a **sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, **the fruit of lips** that **acknowledge his name**. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to *share what you have*, for such **sacrifices** are pleasing to God.

C. We Must be **Clean** to Eat the Holy Meal