

The Peace Offering

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Leviticus 3

- I. The peace offering speaks of thanksgiving, peace, and fellowship with God and with his people.
 - A. Peace speaks of the cessation of hostilities, conflict, fighting, disturbance, or commotion.
 - B. It speaks of a state of tranquility, stillness, free from disturbance, conflict, or war.
 - C. The peace offering represented the change in the soul of a person brought into a right relationship with God.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

- II. The motive behind the peace offering was thanksgiving.
 - A. From a heart thankful to be forgiven and accepted by God.
 - B. Thankful for the chance to put the past behind him and start a new life with God in command.
 - C. Thankful for the rest in his soul and the hope for the future that God has given in response to his burnt sacrifice and his meat offering.
 - D. Every person who is saved by the blood has one thing in common – they have a heart overflowing with gratitude to God and to those people of God who have helped him find the way.
 - E. It is the most natural thing for him to want to do something to show his gratitude.
- III. The peace offering was a public expression of the fact that he was at peace with God and at peace with his people.

Ephesians 2:14-15 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

- A. It was to show that he had ceased his strivings, contentions, and conflict with God
- B. He was showing that he had laid down his weapons of war and had surrendered to God and his authority.
- C. When we surrender to God and stop fighting we find ourselves at peace with Him.
- D. He was making a statement that he was at peace with the people of God and had stopped hating, condemning, and slandering them.
- E. He was confessing and showing publicly that he was now one of them, also.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

- IV. The peace offering was a display of fellowship with God and with his people.
 - A. The burnt offering was completely consumed by the fire – it was all God's.

- B. The meat offering was partly for God and partly for the priests, the sons of Aaron.
- C. But the peace offering was part for God, part for the priests, and part for the one offering the sacrifice.
- D. Even the priests' daughters could eat of the peace offering.
- E. It showed the communion of God with his people and his people with one another.
- F. Because it was a blood sacrifice it showed that Christ is the only way that we can have communion with God or communion with his people.
- G. Anyone who was defiled or unclean could eat of the peace offering.

Leviticus 7:20-21 But the soul that eateth of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, that pertain unto the LORD, having his uncleanness upon him, even that soul shall be cut off from his people. Moreover the soul that shall touch any unclean thing, as the uncleanness of man, or any unclean beast, or any abominable unclean thing, and eat of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which pertain unto the LORD, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

1. This means that people who were not holy in their living were no part of the fellowship of peace.
2. It means that uncleanness prohibits fellowship with God and with his people.
3. In other words, you can't serve God and mammon; you can't walk in darkness and say you are in the light; you can't be saved and live in sin.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- H. It had to eaten that day or the day following, but absolutely not on the third day.

Leviticus 7:15-18 And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning. But if the sacrifice of his offering be a vow, or a voluntary offering, it shall be eaten the same day that he offereth his sacrifice: and on the morrow also the remainder of it shall be eaten: But the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burnt with fire. And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings be eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted, neither shall it be imputed unto him that offereth it: it shall be an abomination, and the soul that eateth of it shall bear his iniquity.

1. It was something holy – not just food to eat.
2. They could eat a meal together at home and have fellowship together, but this offering was a holy thing and not to be treated as something common.
3. The type and picture of Christ would not be sanctified in the offering if they ate it on the third day – the day of the resurrection; the day life comes forth.
4. To eat it then would show no respect or knowledge and understanding of the creation or the Lamb of God.

Hebrews 7:2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 32:17 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

Peace – 400 times in the bible; 296 OT and 104 NT