

Christ In The Old Testament
“The Peace Offering”
Leviticus 3:1-17; 7:11-34

Introduction:

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To Leviticus 3 Tonight:
 - Where We Will Continue:
 - Our Search For Christ:
 - In The Old Testament Sacrifices:
 - That Were Offered On:
 - The Bronze Altar - Which Stood:
 - Front & Center:
 - In The Court Of The Tabernacle!
2. So Far - We Have Looked At How:
 - The Burnt Offerings & The Meat / Grain Offerings:
 - Painted A Portrait:
 - Of Christ - For Those Who:
 - Offered Those Offerings:
 - On The Altar!
 - Tonight - We Will Look At How:
 - The Peace Offerings:
 - Also Pointed God's People:
 - To Christ And His Sacrifice:
 - On The Cross!
3. To Review:
 - The Burnt Offerings:
 - Provide A Picture:
 - Of The Complete Consecration:
 - Of Christ To God The Father!
 - The Grain Offerings:
 - Which We Looked At Last Week:
 - Provide A Picture:
 - Of The Complete Communion:
 - Between Christ And God The Father!
 - And - Because Of:
 - What Christ Did:
 - For Them & For Us:
 - He Made It Possible For Us:
 - To Draw Near To God!
 - And Now - When We Do:
 - By Faith In Christ's Offering:
 - We Too Can Experience:
 - The Same Consecration & Communion:
 - Through Christ!
4. The Peace Offerings:
 - Which We Come To In Leviticus 3:
 - Provide To Us Another Picture:
 - Of Christ - And:
 - The Conciliation - Or - Peace:
 - That He Makes Possible With God:
 - For Those Who Turn To & Trust In Him!
5. This Offering:
 - Is The Third Out Of The Five Offerings:
 - Given To Us In Leviticus - And So:
 - Is The Central Offering!
 - So - The Very Placement:
 - Of This Offering:

- May Even Point To:
 - The Primary Function:
 - Of All The Offerings!
- Which Was To:
 - Bring People Near To God - For:
 - Forgiveness!
 - Friendship! And:
 - Fellowship:
 - With The Lord!
- Of Course - All Of These Benefits:
 - Are Ultimately Provided:
 - Not Through The Sacrifice:
 - Of Animals!
 - But Through The Sacrifice Of Christ:
 - On The Cross!

* And So - The First Thing We Find In Leviticus 3 Is:

1. *The Process Of The Peace Offering!*

- Lets Read The Details:
 - God Gave About The Peace Offering:
 - In Leviticus 3:1-17!
 - Read Passage!
 - So - As We've Seen:
 - With The Burnt & The Grain Offerings:
 - There Was A Detailed Process By Which:
 - The Peace Offering Was To Be Made!
 - And - Like The Other Offerings:
 - The Process Began With:
 - A Selection!
 - A Selection Of An Animal:
 - That Was "Without Blemish!"
 - Whether It Was:
 - Of The Herd (3:1) - Or - Of The Flock (3:6)!
 - They Were To Find:
 - And Offer - The Very Best:
 - That They Had:
 - If They Wanted To Bring:
 - A Peace Offering To The Lord!
 - And - When They Found It:
 - Then - Also Like The Other Offerings:
 - The Process Continued With:
 - A Surrender!
 - A Surrender Of That Chosen Animal:
 - Whether It Was Of:
 - The Heard - Or - A Sheep - Or - A Goat!
 - The Details Provided:
 - In Leviticus 3 - Are Pretty Much The Same:
 - For All Three Kinds Of Animals!
 - The One Notable Difference Has To Do With:
 - The "Whole Rump" - Or:
 - "Tail" Of The Sheep!
 - But - No Matter What Animal Was Offered:
 - It Would Have Been:
 - Of Great Value - To The One:
 - Who Brought It To The Lord!
 - There Was Great:
 - Cost & Care Involved:
 - In Raising Up These Animals!

- And - After The Surrendering:
 - Of This Animal - Of Course:
 - There Would Then Be:
- A Sacrifice!
 - A Sacrifice Of The Animal:
 - They Were Offering To The Lord!
 - And The Sacrifice Involved:
 - The Slaughter:
 - Of The Animal!
 - Even By The Hands Of:
 - The One Who Offered It!
 - 3:2 - “And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation!”
 - So - Like The Burnt Offering:
 - This Was A Very Personal Affair!
 - This Instruction:
 - Is Repeated In 3:8 - For The Sheep & In 3:13 - For The Goat!
 - After The Animal Was Killed:
 - It Was Time For:
 - The Sprinkling:
 - Of Its Blood - Around The Altar:
 - By The Priests!
 - 3:2b - “And Aaron’s sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about!”
 - This Instruction:
 - Is Also Repeated For The Sheep & The Goat! (3:8b, 13b)
 - But - After This:
 - We Find Some Unusual Instructions For:
 - The Separation:
 - Of The Fat & The Kidneys:
 - Of The Animals - Which:
 - Was Then To Be Burnt On The Altar Of The Tabernacle!
 - The Final Instruction:
 - Of 3:16 - Applied To All Of The Animals:
 - “All The Fat Is The Lord’s!”
 - Now - What Was The Purpose:
 - Of This Instruction?
 - Because - For Them:
 - The Fat Represented:
 - What Was The Best!
 - Remember In Luke 15:
 - The Story Of The Prodigal Son:
 - When The Son Returned Home:
 - The Father Told His Servants To:
 - “Bring The Fatted Calf!”
 - “In biblical times fat was a sign of the animal’s health and vigor, being the richest part of the animal, thus it was offered to God upon the altar!” (David Levy)
 - Even Today - For Those Who Grill:
 - Fat Means Flavor!
 - And So - When This Offering:
 - Was Made To The Lord:
 - It Was Also A “Sweet Savor” Unto The Lord!
 - But - How Does This Process:
 - For The Peace Offering:
 - Point Us To Christ?
 - I Believe - It Shows To Us:
 - What Was Required:
 - For There To Be Conciliation & Peace:
 - Between God & Man!

- Christ Was The Only One:
 - Who Could Be Selected:
 - To Bring About:
 - This Peace & Harmony!
 - He Was The Only One:
 - Who Was Truly:
 - “Without Blemish And Without Spot!” (1 Peter 1:19) - Also:
- Christ Was The Only One:
 - Who Could Fully Surrender Himself:
 - To The Will Of God The Father!
 - He Surrendered Himself:
 - To God’s Perfect Will:
 - At His Birth! Incarnation!
 - Through His Life! Obedience!
 - In His Death!
 - His Entire Existence:
 - Was To Be About:
 - The Will & Work Of His Father!
 - But - Even Further:
- Christ Was The Only One:
 - Who Could Satisfy All The Requirements:
 - Of The Peace Offering!
 - His Body Was Broken - And:
 - His Blood Was Shed:
 - As The Very Best:
 - God Had To Offer!
 - Being God Himself!
- So Now - What Paul Wrote:
 - In Ephesians 2:13-14:
 - Can Be True For:
 - Those To Put Their Hands:
 - On Christ - As Their Peace Offering:
 - By Faith In Him!
 - “But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. / For he is our peace!”
 - Jesus Christ Is Our Peace!
 - And So - The Process For Peace:
 - With God - That Was Pictured In:
 - These Offerings:
 - Christ Fulfilled!
 - And - He Did So:
 - In Order To Further Bring About:

2. ***The Purpose Of The Peace Offering!***

- Which We Find In More Detail:
 - In Leviticus 7 - So - Let’s Turn There Now:
 - Where - Starting In 7:11 - Moses Is Told:
 - “And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto the LORD!”
 - Read 7:11-21!
 - There Are More Instructions Given:
 - Through 7:34 - But:
 - In The Verses We Read:
 - We Find That The Purpose:
 - For The Peace Offering:
 - Is True Fellowship!
 - So - The Peace Offering:
 - “Represented a sacrificial gift brought by the Israelite in thanksgiving for the peace, friendship,

- and fellowship he experienced with God!” (David Levy)
 - So - The Offerer Could Experience:
- Fellowship Through Praise!
 - The First Reason:
 - A Person Might Offer A Peace Offering:
 - Is Found In 7:12a:
 - “If He Offer It For A Thanksgiving!”
 - So - When There Was:
 - Some Blessing Received:
 - From The Lord - And:
 - You Wanted To Offer God:
 - Praise & Thanks In Return:
 - You Would Offer A Peace Offering!
 - And - Along With That Peace Offering:
 - You Would Bring Some Grain Offerings As Well:
 - So That It Could Be A Complete:
 - Fellowship Meal!
 - Another Reason:
 - A Person Might Offer A Peace Offering:
 - Is Found In 7:16:
 - “But if the sacrifice of his offering be a vow!”
 - This Would Provide The Opportunity For:
- Fellowship Through Promise!
 - So - If You Made A Special Commitment:
 - To The Lord:
 - You Could Bring A Peace Offering:
 - To Memorialize That Vow - And:
 - As A Way To Seek The Lord’s Help:
 - In Keeping It!
 - A Third Reason:
 - A Person Might Offer A Peace Offering:
 - Also Found In 7:16:
 - Is If It Was Just A:
 - “Voluntary Offering!”
 - Which Meant That:
 - You Just Wanted To:
 - Draw Near To God To Express Your Love To Him!
 - And Enjoy:
 - Fellowship In Peace!
 - So - For No Other Reason:
 - But To Enjoy The Peace Of God:
 - That He Offers:
 - Through His Mercy & Grace!
 - So - The Primary Purpose:
 - For The Peace Offering:
 - Was To Bring God’s People:
 - Near To Him:
 - For Fellowship!
 - This Is What We Find In Psalm 116:12-18:
 - When David Wrote - “What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? / I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. / I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people. / Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. / O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds. / I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. / I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people!”
 - But - That Fellowship:
 - Was Also Meant To Be:
 - Extended To & Shared With Others!

- “The Peace Offering, after it had been presented to the Lord, was a fellowship meal which the Israelite and priest joyfully shared before the Lord!” (David Levy)
- So - In Each Case:
 - Whether The Peace Offering:
 - Was For Thanksgiving, For A Vow, Or Just Voluntary - There Were Three Portions!
 - A Portion Was Offered:
 - To The Lord!
 - The Lord’s Portion Was The Fat & The Blood!
 - A Portion Was Given:
 - To The Priests!
 - This Included The Breast & The Right Shoulder Of The Sacrifice!
 - But - Before The Priest Took His Portion:
 - The Breast Would Be Waved Before The Lord:
 - In A Horizontal Motion!
 - A Wave Offering!
 - And - The Shoulder Would Be Heaved Before The Lord:
 - In A Vertical Motion!
 - A Heave Offering!
 - But - The Rest Of The Offering:
 - Could Then Be Eaten By The Offerer And His Family And Friends:
 - Together - In The Presence Of & In Fellowship With:
 - The Lord!

Conclusion:

1. So - Not Only Does:
 - The Process Of The Peace Offering:
 - Point Us To Christ - So Does:
 - The Purpose Of The Peace Offering!
 - You See - When Jesus Came:
 - To Be Our Peace Offering:
 - It Wasn’t Just Something:
 - He Needed To Do!
 - It Was Something:
 - He Wanted To Do!
2. When Jesus Sacrificed Himself:
 - On The Cross Of Calvary:
 - It Wasn’t Because:
 - He Was Dragged There:
 - By The Jews & The Romans!
 - It Was Because:
 - He Was Drawn There:
 - By The Love Of His Heart:
 - For Those He Came To Save!
 - So That - As We Are Told In:
 - Colossians 1:20 - He Might:
 - “Make Peace through The Blood Of His Cross – To Reconcile All Things Unto Himself!”
3. Besides The Fat:
 - That Was Burned On The Altar:
 - For The Peace Offering:
 - Both Of The Animal’s Kidneys:
 - Were Also Offered!
 - In Many Places In The Old Testament:
 - We Find That:
 - It Was The Kidneys That Were:
 - The Seat Of The Emotions!
 - Much Like The Heart:
 - In Our Language!

- In The King James - The Same Word:
 - Translated “Kidney” - Is Translated:
 - “Reins” - When It Describes:
 - The Affections Of A Person!
 - As In Proverbs 23:16:
 - “Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things!”
4. When Jesus Came:
- To Be Our Peace:
 - He Offered Himself:
 - With A “Burning Zeal & Flaming Love” For His People! (Gill)
 - His Peace Offering:
 - Was One Of Thanksgiving:
 - In Praise To The Father:
 - For The Ones He Gave Him!
 - His Peace Offering:
 - Was One Of A Vow:
 - With A Promise To Finish:
 - The Work He Was Given To Do!
 - His Peace Offering:
 - Was One That Was Voluntary:
 - In Personal Devotion & Love To:
 - His Father & His Will!
5. And Then - The Offering:
- That Jesus Made:
 - In Fellowship With His Father:
 - He Offered To You & To Me:
 - To Have Fellowship:
 - With Him!
 - This Is Made Clear - Again:
 - In Ephesians 2:13-14!
 - “But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. / For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us!”
6. So - What Are We Waiting For?
- Not Only Has The Lord Jesus:
 - Fulfilled The Process:
 - Of The Peace Offering:
 - To Provide What Was Needed:
 - For Conciliation With God!
 - He Has Also:
 - Fulfilled The Purpose:
 - Of The Peace Offering:
 - Because He Wants You:
 - To Have Fellowship:
 - With Him!
7. “He Is Our Peace!”
- And - Through His Peace:
 - You Can Have Real Fellowship:
 - With God!

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