

A Sacrificial Savior

Leviticus 1:1-7:38,

Hebrews 10:1-14

The Problem

- Our sin separates us from God.
- God established the sacrificial system that confronted Israel and us with the weight of sin.
- If sinful people are to approach a holy God, someone must bear that cost.
- The sacrificial system of the Old Testament was not just a religious tradition; it was a divine declaration that sin demands payment.
- God's holiness requires atonement.
- Sin is not a small mistake or a bad habit; it is rebellion against the very nature and character of God.

The Cost of Sin

- Sin results in death.
- The first physical death recorded in Scripture was an innocent animal, slain by God to cover Adam and Eve's shame.
- Leviticus begins with the burnt offering, the foundational sacrifice that set the tone for the entire system.
- The worshiper would lay his hands on the head of his offering which symbolized the transfer of guilt.
- When the animal was slaughtered, the worshiper had to watch as the cost of sin was paid in blood.
- The cost of sin was acknowledged, but the debt was never fully paid.

The Limits of the Law

- Though the sacrificial system emphasized the seriousness of sin, it was never intended to be the final solution for sin.
- The repetition of sacrifices proved their insufficiency.
- Even the priests had to offer sacrifices for their own sins before they could intercede for the people.
- The sacrificial system was never meant to be the end.
- The Old Testament sacrifices were a shadow of what was to come, a temporary covering that anticipated the full and final atonement.

The Picture of Redemption

- Every sacrifice in Leviticus pointed forward to Jesus.
 - The Burnt Offering represented complete devotion to God.
 - The Grain Offering symbolized a life fully given to God.
 - The Peace Offering was about reconciliation with God.
 - The Sin Offering reminds us that sin is not just about what we knowingly do wrong.
 - The Guilt Offering was about restitution, about making things right.
- All of these sacrifices were foreshadowing the one perfect sacrifice that was to come.

The Purpose Behind the Law

- The entire sacrificial system was designed to prepare the people for the coming of Christ.
- Everything about the tabernacle, the priesthood, and the sacrifices all pointed to Jesus.
- Unlike the sacrifices that had to be offered year after year, Jesus' sacrifice was once for all--a final, perfect atonement.
- The sacrificial system was never about the animals; it was about pointing people to their need for a greater sacrifice.

The Sacrificial Savior

- Jesus did not come to continue the old system; nor did He come to abolish it; He came to fulfill it.
- The cross was not a temporary fix; it was the final solution.
- We do not have to add to what Jesus has already done; His sacrifice is complete.
- Jesus' sacrifice was different from all the others because He was not only the offering, He was also the High Priest who made the offering.
- Under the old system, priests would take the blood of an animal and present it before God, but Jesus, our great High Priest, brought His own blood.
- Christ is our Sacrificial Savior!

Conclusion

- The resurrection is the proof that Jesus' sacrifice was accepted.
- Jesus' work on the cross was once for all, and His ministry as our High Priest continues forever.
- We no longer have to rely on temporary solutions as the price of sin has been paid in full.
- Has Jesus' sacrifice been applied to your life?