



13 "'If the whole Israelite community sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands, even though the community is unaware of the matter, when they realize their guilt 14 and the sin they committed becomes known,

LEVITICUS 4:13-31

the assembly must bring a young bull as a sin offering and present it before the tent of meeting. 15 The elders of the community are to lay their hands on the bull's head before the LORD, and the bull shall be slaughtered before the LORD. ¹⁶ Then the anointed priest is to take



some of the bull's blood into the tent of meeting. 17 He shall dip his finger into the blood and sprinkle it before the LORD seven times in front of the curtain. 18 He is to put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the LORD in the tent of meeting.



The rest of the blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering at the entrance to the tent of meeting. 19 He shall remove all the fat from it and burn it on the altar, 20 and do with this bull just as he did with the bull for the sin offering.



In this way the priest will make atonement for the community, and they will be forgiven. ²¹ Then he shall take the bull outside the camp and burn it as he burned the first bull. This is the sin offering for the community. 22 "'When a leader sins unintentionally and



does what is forbidden in any of the commands of the Lord his God, when he realizes his guilt 23 and the sin he has committed becomes known, he must bring as his offering a male goat without defect. 24 He is to lay his hand on the goat's head and slaughter it at the place



where the burnt offering is slaughtered before the LORD. It is a sin offering. ²⁵ Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar.



²⁶ He shall burn all the fat on the altar as he burned the fat of the fellowship offering. In this way the priest will make atonement for the leader's sin, and he will be forgiven. 27 "'If any member of the community sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the



Lord's commands, when they realize their guilt ²⁸ and the sin they have committed becomes known, they must bring as their offering for the sin they committed a female goat without defect. ²⁹ They are to lay their hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter it at the place of



the burnt offering. ³⁰ Then the priest is to take some of the blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar. 31 They shall remove all the fat, just as the fat is removed from the fellowship offering,



and the priest shall burn it on the altar as an aroma pleasing to the Lord. In this way the priest will make atonement for them, and they will be forgiven.



You can never fully appreciate what Jesus has done for you and for us without reading the Book of Leviticus.





⁴ He is to present the bull at the entrance to the tent of meeting before the LORD. He is to lay his hand on its head and slaughter it there before the LORD.



15 The elders of the community are to lay their hands on the bull's head before the LORD, and the bull shall be slaughtered before the LORD.



²⁴ He is to lay his hand on the goat's head and slaughter it at the place where the burnt offering is slaughtered before the LORD. It is a sin offering.



²⁹ They are to lay their hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter it at the place of the burnt offering.



The idea of "atonement" is that it is the only way for a person or a people to be made one with God again.



³ "If the anointed priest sins"

13 "If the whole Israelite community sins"

²² "When a leader sins"

²⁷ "If any member of the community"



The atonement is the transfer of guilt from one party to another party.



²³ For the wages of sin is death.



11 For the life of a 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 one's life.



It is as if I placed/we placed our very own hand(s) upon Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.



"Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"



² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.



²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

"The worship God accepts is the worship God prescribes."

- Skip Heitzig -



In Leviticus, we learn that details mattered to God then and still matter to Him now.





They shall remove all the fat, just as the fat is removed from the fellowship offering, and the priest shall burn it on the altar as an aroma pleasing to the LORD.



It was the aroma that changed God's disposition from discipline and destruction to delight.



It is a burnt offering, a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.

LEVITICUS 1:9; 13; 17

⁹ He shall take out the memorial portion from the grain offering and burn it on the altar as a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.



⁵ Then Aaron's sons are to burn it on the altar on top of the burnt offering that is lying on the burning wood; it is a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD... ¹⁶ The priest shall burn them on the altar as a food offering, a pleasing aroma.

²¹ The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.



²⁷ "If in spite of this you still do not listen to me but continue to be hostile toward me... I will take no delight in the pleasing aroma of your offerings."

LEVITICUS 26:27; 31

²¹ "I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. ²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them."



¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



¹⁵ For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.



In this way the priest will make atonement for the community, and they will be forgiven.



In this way the priest will make atonement for the leader's sin, and he will be forgiven.



In this way the priest will make atonement for them, and they will be forgiven.



In this way the priest will make atonement for them for the sin they have committed, and they will be forgiven.



Leviticus provided God's people with a sin-management system, not a solution to sin.



¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,



²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.



We do not need to crucify Jesus over and over so that He can atone for us again and again.



