

Jesus Found in Leviticus

Exodus and Leviticus are companion volumes. Moving out of Exodus you are in the Tabernacle but upon entering Leviticus you have the Manual for the Priests of Israel. The message of the Tabernacle comes alive when you see how sinful people can approach God. How Israel was to live a holy life and the true meaning of worship.

The first 5 chapters of this wonderful book present offerings and sacrifices. No matter who offers the sacrifice, if it be the priest, the nation, a ruler or the common person, they are always one of the five referred to in these first chapters of Leviticus – the bullock, a sheep, a goat, a turtle-dove, or a pigeon.

A holy God desires people who embrace holiness. The sacrifices are to remind folk that sin must be dealt with and that the only cure is Christ. All offerings and sacrifices point to the perfect sacrifice for sin which would be made at Calvary. “The Lamb of God” in this book pictures the perfect sacrifice “the only one who can take away the sin of the world.”

These sacrifices were shadows of the sacrifice of our Lord and looked forward to the consummation of that event. These sacrifices were worthless in their own right, but were accepted for the time as tokens of the future sacrifice of the Lamb of God ([Heb. 10:10-14](#)). Once that sacrifice was offered, all other sacrifices lost their meaning, presenting the infinite value of the Savior’s substitutionary provision for sin for all mankind for all times ([Heb. 10:18](#)).

These sacrifices were witnesses to the fact that people are sinners and could be saved only by a substitutionary death, and the offerings were divided into two groups: three offerings, and then two. The three “*SWEET SAVOR*” offerings would present Jesus Christ in His meritorious perfections, and would be *voluntary*. The last two “*NON-SWEET SAVOR*” offerings would be *compulsory*. To see Jesus bearing the whole penalty of the sinner was “non-sweet” and compulsory, revealing that the redeemed people of Israel must be aware that the way to God *took sacrifice*, and that their walk with God should reveal separation.

Jesus Found in Leviticus (Continued)

THE SWEET SAVOR OFFERINGS – BURNT, MEAL and PEACE Offerings – Leviticus 1-3:

➤ BURNT OFFERINGS ([Lev. 1](#))

- Offered daily as an offering of dedication.
- Most common sacrifice in the Tabernacle and pictured consecration and self-surrender.
- Because of sin, it was necessary for the one offering to die spiritually.
- A whole victim was consumed on the altar by fire.
- This typifies Christ offering Himself, without spot, to God in delight to do His Father's Will even unto death.
- There was no reservation. Christ completely yielded Himself to God on our behalf ([John 6:38](#); [4:34](#); [Eph. 5:2](#); [Heb. 9:14](#); [10:7ff](#)).
- The believer is also to be consecrated to God ([Rom. 12:1](#); [I Cor. 6:2c](#)).

➤ MEAL OFFERING ([Lev. 2](#))

- An offering of daily devotion "meat".
- Typifies the perfect manhood of Christ – perfect in thought, word and action.
- Christ is the Bread of Life. We come first with the whole burnt offering, and then we keep advancing with our meal offering – a life of rejoicing in His Grace. The meal offering is a beautiful picture of sanctification. Don't reverse the order: *FIRST – JUSTIFICATION* ([Rom. 12:1, 2](#)) *SECOND – SERVICE*. Service is a *privilege*, not *remuneration* ([Acts 10:4](#); [Phil. 4:18](#)).

➤ PEACE OFFERING ([Lev. 3](#))

- This offering represents fellowship and communion with God.
- It is an offering of thanksgiving.
- Spontaneous appreciation, fellowship and praise.
- Peace means prosperity, joy, happiness.
- This comes to the believer who has grown in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- [Eph. 2:14](#); [Col. 1:20](#); [Rom. 5:1](#); [II Cor. 5:19](#); [I John 1:3](#); [I John 1:7](#)

Jesus Found in Leviticus (Continued)

NON-SWEET SAVOR OFFERINGS – SIN and TRESPASS Offerings – Leviticus 4, 5:

➤ SIN OFFERING ([Lev. 4](#)).

- This offering acknowledges sin ([Lev. 4: 2](#); [Lev. 4: 3](#)).
- Conviction OF sin/Expiation FOR sin.
- “The wages of sin – DEATH – Gift of God – LIFE!
- Jesus Christ is our Sin bearer. Christ “made to be sin for us” ([II Cor. 5:21](#)).
- His death covers all ([I Pet. 3:18](#); [Isa. 53:6](#); [I Jn. 1:9](#)).

➤ TRESPASS OFFERING ([Lev.5](#))

- This offering cleanses the conscience ([Lev. 5:5](#)).
- We bring our sin; Christ brings the offering and the Atonement for sin ([I Cor. 15:3](#)).
- Christ is our guilt offering, the satisfaction on our behalf to God.
- Restitution / Restoration belongs to the forgiven ([Isa. 53:8](#); [II Cor. 5:19](#); [Col. 2:13-14](#)).

TWO CATEGORIES OF LEVITICAL OFFERINGS:

SALVATION CATEGORY

1. Burnt offering – Propitiation (Work of Christ – blood) – [Lev. 1:3](#)
2. Food – or Meat – Propitiation (The person emphasized bloodless offering) – [Lev. 2:1](#)
3. Peace – Reconciliation (animal blood) – [Lev. 3:1](#)

RESTORATION CATEGORY

1. Sin-Offering – Restoration – unknown sins – [Lev. 4:3](#)
2. Trespass Offering – acknowledging known sins – [Lev. 5:6](#)