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YouTube Prayer Link

Redemption of Christ

John 3:16

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Romans 3:23-24

"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and are now justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

Romans 5:8

"God's love was shown to us only in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

1 Timothy 2:5-6

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all."

1 Peter 1:18-19

"Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things such as silver or gold, from the vain ways inherited from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish or spot."

Ephesians 1:7

"We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me ."

These verses emphasize the redemptive act of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection brought mankind eternal redemption and the opportunity for reconciliation with God. These verses demonstrate the core concept of redemption in Christian teaching, namely, that through the sacrifice of Christ, human beings receive forgiveness of sins, new life, and a close relationship with God.

Detail of the sin offering. The sin offering is a sacrifice used to atone for the sins and defilements of the people, representing seeking God's forgiveness and forgiveness of sins

A Contrast Between the Sin Offering in the Old Testament and the Theological Thought in the New Testament

The Old and New Testaments represent the two main religious eras in the Bible, and are the core teachings of Judaism and Christianity, respectively. There are some important contrasts in the sin offering and theological thought in both ages.

Old Testament Sin Offerings:

The system of sin offerings is described in the Old Testament, especially in books such as Leviticus and Exodus. These sacrifices, usually animals, were used to atone for people's sins and uncleanness, reconciling them to God and society. The offering of these sacrifices was a symbolic representation of people's remorse for their sins and, through priestly rituals and blessings, hope for forgiveness and cleansing from God.

New Testament Theology:

The New Testament focuses primarily on Christian teachings, emphasizing the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The theological thinking of this era focuses on the redemptive act of Christ. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, human beings can obtain eternal life and the opportunity to be reconciled with God. This redemption no longer required animal sacrifices, but was achieved through the redemptive act of Christ.

Compared:

Sacrifice method: The sin offerings in the Old Testament required offering animals as sacrifices, but in the New Testament, Christ is regarded as the highest sin offering, and his death and resurrection are fundamental to the realization of human redemption.

Central figure: The atonement in the Old Testament focused on priests and sacrifices, while in the theological thought of the New Testament, Jesus Christ became the central figure in redemption, and his redemption affected the destiny of the entire human race.

Viewpoint on repentance: The sin offering in the Old Testament emphasized repentance and God's forgiveness, while in the New Testament, Christ's redemption emphasized God's love and grace for mankind, enabling people to better understand God's love and acceptance.

The nature of redemption: The sin offering of the Old Testament was partial and temporary and required constant repetition; while the redemption of the New Testament is comprehensive and eternal, accomplished once and no other sacrifices are required.

The sin offering in the Old Testament reflected people's desire to seek God's forgiveness, while the New Testament brought greater redemption and hope through Christ's redemptive action, emphasizing God's love, grace and human faith. The teachings of both ages, in different contexts, sought to demonstrate God's love and care to mankind.

Let us pray together

Dear Heavenly Father, we gather before you at this hour to thank you for your love and grace. We thank you for providing us with the redemption of Jesus Christ so that we may receive eternal life and reconciliation with you through his sacrifice.

Father, we confess our sins and transgressions, and we deeply need your forgiveness and cleansing. We thank you for sending Jesus Christ to be our sin offering, whose blood washed away our sins and enabled us to stand before you as your children.

Please help us to deeply understand the significance of Jesus' redemption, so that we can receive this redemption not only in words, but also in real life. Help us not forget your love and grace and feel your presence and guidance at all times.

We also pray for those who have not yet known Jesus Christ, may your truth and love touch their hearts so that they can understand and accept the salvation of Jesus.

Thank you, Father, for you are a loving Father whose plan of redemption has demonstrated your infinite love and concern for humanity throughout history. May we always live in your love and do your will in Jesus Christ name, amen.

Leviticus chapter 4

Le. 4:1 The LORD said to Moses,

Le. 4:2 "Say to the Israelites: 'When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the LORD's commands —

Le. 4:3 "If the anointed priest sins, bringing guilt on the people, he must bring to the LORD a young bull without defect as a sin offering for the sin he has committed.

Le. 4:4 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 before the LORD.

Le. 4:5 Then the anointed priest shall take some of the bull's blood and carry it into the Tent of Meeting.

Le. 4:6 He is to dip his finger into the blood and sprinkle some of it seven times before the LORD, in front of the curtain of the sanctuary.

Le. 4:7 The priest shall then put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense that is before the LORD in the Tent of Meeting. The rest of the bull's blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.

Le. 4:8 He shall remove all the fat from the bull of the sin offering — the fat that covers the inner parts or is connected to them,

Le. 4:9 both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the covering of the liver, which he will remove with the kidneys

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Le. 4:10 just as the fat is removed from the ox [The Hebrew word can include both male and female.] sacrificed as a fellowship offering. [Traditionally peace offering; also in verses 26, 31 and 35] Then the priest shall burn them on the altar of burnt offering.

Le. 4:11 But the hide of the bull and all its flesh, as well as the head and legs, the inner parts and offal —

Le. 4:12 that is, all the rest of the bull — he must take outside the camp to a place ceremonially clean, where the ashes are thrown, and burn it in a wood fire on the ash heap.

Le. 4:13 “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, they are guilty.

Le. 4:14 When they become aware of the sin they committed, the assembly must bring a young bull as a sin offering and present it before the Tent of Meeting.

Le. 4:15 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.

Le. 4:16 Then the anointed priest is to take some of the bull's blood into the Tent of Meeting.

Le. 4:17 He shall dip his finger into the blood and sprinkle it before the LORD seven times in front of the curtain.

Le. 4:18 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.

Le. 4:19 He shall remove all the fat from it and burn it on the altar,

Le. 4:20 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 them, and they will be forgiven.

Le. 4:21 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.

Le. 4:22 “When a leader sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the commands of the LORD his God, he is guilty.

Le. 4:23 When he is made aware of the sin he committed, he must

bring as his offering a male goat without defect.

Le. 4:24 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.

Le. 4:25 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.

Le. 4:26 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 man's sin, and he will be forgiven.

Le. 4:27 "If a member of the community sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the LORD's commands, he is guilty.

Le. 4:28 When he is made aware of the sin he committed, he must bring as his offering for the sin he committed a female goat without defect.

Le. 4:29 He is to lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter it at the place of the burnt offering.

Le. 4:30 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.

Le. 4:31 He 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 him, and he will be forgiven.

Le. 4:32 "If he brings a lamb as his sin offering, he is to bring a female without defect.

Le. 4:33 He is to lay his hand on its head and slaughter it for a sin offering at the place where the burnt offering is slaughtered.

Le. 4:34 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.

Le. 4:35 He shall remove all the fat, just as the fat is removed from the lamb of the fellowship offering, and the priest shall burn it on the altar on top of the offerings made to the LORD by fire. In this way the priest will make atonement for him for the sin he has committed, and he will be forgiven.

Chapter 4 of Leviticus in the Bible outlines the procedures for offering a sin offering to the Lord. The sin offering was made to atone for sins committed unintentionally, both by the priests and the common people.

The chapter explains that the type of animal used for the sin offering varied based on the person's status. If a priest sinned, he was to bring a young bull without blemish. If the entire community sinned, they were to bring a young bull as well. If a leader sinned, he was to bring a male goat without blemish, and if an individual sinned, they were to bring a female goat or lamb without blemish.

The person offering the sacrifice laid their hand on the animal's head, transferring their sins to the animal. The animal was then slaughtered, and the blood was sprinkled on the altar. The priest also put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of incense and poured the remaining blood at the base of the altar.

The animal was then cut into pieces, and the fat was removed and burned on the altar. The remaining meat was either burned outside the camp or eaten by the priests in a holy place.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of confessing sins and seeking forgiveness from the Lord. The sin offering was a way for the people to make atonement for their sins and to maintain their relationship with God. It was seen as a necessary part of their religious practice and a way to maintain purity and holiness.

Key verses from the chapter:

Verse 2: "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'If a person sins unintentionally against any of the commandments of the Lord in anything which ought not to be done, and does any of them,'"

Verse 3: "if the anointed priest sins, bringing guilt on the people, then let him offer to the Lord for his sin which he has sinned a young bull without blemish as a sin offering."

Verse 12: "that is, all the rest of the bull, he shall bring outside the camp to a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn it on wood with fire; where the ashes are poured out it shall be burned."

Verse 35: "And he shall remove all its fat, as the fat of the lamb is removed from the sacrifice of the peace offering. Then the priest shall burn it on the altar, according to the offerings made by fire to the Lord. So the priest shall make atonement for his sin that he has committed, and it shall be forgiven him."

These verses describe the process for offering a sin offering, which was meant to atone for unintentional sins committed by the people, the anointed priest, or the congregation as a whole. The offering had to be a specific animal without blemish, depending on the rank of the person sinning. The blood of the animal was sprinkled on the altar, and the rest of the animal was burned outside the camp. The fat of the animal was burned on the altar as a sweet-smelling offering to the Lord. The sin offering was a way to receive forgiveness and atonement for unintentional sins.

Chapter 4 of the Book of Leviticus in the Bible focuses on the instructions for sin offerings. These sin offerings were meant to provide atonement and forgiveness for unintentional sins committed by individuals or the entire community. Here is a reflection on the key themes and lessons found in Leviticus chapter 4:

Sin and the Need for Atonement: Leviticus 4 highlights the reality of sin and the need for atonement. It acknowledges that even the Israelites, who were God's chosen people, were prone to sinning unintentionally. The chapter describes different scenarios where sin offerings were required to address these sins.

Reflection: This chapter reminds us of the universal human condition of sinfulness. It emphasizes the importance of acknowledging our sins, both intentional and unintentional, and seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God. It teaches us humility and the need for continuous repentance and reliance on God's grace for forgiveness.

The Role of the Priest: In the sin offerings, the priest played a crucial role as the mediator between the people and God. The priest would offer the sacrifice and make intercession on behalf of the individual or the community, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God.

Reflection: The role of the priest in the sin offerings points to the significance of having a mediator between humanity and God. In Christianity, Jesus Christ is seen as the ultimate High

Priest who offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. His sacrifice enables us to approach God directly and find forgiveness, without the need for continual animal sacrifices.

Repentance and Restitution: Leviticus 4 emphasizes the importance of repentance and restitution. The one who brought the sin offering was required to confess their sin and make restitution for the wrong committed.

Reflection: The chapter teaches us the value of genuine repentance and taking responsibility for our actions. It reminds us that true repentance involves not only confessing our sins to God but also making amends and seeking reconciliation with those we have wronged. It encourages us to take personal responsibility for our actions and strive to live in a way that aligns with God's commands.

The Cost of Sin: The sin offerings described in Leviticus 4 involved the sacrifice of animals, which represented the cost and consequences of sin. The shedding of blood was a powerful reminder of the seriousness of sin and the need for atonement.

Reflection: The cost of sin depicted in the sin offerings points to the seriousness and gravity of our offenses against God. It highlights the high price that had to be paid for forgiveness and reconciliation. It should lead us to appreciate the sacrificial act of Jesus Christ, who willingly gave His life to pay the ultimate price for our sins.

In summary, Leviticus chapter 4 highlights the themes of sin and the need for atonement, the role of the priest as a mediator, repentance and restitution, and the cost of sin. It calls us to acknowledge our sins, seek forgiveness and reconciliation with God, and recognize the sacrificial act of Jesus as the ultimate solution for our sins. It also emphasizes the importance of repentance and taking responsibility for our actions.