

The Burnt Offering

Total Dedication to God

Leviticus 1:1-17

The Five Offerings of Leviticus

God established a comprehensive system of worship through five offerings. *Each one reveals a different aspect of our relationship with Him.*



Burnt Offering

Leviticus 1



Meal Offering

Leviticus 2



Peace Offering

Leviticus 3



Sin Offering

Leviticus 4-5



Trespass Offering

Leviticus 5-6

Each offering can be understood through a single, powerful concept that captures its essential meaning and purpose in the worship life of Israel.

1

Burnt Offering

DEDICATION

2

Meal Offering

SERVICE

3

Peace Offering

FELLOWSHIP

4

Sin Offering

FORGIVENESS

5

Trespass Offering

RESTITUTION

The First Burnt Offering

"Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma..."

Genesis 8:20-21

Noah's first priority was worship. He constructed an altar and offered burnt offerings to the Lord—a beautiful picture of gratitude and dedication.

God Desires More Than Ritual

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, or steadfast love and to walk humbly with your God?” - **Micah 6:6-8**

The Burnt Offering Defined

"If his offering be a burnt sacrifice... let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will... And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him... And the priest shall burn all on the altar... of a sweet savour unto the LORD."

Leviticus 1:3-4, 9

Complete Consumption

The entire animal was burned on the altar. Nothing held back.

Personal Identification

The worshiper placed hands on the animal, transferring identity.

Pleasing Aroma

The smoke ascended to God as a sweet-smelling sacrifice.

The Hebrew Word: *ōlâ* (olah) - Strongs :H5930

עֹלָה

OLAH

burnt offering (285x), ascent (1x), go up (1x).

1 Kings 10:5 - “and his **ascent** by which he went up unto the house of the LORD”

Ezekiel 40:26 - “And there were seven steps **to go up** to it (The Temple)

It's not just about burning—it's about turning something into a fragrance, like incense.

A pleasant smell that rises to God

Three Types of Animals

God's grace shines through in the variety of acceptable burnt offerings. Whether wealthy or poor, every person could approach God with a sacrificial gift according to their means.

1 Bullock
For the wealthy (*Leviticus 1:3-9*)
A bull or ox represented substantial value

2 Ram or Goat
For moderate means (*Leviticus 1:10-13*)
Sheep and goats were more accessible to the average Israelite family.

3 Turtle Dove or Pigeon
For the poor (*Leviticus 1:14-17*)
Even the poorest worshiper could bring birds, showing that God welcomes all who come with sincere hearts, regardless of economic status.

It Must Cost Something

"Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which cost me nothing."

2 Samuel 24:24

Genuine Dedication to God Requires Genuine Sacrifice

"If you offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? If you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Will a man rob God?"

Malachi 1:8

STEP 1

The Choice

"Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which cost me nothing."

2 Samuel 24:24



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"If you offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? If you offer the lame, and sick, is it not evil?"

Perfect Animal
Your prize possession—flawless, valuable, deeply loved
Malachi 1:8

Blemished Animal
Still alive and useful (kinda), but flawed and imperfect

Which would you rather give?



STEP 2

The Walk to the Tabernacle

Public Dedication

Walking through your village with your offering held high

Eyes Watching

Neighbors and friends observing your sacrifice

Voices Mocking

"How foolish to give away your best!"

Dedication to God cannot be hidden

STEP 3

Laying on of Hands

*"And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering;
and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him."*

— Leviticus 1:4

Identification

"This animal dies in my place. **My sin caused this death.** I deserve what this animal is about to suffer."



STEP 4

The Killing



"For the life of the flesh is in the blood... it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

— Leviticus 17:11

Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness

The Hebrew Word: kāpār - Strongs :H3722



kāpār

to cover, purge, make an atonement, make
reconciliation, cover over with pitch(tar)

Leviticus 1:4 - "shall be accepted for him to make
atonement for him"

Genesis 6:14 - "Make yourself an ark of gopher
wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside
and out with **pitch.**"

The same word used for waterproofing a boat is also used for atonement.

You are now covered and acceptable before God.

Roles & Responsibilities

■ The Offerer (7 steps)

■ The Priest (5 steps)

1

Select the Animal

Male, without blemish

OFFERER

Lev 1:3

2

Bring to the Tabernacle

To the door of the tabernacle of meeting

OFFERER

Lev 1:3

3

Lay Hand on the Head

Identification — the animal becomes substitute

OFFERER

Lev 1:4

4

Receive the Offering

Priest accepts and oversees what follows

PRIEST

Lev 1:5

5

Slaughter the Animal

The offerer kills the animal before the LORD

OFFERER

Lev 1:5

6

Sprinkle the Blood

Blood sprinkled around the altar on all sides

PRIEST

Lev 1:5

7

Skin the Animal

Offerer removes the hide (priest keeps it — Lev 7:8)

OFFERER

Lev 1:6

8

Cut into Pieces

Animal divided into its parts

OFFERER

Lev 1:6

9

Arrange Fire & Wood on Altar

Priest builds and lights the fire

PRIEST

Lev 1:7

10

Wash Legs & Inner Parts

Offerer washes with water — internal cleansing

OFFERER

Lev 1:9

11

Arrange Pieces on the Altar

Head, fat, and pieces laid in order

PRIEST

Lev 1:8

12

Burn the Entire Offering

A sweet aroma — a fire offering to the LORD

PRIEST

Lev 1:9

The Skin

“the priest that offers any man’s burnt offering, even **the priest shall have to himself the skin** of the burnt offering which he has offered.” - Leviticus 7:8

God doesn’t care about outward appearance

“The LORD looks on the heart.”

— 1 Samuel 16:7

“He hath **clothed** me with the **garments of salvation**, he hath **covered** me with the **robe of righteousness.**”

- Isaiah 61:10



STEP 6

The Sacred Order

"And the priests, Aaron's sons, shall lay the parts, the head, and the fat, in order upon the wood... But his inwards and his legs shall he wash in water..."

— Leviticus 1:8-9

Every detail has **meaning**

The Order of Placement



FIRST: The HEAD

Your mind, intelligence, thoughts

John 6:38 - "not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."



SECOND: The FAT

Your best, deepest affections

Leviticus 3:16 - "All the fat is the LORD's."

Genesis 45:18 - "ye shall eat the fat of the land"

Isaiah 55:2 - "Let your soul delight itself in fatness"



THIRD: The INWARDS

Your heart

Hebrew word for inwards in this verse "gereb" means "the nearest part" —the center, the core. It's translated "heart" in Jeremiah 9:8.



FOURTH: The LEGS

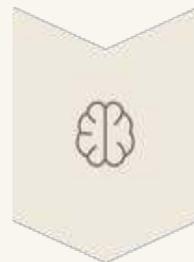
Your walk, strength, daily steps

Psalms 119:9 - "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word."

The Greatest Commandment

The burnt offering physically demonstrates this commandment!

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **mind**, and with all thy **strength**." Mark 12:33



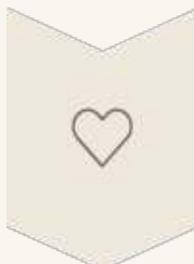
Head = Mind

Love Him with all your intellectual capacity, your thoughts, your reasoning, your understanding.



Fat = Soul

Love Him with all your affections, your emotions, your deepest desires and treasured loves.



Inwards = Heart

Love Him with all your inner being, your true self, the core of who you are.



Legs = Strength

Love Him with all your actions, your energy, your work, your daily walk through life.

STEP 7

The Fire That Burns All Night

"The burnt offering is to remain on the altar hearth throughout the night, till morning, and the fire must be kept burning on the altar."

— Leviticus 6:9



What God is asking from us

"To obey is better than sacrifice"

1 Samuel 15:22

Obedience over empty ritual

"I desired mercy, and not sacrifice"

Hosea 6:6

**Compassion toward others
reflects true worship more
than religious performance**

"Do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly"

Micah 6:8

Justice, kindness, and humility

"And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love the neighbour as himself, is **MORE** than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Mark 12:33

THE LAW REQUIRED

The animal had to be without blemish

Leviticus 1:3

The offerer laid hands on the animal, identifying with it

Leviticus 1:4

Blood was shed at the altar

Leviticus 1:5

Everything was burned/ nothing held back

Leviticus 1:5

The animal was voluntarily offered

Leviticus 1:3

The sweet aroma ascended to God

Leviticus 1:13

The washing of the inner parts

Leviticus 1:9



CHRIST FULFILLED

Jesus was sinless

Hebrews 4:15

Jesus identified with us completely, taking our sin upon Himself

2 Corinthians 5:21

Jesus' blood was shed for our sake

Hebrews 9:12

Jesus held nothing back

Philippians 2:7-8

Christ gave his life of his own accord

John 10:18

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"

Matthew 3:17

He was clean all the way through

John 19:4

When Offerings Work Together

Throughout Scripture, we see multiple offerings used in conjunction for a special purpose

1

Healed Leper

Leviticus 14

Sin offering (for atonement) + burnt offering (for rededication to community life)

2

Broken Nazarite Vow

Numbers 6:11

Sin offering (for atonement) + burnt offering (for rededication to God)

3

After Childbirth

Leviticus 12:8

Sin offering (acknowledging sin) + burnt offering (dedication to God)

4

Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16

National sin offering (for cleansing and atonement) + burnt offering (for collective commitment to God)

Sequence matters—sin offerings almost always precede burnt offerings, teaching that atonement must come before acceptable service.

We cannot offer ourselves to God while in an unreconciled state.

The **comprehensiveness** of multiple offerings shows that different aspects of our relationship with God need addressing—not just **forgiveness**, but **dedication, fellowship, and gratitude**.



The Meal Offering

“And the priest shall take from the meal offering its memorial portion and burn this on the altar, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord .“ - *Leviticus 2:9*

If the Burnt Offering represents **who you are (Faith)**, the Meal Offering represents **what you do (Works)**