

Laws for Peace Offerings

Leviticus 3:1 "If your offering is a fellowship offering, and you offer an animal from the herd, whether male or female, you are to present before the LORD an animal without defect.

Lev 3:2 You are to lay your hand on the head of your offering and slaughter it at the entrance to the tent of meeting. Then Aaron's sons the priests shall splash the blood against the sides of the altar.

Lev 3:3 From the fellowship offering you are to bring a food offering to the LORD: the internal organs and all the fat that is connected to them,

Lev 3:4 both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the long lobe of the liver, which you will remove with the kidneys.

Lev 3:5 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.

Lev 3:6 "If you offer an animal from the flock as a fellowship offering to the LORD, you are to offer a male or female without defect.

Lev 3:7 If you offer a lamb, you are to present it before the LORD,

Lev 3:8 lay your hand on its head and slaughter it in front of the tent of meeting. Then Aaron's sons shall splash its blood against the sides of the altar.

Lev 3:9 From the fellowship offering you are to bring a food offering to the LORD: its fat, the entire fat tail cut off close to the backbone, the internal organs and all the fat that is connected to them,

Lev 3:10 both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the long lobe of the liver, which you will remove with the kidneys.

Lev 3:11 The priest shall burn them on the altar as a food offering presented to the LORD.

Lev 3:12 "If your offering is a goat, you are to present it before the LORD,

Lev 3:13 lay your hand on its head and slaughter it in front of the tent of meeting. Then Aaron's sons shall splash its blood against the sides of the altar.

Lev 3:14 From what you offer you are to present this food offering to the LORD: the internal organs and all the fat that is connected to them,

Lev 3:15 both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the long lobe of the liver, which you will remove with the kidneys.

Lev 3:16 The priest shall burn them on the altar as a food offering, a pleasing aroma. All the fat is the LORD's.

Lev 3:17 "This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live: You must not eat any fat or any blood."

- **Sacrificial System:** Leviticus 3 outlines peace offerings, which symbolize fellowship with God, paralleling Christ's role as the ultimate sacrifice.

Hebrews 10:1 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Heb 10:2 Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.

Heb 10:3 But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins.

Heb 10:4 It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Heb 10:5 Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;

Heb 10:6 with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.

Heb 10:7 Then I said, 'Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll-- I have come to do your will, my God.'

Heb 10:8 First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"--though they were offered in accordance with the law.

Heb 10:9 Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second.

Heb 10:10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- **Symbolism of Offerings:** The unblemished animal offerings in Leviticus foreshadow Jesus as the perfect Lamb of God (John 1:29).

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Colossians 1:19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,

Col 1:20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

- **Communal Aspect:** The sharing of the peace offering reflects the communal aspect of the early church in Acts, emphasizing fellowship among believers.

Matthew 5:23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, Mat 5:24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 2:43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

Act 2:44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.

Act 2:45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Act 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

Act 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- **Covenant Relationship:** The offerings signify a covenant relationship with God, which is fulfilled in the New Covenant through Jesus' sacrifice (Hebrews 9:11-28)

Hebrews 9:11 But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation.

Heb 9:12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Heb 9:13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.

Heb 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Heb 9:15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Heb 9:16 In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it,

Heb 9:17 because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living.

Heb 9:18 This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood.

Heb 9:19 When Moses had proclaimed every command of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people.

Heb 9:20 He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep."

Heb 9:21 In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies.

Heb 9:22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Heb 9:23 It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Heb 9:24 For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

Heb 9:25 Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own.

Heb 9:26 Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Heb 9:27 Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,

Heb 9:28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

- **Joyful Worship:** The peace offering was a celebration of gratitude, similar to the joyful worship encouraged in the New Testament (Philippians 4:4-9).

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Php 4:5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Php 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Php 4:7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Php 4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things.

Php 4:9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

- **Restoration and Reconciliation:** Both Leviticus 3 and the New Testament emphasize themes of restoration and reconciliation with God through sacrifice.

Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Eph 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,

Eph 2:15 by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,

Eph 2:16 and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

Eph 2:17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

Eph 2:18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom 5:2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

1Corinthians 10:16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

1Co 10:17 Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

1Co 10:18 Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar?

1Co 10:19 Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything?

1Co 10:20 No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons.

1Co 10:21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons.