

Study Notes and Questions for Leviticus 5-9

- Comment on the following quote about Leviticus: “In one sense ... the whole ceremonial law in Leviticus is obsolete for the Christian. We are interested in the sacrifice of Christ, not in animal sacrifice. But in another sense the Levitical rituals are still of immense relevance. It was in terms of these sacrifices that Jesus himself and the early church understood his atoning death. Leviticus provided the theological models for their understanding. If we wish to walk in our Lord’s steps and think his thoughts after him, we must attempt to understand the sacrificial system of Leviticus. It was established by the same God who sent his Son to die for us; and in rediscovering the principles of Old Testament worship written there, we may learn something of the way we should approach a holy God.”
- The law was given in a context of grace in that God gave His law to Israel *after* they had been redeemed from their slavery in Egypt, not as a means for securing their salvation. How does this speak to our own call to holiness today?
- Study Note: “At the beginning of nearly every chapter, and often several times within a chapter, it says, ‘The LORD spoke to Moses.’ In other words, all the laws are set within a narrative framework. According to the author they were revealed to Moses during Israel’s wilderness wanderings to meet specific problems that arose at that time.”
- Re-read **Leviticus 6:7**. How does the following quote give insight into this passage?

“To make atonement for sin is to have the penalty paid and the guilt removed. Here lies the significance and the glory of the Old Testament sacrifices, although they were not in themselves efficacious. They were only types and shadows (Hebrews 8:5) and therefore were repeated regularly and often, until the Great High Priest should come who would in a new priesthood offer a final sacrifice to effect atonement for his people.”

- For the perpetual burnt offering mentioned in 6:8–9, what was God wanting His people to understand through this continuous offering?
- What do the provisions for the sin and guilt offerings teach us about God’s holiness?
- What does the role of the Old Testament High Priest tell us about the fulfillment of that role by Jesus our Lord?