



VAYIKRA - AND HE CALLED

Leviticus 1:1 to 6:7
Isaiah 43:21 to 44:23
Hebrews 10: 1-18
Romans 8:1-13

Introduction

🌿 **Exodus 19:5-6** “Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

The book of *Exodus* teaches the proper materials, order and functionality of the Tabernacle. However, as the dwelling place of Yahweh is to be kept *holy*, the maintenance of the Tabernacle rested solely on the *Levites*, more precisely the *Kohath Levites*, as they were the acting priests and caretakers. Therefore, the narration paused to impart this teaching to the Levites (*Leviticus*) and present their individual roles in the care of the Tabernacle. We note how important this function is today when we observe Peter in the New Testament/*Brit Chadashah* addressing his first letter by quoting Exodus 19:5-6 to the believers saying “*you are a royal priesthood and a holy nation.*”

🌿 **1 Peter 2:9** “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God/*Elohim*, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

The book of *Exodus* teaches Yeshua’s Bride the ways of her Bridegroom’s Covenant and Kingdom. The book of *Leviticus* teaches the Bride how to walk in the role of priesthood as Yeshua; her Bridegroom is also *the High Priest*. Therefore, the Bride’s wedding preparations are in *Leviticus* along with the anointing and empowering of the Holy Spirit (Revelation 21:9-10).

🌿 **Hebrews 8:1-2** “now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest [*Yeshua*], who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true Tabernacle which the Lord [*Yeshua*] erected, and not man.”

While Moses was on Mount Sinai, he saw the heavenly Tabernacle. Yahweh gave him detailed instruction on how the Israelites were to recreate the exact pattern for the Tabernacle to be legal on the earth. Therefore, accuracy is imperative.

In Our Likeness

🌿 **Genesis 1:26-27** “Then God/*Elohim* said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness’ So God/*Elohim* created man in His *own* image; in the image of God/*Elohim* He created him; male and female He created them.”

Likeness:

Strong’s H1823 דְּמוּת *demuwth*

Paleo-Hebrew 1082. The root picture is *a door and water*.

Door represents the idea of moving back and forth.

Water can represent any liquid, especially *blood*.

Combined these two words represent “the moving back and forth of water” or the “flowing of blood.” **Similarly, the grape plant takes water from the ground (earth) and moves it to the fruit where the water becomes the blood of the grape.** The blood of man is also water, which moves through the body. A son from the blood of his father resembles his father.

In John 2, during the wedding at Cana, Yeshua turned the *water* into *wine*. In this demonstration, Yeshua imparted a prophetic message to detail His image and how man (earth) is made in His likeness through His blood. Without the understanding of the root word *likeness*, His people would not *see* or *recognize* that He is God’s/*Elohim* heavenly word (Yeshua/pattern/tabernacle) manifest in the flesh on the earth.

🌿 **John 2:9-10** “When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, ‘Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the *guests* have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!’” (John 1:1, 14).

🌿 **Hebrews 8:1-2** “Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest [*Yeshua*], who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord/*Adonai* erected, and not man.

🌿 **Ezekiel 37:27** “My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God/*Elohim*, and they shall be My people.”

🌿 **Revelation 21:3** “Behold, the tabernacle of God/*Elohim* is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God/*Elohim* Himself will be with them *and be* their God/*Elohim*.”

Upon Yeshua's death, water and blood poured from His pierced side revealing one of the many witnesses to the truth that He is the Father's word made flesh (1John 5:6-8 KJV/NKJ)

🌿 **John 19:33-35** “But when they came to Jesus/*Yeshua* and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe” (1John 5:20).

🌿 **1 John 5:6-8** “6 This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.”

🌿 **John 17:18-24** “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

The Law of the Temple

Chapters 40 through 48 of the book of Ezekiel are full of *prophecy* that is yet to unfold. Thus, these words are still applicable *today*. In chapter 43, Ezekiel records the correct ruling concerning God's/*Elohim* house. Since the Temple/Tabernacle pattern is *eternal*, it also is prophetic. Consequently, the directive for the Tabernacle pattern outlined in Exodus is still used today as a *measuring line*.

🌿 **Ezekiel 43:10-12** “Son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern. And *if* they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write *it* down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them. This is the law of the temple: The whole area surrounding the mountaintop *is* most holy. Behold, this *is* the law of the temple.”

What pattern would cause believers to feel ashamed? The pattern Ezekiel referred to was the template of the heavenly Tabernacle given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Ezekiel said, “Let them *measure* the pattern.” The guilty ones were those who had missed the mark by not copying the prescribed heavenly path of righteousness on the earth. Thus, their iniquity was exposed for all to see. How so? Believers are told to walk in an exact copy of the Tabernacle, as man is made in God’s/*Elohim* image. A measurement is taken to see if the *copy* matches the *original* pattern. If the copy is out of order, the amount missed is calculated against them. Seeing how much a believer missed the target made them feel ashamed, as they knew the way but had not applied it in their life.

If one missed interpreting the pattern *exactly* (slightly or by a wide margin), the word *sin* described the Hebrew term for *missing the mark, goal, purpose or intent of the word / pattern*. *Sin* is Strong’s H2403 מִדָּוָר *chatta* means to *measure, cord or miss*. Cords are used for binding as well as measuring. Knots were placed in the cord to measure the distance between two points. When one missed the target or was off the mark, the distance missed was measured. The wrong action was then measured against the correct action and therefore, called *sin*.

Ezekiel not only gave a word of admonishment but also encouraged Yahweh’s people. He showed believers how to re-examine their walk and how to return to right order through the measurement and pattern of Yahweh’s house.

🌿 **Ezekiel 43:11** “And *if* they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write *it* down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them.”

Yeshua came to restore those lost. He accomplished this through the Law of the Tabernacle/Temple, the same law that He initially imparted to Moses. “*For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he [Moses] wrote about Me [Yeshua]. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?*” Yeshua taught His people the pattern of the Tabernacle through a prayer. “*Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.*” The pattern Ezekiel prophesied is the prayer Yeshua taught His people to pray each day (John 5:46-47).

“*Give us our daily bread*” was also part of Yeshua’s daily prayer. His daily bread reminds His people to look into His word for understanding. By keeping the pattern of His Kingdom before them, they would choose to walk in His image, likeness, and life every day. Paul also taught believers there was no other image or pattern believers were to follow.

🌿 **1 Corinthians 3:10-11** “According to the grace of God/*Elohim* which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*.”

The Tabernacle is the picture and image of Yeshua, His character, and His Kingdom. To walk in Yeshua's authority on earth believers are required to walk in His image. When earth mirrors the Tabernacle pattern in heaven, God's/*Elohim* glory fills the Temple - our heart (Exodus 40:33-36). The *outline* of Yeshua's priesthood is found in the book of *Exodus*. However, the *detail* of the priest is described in the book of *Leviticus*.

The Tabernacle was not for the nations but believers. That being said, *all* people and nations are welcome. However, the only approach into the Tabernacle is through the person Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*. He is the door (Exodus 19:5-6; John 10:7-10; 1 Peter 2:9).

🌿 **John 10:7-10** “Then Jesus/*Yeshua* said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.”

The outer court that surrounds the Tabernacle, with all of its furnishings and activities, is set in such a way as to teach Yeshua's people *how to walk in His Kingdom*. As the Bride is made in the image of the High Priest, her thoughts, attitude, speech, and walk cannot be common, carnal (worldly) or mixed in nature but reflect Yeshua and His Kingdom. It is here, in the outer court, that she learns to speak, act and walk as her King/Bridegroom would that brings her to the door of His Chambers - His Tabernacle - to dwell with Him. Thus, the book of *Leviticus* is for one in pursuit of her Bridegroom, destined for the throne (Genesis 9:6).

🌿 **Acts 7:48-50** “However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: ‘Heaven *is* My throne, and earth *is* My footstool. What house will you build for Me? says the Lord/*Adonai*, or what *is* the place of My rest? Has My hand not made all these things?’ (Isaiah 66:1-2)

🌿 **Revelation 3:20-22** “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

All in Yeshua have a choice. Yeshua redeemed His people to give them equal opportunity to come to His dwelling place. When Yeshua offered Himself in payment for the sin and guilt offerings, no other hindrances were left against the Bride. All now are provided access to His Kingdom. Up to this point, the twelve tribes could only enter the outer court, the area that surrounded the Tabernacle and only under the aid of a Levite. As a *commoner*, they could not proceed past the Brazen Altar, enter the Tabernacle or the Holy of Holies. Those areas were reserved for the priests and the High Priest. Now, those who emulate the King/*Yeshua* by walking in His pattern have the opportunity to enter.

Understanding the Tabernacle pattern is the critical maturing step in a believer's walk, as the Tabernacle/His Kingdom is a matter of *holiness*. If believers miss this vital detail, their walk may miss the fullness of inheritance as promised in His Word. All who came out of the Exodus and those in Yeshua received the same gift of the Gospel. Sadly, only a few will choose to walk the narrow path of holiness. Not all Israel is Israel. In other words, not all believers desire holiness (Isaiah 63:10-11; 2 Samuel 6; Matthew 7:13-14, 22:14; Luke 13:24; Romans 9:6-13; Galatians 3:8).

✿ **Matthew 22:14** “For many are called, but few (“*are*” is not in the original) chosen [*choose*].”

✿ **Matthew 7:13-14** “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

✿ **Ezekiel 44:10-16** “And the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity. Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the house and ministers of the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them. Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised My hand in an oath against them,” says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Elohim*, “that they shall bear their iniquity. And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed. Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the temple, for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it. But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood,” says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Elohim*. They shall enter My sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.”

The Ezekiel 44:10-16 is also prophetic and speaks of the future, thus still applicable *today*.

As mentioned earlier, only priests were allowed to enter the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*, thus, it is important for believers to understand the function of the Tabernacle/Temple. Learning to walk in Yeshua's courts brings correction and abundant life, which elevates one from the life of commonality to life in the royal courts of His Kingdom. The book of *Leviticus* is where the Bride gains wisdom and understanding of The King through His Spirit Life. This knowledge provides oil for the Bride's lamp (Exodus 19:5-6; Ezekiel 43:10-12; 1 Peter 2:9)

🌿 **Matthew 7:24-27** “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine [Yeshua’s Ten Wedding Vows with their 613 supporting Principles] and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, and streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against the house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

The Priesthood – The Firstborn Son

Abrahamic Covenant is about kingship. Originally the priesthood was through the firstborn son who was heir to the Kingdom. Adam was the firstborn son. So was Noah etc. They represented the King and acted on His behalf in His Kingdom on earth.

🌿 **Exodus 13:2** “Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.”

Jacob had twelve sons who became the twelve tribes of *Israel*. Twelve represents Yahweh’s government upon the earth.

🌿 “Israel is My son, My firstborn” (Exodus 4:23).

The firstborn from these tribes became Yahweh’s priesthood. However, many adulterated themselves by worshipping the golden calf at Mount Sinai. Thus, their firstborn status was *set-aside for a season*. Yahweh raised one tribe, the Levites, to serve as a perpetual priesthood before Him until Messiah’s days of redemption of the firstborn in Him.

🌿 **Numbers 3:12-13** “I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine, *because all the firstborn are Mine. On the day that I struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the LORD/Yahweh.*”

The pattern and teachings given us in Leviticus are vital for the restoration of Yeshua’s priesthood. According to Scripture, His priesthood will function in the order of Melchizedek (king/priest) representing His Heavenly Kingdom on earth (Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10).

🌿 **Revelation 1:5-6, 5:9-10** “and from Jesus Christ/Yeshua Ha Mashiach, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, [of] priests to His God/Elohim and Father; to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast

slain, and didst purchase for God/*Elohim* with Thy blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. And Thou hast made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God/*Elohim*; and they will reign upon the earth.” (NAS)

Establishing Kingdom Order in Our Lives

The *Abrahamic Covenant* offers the gift of redemption (kingship) and establishes the believer’s identity *as part of Israel*. The covenant that it supports is the *Mosaic Covenant* in which Moses imparts the pattern of the Bridegroom’s Kingdom to the Bride and the manual for life called *the Gospel*. The specific details for the priesthood are contained in *Leviticus*. Without *Leviticus*, Yeshua’s people will not know how to enter His Bridal Chamber.

✠ **John 14:15** [*Yeshua said,*] “If you love Me, keep My commandments [*the Mosaic Covenant*].”

✠ **John 14:21** “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

Choose Life

If believers choose not to follow Yahweh’s instructions for life, they will incur the folly of their choices by opening themselves up to the realms that bring death. It is their choosing. In history, some taught Yahweh’s *loving* instructions in a manner that brought legalism upon His people. Living in bondage to the letter of the law brings death (Matthew 23:4). Early church fathers like Marcion began to teach a two-deity principle stating that God in the Old Testament (Torah) was no longer valid now that the Church was under the New Covenant of grace in Jesus. They translated the word for Torah under a generic Greek term called *nomos* (*law*). By doing this, they mixed *the law of life* (Torah) and *the law of sin and death* with *man-made religious laws* into one generic term called *nomos*. This interpretation made it hard for believers to discern which “law” the bible verse was referring. In doing that, Yahweh’s loving instruction began to take on an unfavorable quality among the New Testament believers. Marcion taught that anything to do with *the law of the God of the Old Testament* was bad, and the *law of Jesus in the New Testament* was like a “new” law and good. However, Paul in Romans 3:31 taught differently.

✠ **Romans 3:31** “Do we then make void the law [*Torah*] through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law [*Torah – Yahweh’s loving teaching and instruction*].”

✠ **Matthew 23:23** Yeshua said, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, *and have neglected the weightier matters of the law [Torah]: [which are] justice and mercy and faith.*”

Separated from Yahweh's teaching and instruction for many generations, the people began to see Torah as a strange thing. However, Yahweh said He would return His people to His loving kindness (His teaching and instruction) and restore them in the last days (Hosea 8:12; Amos 8:11-13; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:8-12) (Strong's H8451 Hebrew for *Torah*. G3551 Greek for *nomos* (For more information on the word *nomos* see *Devarim*/Words: Deuteronomy 1 www.sheepfoldgleanings.com).

🌿 **Amos 8:11** "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord/*Adonai* GOD/*Elohim*, "That I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD/*Yahweh*."

Grace or Redemption?

Many mainline Christian denominations spend most of their time focused on Jesus death on the cross and less on His resurrection, which they celebrate only once a year. With this mindset, people tend to stop at the cross and only look at half the Gospel message - *grace* and *forgiveness*. However, the whole purpose of the cross is that Yeshua *rose from the dead*. The miracle of Yeshua's death is His resurrection. His resurrection showed the people they were not only a *forgiven* people but also a *redeemed* people - *no longer sinners*. This is important, as only a few teach the redeemed *how* to walk in a redeemed lifestyle. Giving the full Gospel message, the same message Moses and the Israelites received at Mount Sinai, is what drew thousands to Yeshua and made the Pharisees envious.

🌿 **John 6:68** "But Simon Peter answered Him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.' "

What happens when people learn that Yeshua forgave their sin on the cross, but *they sin after their born again experience*? At the cross, Yeshua *appropriated* forgiveness for all *past, present* and *future sin*. However, does this mean the believer, now that he or she is born again, no longer needs to obey His instructions spoken at Mount Sinai? No. They need to repent for the sin they committed after their vow of obedience. Otherwise, that sin will be outstanding against them.

🌿 **John 5:46-47** [*Yeshua said*], "For if you [*My people*] believed Moses, you [*Bride*] would believe Me [*the Bridegroom*]; for he [*Moses*] wrote about Me [*at Mount Sinai*]. But if you [*Bride*] do not believe his writings [*the pattern of My Kingdom spoken at Mount Sinai*], how will you believe My words [*today*]?"

In Leviticus, believers are taught *what* sin is and *how* to walk out their sanctification and redemption through Yeshua's prescribed instructions for their restoration as shown in the Tabernacle. If they do not follow His direction, that "new sin" will activate against them bringing a separation in their relationship. The original design measures all sin in a believer's life *before* and *after* the cross. If the copy of His pattern is off, then that amount needs to be corrected. If not, consequences occur. The offer of forgiveness is graciously appropriated for believers through Yeshua's death, and His hand of redemption is always extended. However, the same rules that were given at Mount Sinai

still apply today. Through Leviticus believers learn *how* to acknowledge their sin, take responsibility for it through repentance and by implementing the appropriate action of restitution, thereby turning away from repeating the same sin over and over again.

Believers also know that their walk is more than a good-feely emotion. Love, if applied, as Yeshua taught, is the *grace* of God/*Elohim* that causes a life changing behavior in people's lives. What we lack in the body of believers today is not a belief system but *the instructions for how to walk out redemption*.

Zacchaeus

In Luke 19, Yeshua had dinner with Zacchaeus and his associates. They were sinners who were still in their sin, as sin and redemption had not properly been explained to them. It was the job of the Pharisees, but in Yeshua's day, they shunned and judged the sinner. Yeshua took the time to sit among Zacchaeus and friends to describe dishonor in a way that did not make them feel uncomfortable, condemned or guilty. Yeshua's sincerity and truth encouraged them *to repent and take responsibility*. Yeshua shared the *principle* behind what sin was and gave them the *grace* on how to cleanse themselves of their sin. This understanding made all the difference and created miracles that changed people's lives *forever*.

The principles Yeshua taught were directly from the *Mosaic Covenant* listed in the book of Leviticus. Not one person at Zacchaeus' that night had heard of redemption before. At this dinner, Yeshua shared the spiritual food for the *salvation of their souls* and then shared *how to have eternal life by choosing to turn from their sin* (circumcising sin from their hearts).

Redemption is not about leaving people at forgiveness. It is about washing the body of guilt and sin (Ephesians 5:26). Without the redemptive application, grace and forgiveness have no power and fall flat. After Yeshua had healed the people, time and time again He said, "*sin no more*." He could only say this *if* the people were taught what sin was and shown how to deal with it appropriately. This understanding gave His people a disciplined life through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit that enabled them to walk away from sin and never return.

If the explanation of *what* sin is and *how* one is to take responsibility to cleanse one's self is missing, then there is *no Gospel message* (no grace). That is called *being religious*. Yeshua taught His people through Moses (Leviticus) *to cleanse from sin, not stay in it*. The Gospel according to Moses is where believers learn the goal of their salvation and the importance of redemption that leads to *eternal life* (Micah 6:8). No one can come into the presence of Yahweh in a sinful state. Try as they might, it just does not work that way (John 5:45-46; 2 Timothy 3:2-5).

I don't know of anyone who came to Yeshua's salvation clean and without spot or wrinkle. All are covered in sin. When believers move past the crucifixion, they can grasp *how to cleanse themselves*. That is why the book of Leviticus is so crucial for believers

today. When Yeshua met that one time with Zacchaeus and his friends, sin was the first message. Redemption was the second. Yeshua was very clear, teaching them in love and giving them all the right tools to help them make their restitution firm in *eternity*.

A clear explanation of what sin is is essential to begin the walk of redemption. Otherwise, we practice greasy grace, *a form of religion/godliness but denying its power* (2 Timothy 3:2-5). Yeshua, at the dinner with sinners, not only gave the principle of the sin but He added *direction* and *instruction* that if followed would bring about a change in people's lives called *eternal life*. Eternal life is the goal of all who have received redemption and desire to walk out a redeemed lifestyle.

The idea that one could be responsible for their sin was revolutionary in Yeshua's day. No one had taught like this before. Yeshua placed the opportunity to *choose life* or *choose death* right into the hands of the people. He taught the people how to measure the pattern and gave them the tools to measure. Since the foundation of the world, Yeshua made the way for believers and gave them the anointing power of His Spirit to overcome temptation (Revelation 13:8). After the crucifixion, it is now up to His people to be responsible for missing the mark/sin. Following His pattern and instructions (measurements/directions) for life, opens up understanding to bring about freedom from sin's entanglement and enters His people into *eternal life*. This revolutionary teaching was why thousands followed Yeshua wherever He went.

The acknowledgement of truth prompted Zacchaeus and his people to delight in repenting as witnessed in his reaction. Here he was, a dishonest tax collector. When he understood the principles of life spoken at Mount Sinai through the pattern Moses taught and how far off the mark he had strayed, he was ashamed of his sin against God/*Elohim* and his fellow man. Zacchaeus rejoiced as he now understood the process and could do something about it. Therefore, *gladly repented*. He joyfully took responsibility for his sins and made restitution repaying many times over the amount he had robbed initially through his dishonest gains. Zacchaeus had a heart transformation through Yeshua's *grace (truth)*, and his world changed (Luke 19:8).

Today, we do not see many believers weeping over their sin or repenting as Zacchaeus had. Many do not know what sin is, how far from the original pattern (mark) they have strayed or what is needed to correct it according to the book of Leviticus. Many hope the church would embrace and support them in their lifestyle of sin, which is now labeled as *tolerance, diversity, open-mindedness, progressiveness, socially correct* and *sameness*. How far is grace extended before sin is called *sin*?

People are looking for answers: "*What is sin and how do we take responsibility for it to make it right before God?*" That is the whole Gospel message of grace, love and forgiveness that leads to eternal life (Matthew 23:23). Have we forgotten the pattern and watered down the Gospel message? In the Book of Revelation, Yeshua noted how lukewarm *believers* had become and that *they* had compromised His Message of the pattern. Too often a believer is worried about their image or offending the brother or sister who they know is sinning. Often they use an inordinate amount of grace, which

seems to be what holds the sinner back from repenting and taking responsibility for *their* sin. My hope and prayer are that we would not use a carnal love, but really “love” people as Yeshua loved them. Yeshua said this about His love,

🌿 **John 14:21** “*He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.*”

The Book of Leviticus - *Vayikra* Examining The Pattern

Yeshua revealed His Kingdom principles and how to have eternal life through the use of prophetic pictures. One of these images is the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle is the pattern that announces the embodiment of the Living Torah and reveals Yeshua’s life and love to His people. The Tabernacle is also where we find Spirit Life/*Truth*. With this picture and pattern, we enter the study of the book of Leviticus.

Leviticus opens with the five offerings. These offerings are called *korban* in Hebrew, which means *to come near to Yahweh*. They are the *elevation/burnt* offering, the *meat/grain* offering, *fellowship/peace* offering, the *sin* offering and *guilt* offering.

The Five Offerings - *Korban* Leviticus 1

Who brought these offerings? The Sages say, “*The offerings effectiveness depended upon the high moral and spiritual character of those who live by the discipline of His Word - Torah.*” The purpose of the offerings is to bring an unclean status of the soul into a clean moral state and a redeemed people into a holy lifestyle. If we examine the reasons behind each type of sacrifice, we cannot fail to note that the sacrificial service was clearly meant to serve Yahweh past the outer court and into the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*. The offerings are to prepare His people to meet with Him in His Holy Place.

1. Elevation Offering: *The Olah* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 1:1-17

In Hebrew the elevation offering is called the *olah*, meaning *to experience the staff or yoke to perform work, i.e., collar, to rise up, offer, light, flame and ascent*. In Greek *olah* is *holocausta*, which conveys *wholly consumed*. The elevation offering is also called the burnt offering. The *olah* was first brought to atone for impure or dishonoring thoughts. These unclean thoughts can influence the body; hence, may tempt many leading them astray emotionally and/or physically. That is why Yahweh designed the *olah* as a *volunteer* offering. The second case for the *olah* is for failing to perform a required instruction.

🌿 **Romans 7:23** “But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my *mind*, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin [*and death*] which is in my members.”

This first offering promotes the heart and mind to help keep Yahweh’s people purified thus preserving the Tabernacle. The olah was brought with a *willing* heart. If it were offered in a conditional state (such as a hard heart or under duress) the offering would not be acceptable before Yahweh (Exodus 35:5, 21; Isaiah 1:11-20).

The person offering would bring according to their financial status, a male bull, a sheep or goat, a dove or pigeon to the entrance of the tent of meeting. They would place their hand on the head of the animal transferring their *sin* to the animal, and the animal would die in their place to be atonement for the dishonor he or her had caused. It is interesting to note that the hand was put on the head of the animal, as the mind contains the thoughts of the person. The other hand would draw a knife across the throat of the animal, cutting the main artery of life-giving blood to that animal. The person would then have to watch the life of that animal drain out and die before them. If it were a male from the herd, the priest would catch the blood in a bowl and sprinkle it on all four sides of the brazen altar. If a sheep or goat were offered, the blood was sprinkled on the north side of the altar. The olah offering was then washed, skinned, cut into pieces and placed on the fire of the Altar to be burned whole, causing it to go up in smoke – a pleasing aroma to Yahweh (Leviticus 1:13,17).

An olah *animal* blood offering could only cover the sin, not remove the guilt permanently. Today, it is not *animal* blood but *Yeshua’s* sinless more perfect blood offering, sprinkled on the altar in the heavenly Tabernacle, that cleanses His people from the guilt of their sin. *Yeshua’s* blood not only covered our sin but also canceled the *law* of sin and death once and for all. Now it is up to believers to keep their hearts clean before Him (1Corinthians 3:16).

🌿 **Hebrews 7:27, 9:12** “Unlike the other high priests, he [*Yeshua*] does not need to offer [*animal*] sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for *their* sins once for all when he offered himself. 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, having obtained eternal redemption.*”

The Israelites were commanded to place two logs daily on the Brazen Altar morning and evening. The fire represents Yahweh’s word, as it is the Altar that cleanses the sin from within the offering. Animals represent people in Scripture. His Word is a consuming fire characterized by the two pieces of wood on the fire symbolizing a Torah scroll. The sacrifice of *Yeshua* atones sin. Upholding and obeying His word day and night refines His people by fire making them fit for life in the Bridal Chamber. The two logs can also represent the Two Houses of Israel, the House of Israel and the House of Judah, who are the two mouthpieces / witnesses of His word (Acts 10: 9-29; Jeremiah 23:29; Revelation 6:9; Isaiah 44:15-20).

🌿 **Zechariah 13:9** “I will bring the *one-third* through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘This *is* My people’; and each one will say, ‘The LORD/*Yahweh is my God/Elohim.*’ ”

🌿 **Luke 3:16** “John answered them all, ‘I baptize/*mikvah* you in water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize/*mikvah* you with the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKhodesh* and with *fire.*’”

Does the *Olah* Apply to Believers Today?

Positively! The elevation offering is still in effect today. Since believers are representative of the Tabernacle and ministering priests before Yahweh what would the offering be today? The *olah* is how believers *voluntarily elevate others*. When Yahweh dwells within His people and they have fellowship with one another Yahweh dwells in their midst. It is all about *how* we treat our neighbor. When we come face to face with others, whose character do we represent? Do they see the presence of Yeshua and the purity of His heart within us? How we treat others reveals how we approach Yeshua. Treating others with a pure heart is our elevation/*olah* offering before Yeshua.

🌿 **Matthew 18:20** Yeshua said, “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

An elevation offering comes first from within, from the heart. Before believers can love and elevate others they first need to love themselves. If believers respect Yeshua, they will respect themselves and also respect and inspire others. Life comes from serving others. If believers find themselves dealing with depression, for example, serving others will deliver them from death to life.

Elevating and inspiring others above ourselves bring blessings into our lives as well as the lives we serve. To manipulate people by emotions, speaking superficially, sarcastically, harshly or with malicious intent will cause a death process not only in ourselves but those around us. Serving people with care and integrity, with respect for one another, will resurrect the dead. Volunteering to reach out to people, treating them with sincere love and elevating them higher than ourselves - this is the heart of the *olah* offering today. Loving our neighbor as our self is obeying Yahweh’s principles that govern His Kingdom. Even if that person has harmed us in the past, the choice is still ours to forgive and love unconditionally. Therein lies a real test of character that promotes maturity in a believer’s walk. The *olah* is the first volunteer sacrifice in His Tabernacle that presents believers today with the option: will we offer ourselves as an *olah* freewill offering to Yahweh?

2. Meal Offering: *The Minchah* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 2:1-16

The meal offering is also known as the grain offering. In Hebrew it is called *minchah*. The *minchah* is a volunteer worship presentation of thanksgiving to Yahweh. The process of preparing the *minchah* was very labor-intensive, as first the seed was sown in a prepared field, cared for until the harvest and then threshed to remove the chaff. The kernels were then crushed, sifted to refine, then mixed with oil and incense before offering as a pleasing aroma before Yahweh. No yeast or honey was present in this offering.

🌾 **Leviticus 2:11** “No grain offering which you bring to the LORD/*Yahweh* shall be made with leaven, for you shall burn no leaven nor any honey in any offering to LORD/*Yahweh* made by fire.”

At the presentation, the priest removed a handful of flour from the portion offered to burn on the Altar. This small amount (a tithe) was called the *memorial offering* and represented Yeshua. Yeshua is the Bread of Life and our memorial offering. The remainder of the meal offering belonged to the priesthood and called *the most holy portion*. Only those who were consecrated could eat this offering.

🌾 **Luke 22:19** “And He [*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*] took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’”

There were different ways one could prepare the *minchah*. First, the unleavened dough was baked in the oven as a cake or wafer. Secondly, made over the fire in a griddle then *broken* in pieces (representing Yeshua’s body that was broken for us). The third manner was to cook the *minchah* in a covered pan.

🌾 **Isaiah 53:5** “But He [*Messiah Yeshua*] was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

Only during the Feast of Pentecost/*Shavuot* was the *minchah* offering *made with yeast and honey*. This *leavened* offering is called *the firstfruits offering* (Leviticus 23:17). They offered new heads of grain, roasted, crushed, and mixed with oil and incense. The memorial portion was also removed in the presentation. All are symbols of Yeshua.

🌾 **2 Corinthians 9:10-11** “Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have *sown* and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while *you are* enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God/*Elohim*.”

The Salt of the Covenant

🌿 **Leviticus 2:13** “Season all your grain offerings with *salt*. Do not leave the Salt of the Covenant of your God/*Elohim* out of your grain offerings; add salt to all your offerings.”

As Yahweh’s people, we are joined with Him through a Covenant of Salt (Numbers 18:19; 2 Chronicles 13:5; Matthew 5:13). The qualities found in salt are the same qualities found in the character and attitude of the priesthood, the Bride of Yeshua. Salt is a preservative that prevents decay and corruption. It is eternal, purifying, never changing and abiding forever. Salt is the very symbol of Yahweh’s character and reliability – His faithfulness. The term *Covenant of Salt* is indicative of the eternal nature of the Covenant relationship between the Children of Salt and their Creator.

🌿 **Matthew 5:13** Yeshua said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”

🌿 **Mark 9:49-50** “For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt. Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another.”

🌿 **Colossians 4:6** “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”

The teaching of salt reminds Yeshua’s people never to lose His flavor within their hearts. They are called to preserve His Word. If His Torah is not studied or shared with His Spirit Life, there will be no life-sustaining quality within it. His people are told to worship in *Spirit* (Yeshua) and *Truth* (Torah: His teaching and instruction). How will they to know if the word they hear or speak is filled with His Spirit/Truth? The word spoken will follow *the pattern* as outlined by Moses. The world religions in Yeshua’s day (as they are today) were temporal with shifting doctrines whose worshippers had short-term commitments to particular movements/gods in vogue at the time. However, it is God’s/*Elohim* desire to be sealed with His people in an eternal Covenant relationship - *seasoned with salt*.

- Salt symbolized hospitality. God’s/*Elohim* people should be the world’s most hospitable people.
- Salt heals. In the past, when a dispute needed settling with a neighbor you would then invite that person into your home to share a dish of salt. Each would lick their finger, dip it in the salt and then eat the salt together. It was the symbol of friendship that healed the rift. That is why the offerings we make to Yeshua are salted, to heal and settle any disagreement or offense we may have innocently or knowingly made against Him or our fellow man.

- Salt is pure. Germs cannot live in it. In the same way, believers also are to be pure. Salt purifies; as such, believers are called to be the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13). They purify the world by refusing to accept false philosophies, dishonest ways of doing business and selfish desires, etc.
- Salt added to the flavor and satisfaction of a meal represents how believers should add spiritual interest, hope, and excitement to other's lives. Salt produces thirst. The believer should always have a spiritual thirst for the word of God/*Elohim*.
- Lack of salt in the diet leads to an energy graveyard. A month without salt and a person would die a slow agonizing death. Consider the spiritual analogy! Sodium regulates the passage of nutrients into the cells. Without it, nutrients cannot enter your cells causing malnutrition and exhaustion no matter how good the diet. Without Yeshua, we would be spiritually starved and morally exhausted.
- Salt is Life. One of the best ways to maintain health is to replenish with natural organic elements containing *real sea salt* or *Himalayan salt*, not synthetic substitutes. Without salt, we run out of electrolytes and without electrolytes our batteries die out. Just a *small* amount each day recharges the cells and energizes the mind and body.
- Salt Baths. The antiseptic and hygienic healing properties of salt-water baths are well known from the ancient world to modern times. They are rich in minerals and microelements and have wonderful therapeutic properties. The healing principles include rehabilitating the skin, the immune system, circulatory system, respiratory system and much more. People come from all over the world to enjoy the therapy that comes from the high content of salt from the Dead Sea. There are also good cosmetic companies who sell the mud and cosmetics made from the Dead Sea for their healing qualities.
- At Hebrew weddings, the Covenant of Salt is shared between the bride and the groom in response to the covenant they are entering that is also held for them in eternity with Yeshua.

Do Believers Participate in the Meal Offering Today?

Absolutely. The *minchah* is the communion between Yeshua and His people and represents the Bridal Covenant relationship they have in Him - *The Bread of Life*. Gathering on the Sabbath to *break* the unleavened bread with Him, continually reminds us of our betrothal commitment to His Covenant. During Shabbat, people bring their meal offering to share. They take great care in its preparation, as it is an offering to Yeshua, their Bridegroom. The meal offering always accompanies the elevation offering as a memorial of thanksgiving. Today, a believer's commitment is to serve these to others as a blessing.

- 🌿 **Acts 20:7** “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.”

3. Fellowship/Peace Offering: *The Shelamim* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 3:1-17

Shelamim is a Hebrew word from *shalem* or *shalom*, meaning *peace, friendship, complete or fellowship*. The fellowship offering is a freewill offering of thanksgiving, praise and blessings for the peace, friendship and fellowship God's/*Elohim* people experience because of His faithfulness. This offering was an animal (male or female from the herd) in substitution for those of the Israelites.

Do Believers Participate in the Fellowship Offering Today?

Yes. The fellowship/peace offering is still active today. The *Shalamim* is a *lasting ordinance for the generations to come*. Believers are called to assemble in one accord in Yeshua's Presence to offer praise, worship and thanksgiving.

How do we as believers approach our heavenly Father on a daily basis? How do we approach Him on His Sabbath or His Feast days? What about our neighbors? Do we approach with a clean heart or have we tolerated a contentious spirit, arguments, or quarrels among ourselves? Have we unfinished business such as unforgiveness? Have our motives been pure or impure, selfish and envious? Do we keep negative thoughts or judgments critical of others? Have we spoken harshly or unkindly to family and friends in the name of righteousness? Approaching His altar or taking His elements while neglecting outstanding sins can contaminate the whole camp, including ourselves, as *we* have touched the unclean realm that brings death. When believers come to fellowship and worship with unrighteous issues still pressing, what type of *fellowship gift* are we offering and will it be accepted before a holy God/*Elohim*? Yahweh has His people bring the fellowship offering to check their heart *before* approaching Him. These are considerations in respect to the soul. Leviticus is set in such a manner as to show Yahweh's people how to approach a holy God/*Elohim* in His House and with others in a right way.

- 🌿 **Matthew 5:23-24** “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

- 🌿 **1Corinthians 11:27-29** “Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.”

Yes, difficulties may arise between brothers. However, when believers put aside their differences, encourage each other and practice what they are learning through the meal and elevation offerings in their communications and lifestyle this will help bring healing and health to the whole body of Yeshua.

Scripture explicitly says that if *our brother* has something against *us* we are to seek him out to bring reconciliation. Many believers today are waiting for the offender to come to them, but this is not scripturally correct. Yeshua asks *us* to seek the one who has hurt us (whether right or wrong) and *settle it quickly* through forgiveness before *we* can bring *our* offering before Him. Some believers have approached the offender (and vice versa) with a heart of reconciliation, but if the hurt one is not ready to forgive, reconcile or refuses to receive the peace offering at that time, then the believer has fulfilled their scriptural obligation and can move forward to approach the Altar with their gift. This is our peace offering, a sacrifice and gift of worship before Him.

 **2 Corinthians 5:18** “Now all things *are* of God/*Elohim*, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation”

Change is a question of the heart. Loving one another can be contagious. A hard heart brings *deafness, blindness, and poverty*. To heal, believers must practice love in their home and among themselves first. Love breaks down the walls of separation allowing healing to come. Elevating our brother, breaking bread together and fellowshiping in Yeshua’s Name, if done in the right heart of Torah, is health and blessing to all. That is the *freewill offering* we bring before Him.

On a community level, the separation that has existed between the Two Houses of Israel is beginning to weaken. Those who show a humble and contrite spirit towards their brothers are tearing down the walls of hostility that have existed for generations. Forgiveness, healing, and restoration are the true heart of the remnant, the Bride of the Messiah. The Bride prepares herself by walking in reconciliation. With this, the House of Israel and the House of Judah become one in the Messiah, brought together under the instruction of the Holy Spirit/*Ruach Ha Kodesh*. They are receiving healing by returning to the original pattern - Yahweh’s teaching and instruction. Together again in the Father’s hand, they, in turn, will bring healing to the Nations (Ephesians 2:14-22).

 **Ezekiel 37:15-19** “Again the word of the LORD/*Yahweh* came to me, saying, as for you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it: ‘For Judah and for the children of Israel, his companions.’ Then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and *for* all the house of Israel, his companions.’ Then join them one to another for yourself into one stick, and they will become one in your hand. And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, ‘Will you not show us what you *mean* by these?’ - say to them,’ Thus says the Lord/*Adonai* GOD/*Elohim*: ‘Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which *is* in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.’”

The first three offerings are *all voluntary* offerings from the heart. When Yahweh's people bless His word by walking according to it, He becomes the center and heartbeat of the Tabernacle. When His people give willingly from a pure and cleansed heart, the blessings multiply bringing honor and glory to His Name. These are the fundamental principals behind the offerings and how His people grow into true disciples/*talmudim*.

Fat and Blood

🌿 **Leviticus 3:17** “This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live: ***You must not eat any fat or any blood.***”

After teaching the volunteer offerings, Yahweh commands His people not to eat any fat or blood. He also adds that this will be a commandment for *all* generations, which means *this principle is still active today*. Yeshua's death and resurrection did not “*do away with Torah and all the Torah principles.*” We need the principles that hold the universe together, and we need the principles of morality just as much as we need the principles that rule and regulate the temple maintenance, like food and clothing. That is His pattern for life! Not one of His commandments has changed or been eliminated over time. Man has tried to change His instructions through *man's theology*, but God/*Elohim* has not changed nor have any of His laws changed. If we go against His instructions for life by ingesting *fat or blood*, our conduct and attitude will change toward Him. If we go against His will, we forfeit our position as priests in His courts, and our health (physically and spiritually) will deteriorate (More on this in the next study – *Tzav*: Leviticus 6).

4. Sin Offering: *The Chatas*

A Required Offering

Leviticus 4:1-5:13

The sin offering or *chatas* in Hebrew is the first of the two *required* offerings Yahweh's people are to bring before Him. The *chatas* is required to atone for *unintentional sin* resulting from carelessness or laxness and is to be accepted as a personal responsibility for *our* lack of judgment that brings defilement against the Tabernacle and His name. When a priest or the congregation offered the sacrifice, a bull was slaughtered and the blood was applied in three ways. First, the blood was sprinkled seven times in the Holy Place, toward the veil, in front of the Holy of Holies. Secondly, the blood was smeared on the horns of the golden altar of incense and, thirdly, the blood was *poured out* on the ground at the bottom of the brazen altar where the fat and kidneys were burned. The remainder of the bull was burned outside the camp to complete the atonement for *unintentional sin*. In an offering for a leader, in which case a male goat was required, or an individual, when a female goat/lamb or bird was to be offered, the blood was placed only on the brazen altar. It was a *required* offering since *no one* in Israel was without sin.

🌿 **Romans 3:23** “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God/*Elohim*.”

5. Guilt Offering: *The Asham* A Required Offering Leviticus 5:14-6:7

The guilt offering was called *asham* in Hebrew and spoke of the covering of guilt. The *asham* was a *required* offering. A person who *unintentionally* misappropriated, for personal use, sanctuary property would be held responsible and was viewed as guilty regardless of his or her intention. Secondly, the *asham* was brought when there was doubt as to whether a sin had been committed or not. And, thirdly, the *asham* was for an intentional trespass against Yahweh in that one lied under oath, defrauded his fellow man by cheating, stealing, lying, and/or did not return lost property to his neighbor. In so doing he was guilty, and his sin was before Yahweh. He offered a bull and made restitution for the full amount plus a fifth as a blessing. Every case of *asham* involved some inherent status destruction, rather than a simple mistake.

Do Believers Participate in the Sin and Guilt Offerings today?

Yes. Yeshua *appropriated* the sin and guilt offering for us today, but it is our job to *activate* His appropriation in our life just as the Israelites did in the Tabernacle times. If Yahweh's people have sinned against a neighbor, that sin is also toward Him. If His people make a vow to Him or a neighbor, that which was spoken becomes holy and belongs to the sanctuary. If the promise is not kept or they have no intention of upholding it, then that, which was holy, is rendered unclean. By our thought or deed, we will contaminate not only ourselves but also the interaction with our fellow man, bringing defilement to the sanctuary (the pattern). That is why vows and oaths, no matter how small or large, are taken very seriously in Yahweh's Kingdom. His people must be very careful with promises made and what they speak, as they are accountable for their thoughts and deeds. Their attitude and character will inherently affect the pattern of their walk on a physical and spiritual level.

- An example of the importance of truthful words in scripture is Ananias and Sapphira. They sold a piece of property and promised the full amount to Yahweh. In the process, they chose not to give the full amount but held a portion back for their personal use. Once promised to Yahweh, *it becomes holy*. Ananias and Sapphira defiled the offering by lying, thus bringing about their own demise (Acts 5:1-11).

Our words are powerful in the universe, as Yeshua lives in us. What we speak will come towards us. Speak blessing and receive blessings. Being faithful to our word facilitates the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh* to prosper our body, soul, and spirit. Speak curses or negatively and receive the fruit of your words - poverty and destruction physically, emotionally and/or spiritually. Remember, sin is the distance measured from the mark that becomes a witness against God's/*Elohim* people. Many are sick among us, enslaved by the thoughts and words *they* spoke. A deceived heart does not magnify the truth behind the image they are made in, thus they reap what they sow.

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” Proverbs 23:7 KJV

To bring an offering in an unworthy manner is not a freewill offering. There will be consequences if we do, as we have misappropriated *Yahweh's property*. If we call ourselves believers and speak behind people's backs without their knowledge or share negatively about our neighbor, that is a sin of dishonor before Yahweh. If believers lie by manipulation of words, body language or in wrong deeds to an individual or in business transactions, this is a sin before Yahweh. If believers vow to give the whole tithe but hold some back, they lie and rob Yahweh. If believers are in Covenant and called to serve as a royal priesthood to minister in Yahweh's House, they need to make a distinction between clean and unclean thoughts and practices. If believers want their prayers answered, we suggest looking very carefully at the practices of the heart in light of these offerings.

✿ **Romans 3:20-25** “Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, *through the law (Torah)* we become *conscious of sin.*”

✿ **Hebrews 10:2-22** “For then would they [*animal offerings*] not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats [*animals*] could take away sins.”

“Therefore, when He [*Yeshua*] came into the world, He said: ‘Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.’ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - In the volume of the book it is written of Me - To do Your will, O God/Elohim.’” (Psalm 40:6-8).

“Previously saying, ‘Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin [*using animals*] You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them’ (which are offered according to the law), then He said, ‘Behold, I [*Yeshua*] have come to do Your will, O God/Elohim.’ He takes away the first [*animal sacrifice for the sin offering*] that He may establish the second [*Yeshua's perfect blood for the sin offering*]. By that will [*Yeshua's willing offering for sin*] we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach* once for all.”

“And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same [*animal*] sacrifices, which [*that blood*] can never take away sins. But this Man [*Yeshua*], after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever [*His own perfect blood*], sat down at the right hand of God/Elohim, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering [*His blood*] He has perfected [*purified*] forever those who are being sanctified.”

“But the Holy Spirit/Ruach HaKodesh also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says

the LORD/Yahweh: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,' (Jeremiah 31:33) then He adds, 'Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more' [*as Yeshua's perfect blood atoned our sin forever*] (Jeremiah 31:34). Now where there is remission of these [*sins*], *there is no longer an offering for sin [required].*"

"Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus/*Yeshua* [*not animal blood*], by a new and living way [*Yeshua's blood*] which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and *having* a High Priest over the house of God/*Elohim*, let us draw near with a true [*faithful to His word*] heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled [*with Yeshua's blood*] from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water [*Yeshua's eternal blood offering*]."

In closing: We live in a world deficient of a sense of purity and holiness. It is full of compromise, loose morals, and lawless living - a society *devoid of Torah*. Today, through a return to Scripture, believers are being shown a better way. Today we are those twelve living stones Moses assembled in the desert being fitted together in the form and pattern of the Tabernacle. Yeshua is calling to us from within His Tabernacle, between the cherubim, closer to Him. We are called to be in this world but not of it.

✿ **1 Peter 2:5** "You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/*Elohim* through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*."

✿ **Romans 8:5-15** "Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God/*Elohim*. It does not submit to God's/*Elohim* law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God/*Elohim*. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God/*Elohim* lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ/*Messiah*, he does not belong to Christ/*Messiah*. But if Christ/*Messiah* is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus/*Yeshua* from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ/*Messiah* from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you. Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation - but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God/*Elohim* are sons of God/*Elohim*. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba,' Father."

*"Return O Virgin Israel, return."
(Jeremiah 31:21)*

Prayer for Repentance, Redemption and Eternal Life

“I believe that the Messiah/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach* is the promised Son of Yahweh, the Messiah of Israel. He was crucified for my sins, was buried and arose the third day according to the Scriptures. I believe He is ascended up into the heavens and all power in heaven and earth is given unto Him. I believe He has promised to return and all that believe in Him are immersed into His Name will receive remission of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit/*Ruach Ha Kodesh* and citizenship in the Israel of Yahweh (the land of our inheritance). I receive and confess this day Yeshua of Nazareth as my personal Lord and Savior.”

“Lord God/*Elohim*, God/*Elohim* of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, I ask You now to forgive me of my disobedience, iniquities and transgressions. I ask You to forgive my forefathers for turning their backs on Your Torah. I forgive all those who hurt me physically, spiritually and emotionally. I ask that all evil influences be bound and not permitted to operate in my life according to Torah, and that your Holy Spirit be loosed to operate in my life according to Torah, to rule and reign in my life, and to help me walk out Your will. I ask this in the name of my Lord and Savior, Yeshua Ha Mashiach (Yeshua the Messiah). Amen.”

If you have prayed this prayer we suggest a *mikvah* (an immersion in water) and an anointing of oil for status change from the unclean realm to the clean realm.

To be continued...

Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker

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