

THE SCARLET THREAD OF SCRIPTURE

UNIT 1: The Need for Atonement **DATE:** January 25, 2015

LESSON 4: "Sacrifices, Part 1" (Leviticus 1-3)

NEXT WEEK: "Sacrifices, Part 2" (Leviticus 5)

OVERVIEW

"The book of Leviticus informs the Israelites that when the holy, awesome God comes to live in your midst, everything in your life will change. All of life must now be lived with the consciousness of God's great holiness."

~ J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays

INTRODUCTION

- In the Old Testament, animal sacrifice was the _____ through which God offered His people a provision of atonement.
- In the New Testament, Christ's death became the final _____ of atonement.

**WE NEED ATONEMENT TO _____
OUR GUILT (LEVITICUS 1:3-9; HEBREWS 9:12).**

- These sacrifices shine light on our _____, and they shine light on our _____.
- The first offering mentioned in Leviticus is the _____ offering.
 - This offering shines light on our sin and the severity of the _____.

- This sacrifice points forward to _____, whose death removes our guilt.

- **Application:** God deserves the _____, and we ought to offer praise gratefully and joyfully, not out of duty and obligation.

WE NEED ATONEMENT TO _____ US TO SERVICE (LEVITICUS 2:1-3; JOHN 12:24).

- God's people were to voluntarily give a _____ offering as an expression of their thanksgiving and dedication to God and His service.
- This kind of offering indicates that God takes _____ when we voluntarily express our gratitude and our desire to engage in His mission in this world through the giving of our time, energy, and resources.
- The grain offering was a sign of dedication to Yahweh, a public pledge of _____ to His mission and will in this world.
- **Application:** When you and I, in gratitude for Christ's atonement, extend our arms and lives to others, we become a pleasing and aromatic offering to God.

WE NEED ATONEMENT TO _____ OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD'S FAMILY (LEVITICUS 3:1-5; EPHESIANS 2:13).

- The _____ offering was a vivid demonstration of celebration and reconciliation that comes in the wake of God's grace.
- Notice the sequence of the offerings:
 - First, the _____ offering represents the removal of sins.
 - Next, the _____ offering represents restoration to service.
 - Finally, the _____ offering represents reconciliation with God.
- The peace offering was a vivid foreshadowing in the Old Testament of the reconciliation accomplished in the New Testament.
- **Application:** In order to properly love our neighbors, we first must be reconciled to God, for the love we share with one another flows directly out of the fountain of love that we have been shown in Christ.

CONCLUSION

- Before we spread the good news of Jesus Christ with the world, we first must _____ the atoning work of Christ.
- The sacrifices that the Israelites offered to God teach us that reconciliation with others can only happen after we ourselves are reconciled with _____.
- _____ is at the very heart of evangelism.