

Leviticus 7

Verses 1- 7

‘Now this is the law of the guilt offering; it is most holy. ² In the place where they slay the burnt offering they are to slay the guilt offering, and he shall sprinkle its blood around on the altar. ³ Then he shall offer from it all its fat: the fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, ⁴ and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, which is on the loins, and the lobe on the liver he shall remove with the kidneys. ⁵ The priest shall offer them up in smoke on the altar as an offering by fire to the Lord; it is a guilt offering. ⁶ Every male among the priests may eat of it. It shall be eaten in a holy place; it is most holy. ⁷ The guilt offering is like the sin offering, there is one law for them; the priest who makes atonement with it shall have it.

The law of the guilt offering

³ Then he shall offer from it all its fat: the fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, ⁴ and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, which is on the loins, and the lobe on the liver he shall remove with the kidneys.

All the fat, the two kidneys and the lobe on the liver was a burnt offering to the Lord.

⁶ Every male among the priests may eat of it. It shall be eaten in a holy place; it is most holy. ⁷ The guilt offering is like the sin offering, there is one law for them; the priest who makes atonement with it shall have it.

The meat from the guilt offering went to the priest who offered the sacrifice but it had to be eaten in a holy place.

Verses 8 - 10

⁸ Also the priest who presents anyone’s burnt offering, that priest shall have for himself the hide of the burnt offering which he has presented. ⁹ Likewise, every grain offering that is baked in the oven and everything prepared in a pan or on a griddle shall belong to the priest who presents it. ¹⁰ Every grain offering, mixed with oil or dry, shall belong to all the sons of Aaron, to all alike.

⁸ Also the priest who presents anyone's **burnt offering**, that priest shall have for himself the hide of the burnt offering which he has presented.

In chapter 1 of Leviticus we are told that all of the burnt offering was burned on the altar. Here we learn that the hide was not burned but given to the priest.

⁹ Likewise, every grain offering that is baked in the oven and everything prepared in a pan or on a griddle shall belong to the priest who presents it. ¹⁰ Every grain offering, mixed with oil or dry, shall belong to all the sons of Aaron, to all alike.

In Leviticus 2:4-10 we learned that part of the grain offering was burnt and the rest of it belonged to the priest who presented it.

⁹ The priest then shall take up from the grain offering its memorial portion, and shall offer it up in smoke on the altar as an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord. ¹⁰ The remainder of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons: a most holy part of the offerings to the Lord by fire.

Moses does not address the memorial portion that was offered as a burnt offering. So is this a change in the law or is Moses only addressing the part that belongs to the priest?

Verses 11-18

Now this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings which shall be presented to the Lord. ¹² If he offers it by way of thanksgiving, then along with the sacrifice of thanksgiving he shall offer unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of well stirred fine flour mixed with oil. ¹³ With the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving, he shall present his offering with cakes of leavened bread. ¹⁴ Of this he shall present one of every offering as a contribution to the Lord; it shall belong to the priest who sprinkles the blood of the peace offerings. ¹⁵ Now as for the flesh of the sacrifice of his thanksgiving peace offerings, it shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it over until morning. ¹⁶ But if the sacrifice of his offering is a votive or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what is left of it may be eaten; ¹⁷ but what is left over from the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned with fire. ¹⁸ So if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings should ever be eaten on the third day, he who offers it will not be accepted, and it will not be reckoned to his benefit. It shall be an offensive thing, and the person who eats of it will bear his own iniquity.

The law of the peace offerings

The peace-offering was divided into three kinds,

1. Thanksgiving offering.
2. Votive offering (Dedicated in fulfillment of a vow).
3. Freewill offering.

¹² **If he offers it by way of thanksgiving, then along with the sacrifice of thanksgiving he shall offer unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of well stirred fine flour mixed with oil.**

If the peace offering was one of thanksgiving then along with the (animal) sacrifice he was to present it with the following:

1. Unleavened cakes mixed with oil.
2. Unleavened wafers spread with oil.
3. Cakes of well stirred fine flour mixed with oil.

¹⁴ **Of this he shall present one of every offering as a contribution to the Lord; it shall belong to the priest who sprinkles the blood of the peace offerings.**

The priest who sprinkles the blood of the animal would get the 3 kinds of bread that was offered with the animal offering.

¹⁵ **Now as for the flesh of the sacrifice of his thanksgiving peace offerings, it shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it over until morning.**

The peace-offering was the only sacrifice in which the worshiper and his friends could eat the meat; therefore, the one day restriction was not an issue.

¹⁶ **But if the sacrifice of his offering is a votive or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what is left of it may be eaten; ¹⁷ but what is left over from the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned with fire.**

The votive and freewill offerings could be finished on the next day but on the third day it had to be burned with fire.

Verses 19 - 21

¹⁹ Also the flesh that touches anything unclean shall not be eaten; it shall be burned with fire. As for *other* flesh, anyone who is clean may eat *such* flesh. ²⁰ But the person who eats the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings which belong to the Lord, in his uncleanness, that person shall be cut off from his people. ²¹ When anyone touches anything unclean, whether human uncleanness, or an unclean animal, or any unclean detestable thing, and eats of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings which belong to the Lord, that person shall be cut off from his people.”

¹⁹ Also the flesh that touches anything unclean shall not be eaten; it shall be burned with fire. As for *other* flesh, anyone who is clean may eat *such* flesh.

If any part of the animal flesh of the peace offering happened to touch something that was unclean, then it had to be burned with fire.

²⁰ But the person who eats the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings which belong to the Lord, in his uncleanness, that person shall be cut off from his people. ²¹ When anyone touches anything unclean, whether human uncleanness, or an unclean animal, or any unclean detestable thing, and eats of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings which belong to the Lord, that person shall be cut off from his people.”

If a person was unclean for any number of reasons and he ate the flesh of the peace offering then he was to be cut off from his people.

Being cut off from his people meant the death penalty.

See Exodus 31:14

¹⁴ **Therefore you are to observe the Sabbath, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people.**

There were a number of sins that brought the death penalty but we know from O.T. history that the Jewish people seldom punished their fellow citizens with the death penalty. So in many cases it was left up to God to enforce this punishment.

Verses 22 - 27

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²³ “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘You shall not eat any fat *from* an ox, a sheep or a goat. ²⁴ Also the fat of *an animal* which dies and the fat of an animal torn *by beasts* may be put to any other use, but you must certainly not eat it. ²⁵ For whoever eats the fat of the animal from which an offering by fire is offered to the Lord, even the person who eats shall be cut off from his people. ²⁶ You are not to eat any blood, either of bird or animal, in any of your dwellings. ²⁷ Any person who eats any blood, even that person shall be cut off from his people.’”

²⁴ Also the fat of *an animal* which dies and the fat of an animal torn *by beasts* may be put to any other use, but you must certainly not eat it.

Fat was often used in making soap.

²⁵ For whoever eats the fat of the animal from which an offering by fire is offered to the Lord, even the person who eats shall be cut off from his people.

²⁷ Any person who eats any blood, even that person shall be cut off from his people.’”

These prohibitions were given in Leviticus 3:17 but the punishment is set forth here.

Verses 28 - 34

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁹ “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offerings to the Lord shall bring his offering to the Lord from the sacrifice of his peace offerings. ³⁰ His own hands are to bring offerings by fire to the Lord. He shall bring the fat with the breast, that the breast may be presented as a wave offering before the Lord. ³¹ The priest shall offer up the fat in smoke on the altar, but the breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons. ³² You shall give the right thigh to the priest as a contribution from the sacrifices of your peace offerings. ³³ The one among the sons of Aaron who offers the blood of the peace offerings and the fat, the right thigh shall be his as *his* portion. ³⁴ For I have taken the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the contribution from the sons of Israel from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons as *their* due forever from the sons of Israel.

²⁹ “**Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offerings to the Lord shall bring his offering to the Lord from the sacrifice of his peace offerings. ³⁰ His own hands are to bring offerings by fire to the Lord. He shall bring the fat with the breast, that the breast may be presented as a wave offering before the Lord.**

Whoever offered a peace offering had to bring it by his own hands. There may have been a temptation for a wealthy person to send his offering by the hand of a servant.

³¹ **The priest shall offer up the fat in smoke on the altar, but the breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons.** ³² **You shall give the right thigh to the priest as a contribution from the sacrifices of your peace offerings.** ³³ **The one among the sons of Aaron who offers the blood of the peace offerings and the fat, the right thigh shall be his as his portion.**

With a piece offering the following went to all of those involved.

1. The fat was offered up in smoke to the Lord.
2. The breast belonged to Aaron and his sons.
3. The right thigh belonged to the priest who presided over the offering.
4. The person offering the sacrifice received the rest.

The breast was waved, (right to left and left to right) and the thigh was lifted up.

See Lev. 10:15

⁵ **They shall bring the thigh offered by lifting up and the breast offered by waving, along with the offerings by fire of the portions of fat, to present as a wave offering before the Lord; so it shall be a thing perpetually due you and your sons with you, just as the Lord has commanded.”**

There were three main types of peace offerings:

1. Thank-offerings
2. Votive offerings
3. Free-will offerings.

Verse 35 - 36

This is that which is consecrated to Aaron and that which is consecrated to his sons from the offerings by fire to the Lord, in that day when he presented them to serve as priests to the Lord. ³⁶ These the Lord had commanded to be given them from the sons of Israel in the day that He anointed them. It is *their* due forever throughout their generations.

The following is a summary of the Priest's Part in the various offerings outlined in chapters 6 and 7.

1. The hide of the burnt offering was not burned but given to the priest.
2. Every grain offering belonged to the priest who presented it.
3. Part of the 2nd Ram of the Ordination offering (when a new priest was ordained) was eaten by the priests (This is covered in the next chapter).
4. Every sin offering belonged to the priest who offered it for sin (with one exception).

See Exodus 6:30

³⁰ But no sin offering of which any of the blood is brought into the tent of meeting to make atonement in the Holy Place shall be eaten; it shall be burned with fire.

5. Every guilt offering belonged to the priest who presented it.
6. The 3 kinds of bread that was offered with a piece offering belonged to the priest who presented it. The breast belonged to the priests and the right thigh belonged to the priest who presided over the offering.

Verse 37 - 38

This is the law of the burnt offering, the grain offering and the sin offering and the guilt offering and the ordination offering and the sacrifice of peace offerings, ³⁸ which the Lord commanded Moses at Mount Sinai in the day that He commanded the sons of Israel to present their offerings to the Lord in the wilderness of Sinai.

This is a summary statement concerning the 6 offerings. The priests received part of the offerings for all of these offerings.