

## Leviticus 7

Verses 1- 7

**‘Now this is the law of the guilt offering; it is most holy. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Then he shall offer from it all its fat: the fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> The priest shall offer them up in smoke on the altar as an offering by fire to the Lord; it is a guilt offering. <sup>6</sup> Every male among the priests may eat of it. It shall be eaten in a holy place; it is most holy. <sup>7</sup> The guilt offering is like the sin offering, there is one law for them; the priest who makes atonement with it shall have it.**

### **Now this is the law of the guilt offering**

The guilt offering was a bit more complicated than some of the other offering.

The guilt offering for the 4 specific sins was based on a person's income

1. A female from the flock, a lamb or a goat
2. Two turtledoves or two young pigeons
3. The tenth of an ephah of fine flour

The guilt offering for the 2 “kinds” of sin was a ram

Restitution also included a twenty percent penalty

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

All of the priests were allowed to eat the guilt offering.

But only the priest who offered the guilt offering could have it (eat it).

Verses 8 - 10

**<sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> Every grain offering, mixed with oil or dry, shall belong to all the sons of Aaron, to all alike.**

**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.

**Every grain offering belongs to the priest who presents it.**

In Leviticus 6:14-18 we learned that part of the grain offering was burnt.

The rest of it could be eaten by the priest.

Verses 11-18

**Now this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings which shall be presented to the Lord. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> With the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving, he shall present his offering with cakes of leavened bread. <sup>14</sup> 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. 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. <sup>16</sup> 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; <sup>17</sup> but what is left over from the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned with fire. <sup>18</sup> 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.**

**Now this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings**

**The peace-offering is divided into three kinds**

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

**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

**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.

**The flesh of his thanksgiving offerings, shall be eaten on the day of his offering**

Why did the thanksgiving offering have to be consumed on the day of its offering?

Perhaps to encourage the offeror to invite others to share it

The peace-offering was the only sacrifice in which the worshiper and his friends could eat the meat.

**A votive offering and a freewill offering can be finished on the next day**

But on the third day it must be burned with fire.

Verses 19-21

**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. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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.”**

**Also the flesh that touches anything unclean shall not be eaten**

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

**But the person who eats the flesh of peace offerings, in his uncleanness, that person shall be cut off from his people.**

What does God mean when he uses that phrase?

This punishment was used for a number of different sins in the Old Testament and had different meanings depending on the sin.

Let's look at 4 of them (but there were many).

1. Any Jewish male that was not circumcised

See Genesis 17:14

2. Any Jewish person that broke the Sabbath.

See Exodus 31:14

3. Any Israelite that ate blood.

See Lev. 17:10

4. Anyone from the sons of Israel or from the strangers residing in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech

See Leviticus 20:2 - 3

## What was the punishment?

1. If a Jewish male was not circumcised he was excluded from the Jewish community
2. For breaking the Sabbath the punishment was death.
3. For eating blood the punishment was the following:

God will make this earthly life very difficult for him.

He will be separated from God's people.

(See footnote A below)

4. For offering a child to Molech the punishment was the following:

Death by stoning

Eternal consequences

(See footnote B below)

## Who enforced the punishment?

1. Not being circumcised was seldom a problem among the Jews.

However, there were a couple of exceptions that we know about.

Moses "forgot" to circumcise his boys and God was about to kill him until his wife stepped in and fixed the problem.

Also, the Israelites did not circumcise their sons while they were in the wilderness.

2. For breaking the Sabbath the punishment was enforced by the Jewish community.
3. For eating blood the punishment was enforced by God

See Leviticus 17:10

4. The punishment for offering a child to Molech was enforced by the Jewish community (death by stoning) and by God (eternal consequences)

We know from O.T. history that the Jewish people seldom punished their fellow citizens for these sins. So in the end God took care of nearly all of the punishment.

## Footnote A

See Leviticus 17:10

**I will set My face against that person who eats the blood, and I will cut him off from among his people.**

1. In this case, God said He would take care of the punishment.

Why didn't God set a specific punishment to be enforced by the Jewish community?

Most likely this sin would have been committed in secret (no one around to see it) so God says he will take care of this.

2. Also the punishment for this sin was different.

There were two parts to God's punishment for the person who eats blood.

God will make this earthly life very difficult for him.

God will separate him from the Jewish people.

God might have done this thru death, deportation or being sold into slavery.

## Footnote B

See Leviticus 20:2 - 3

Anyone from the sons of Israel or from the strangers residing in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech, shall certainly be put to death; the people of the land shall stone him with stones. <sup>3</sup> I will also set My face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given some of his children to Molech, so as to defile My sanctuary and to profane My holy name.

The punishment for this sin was to be death by stoning.

But then God says, "**I will also** set My face against that man and will cut him off from among his people.

If the person was put to death, how would God also set His face against that man and cut him off from his people?

The only explanation that seems plausible is that God would not let him see his people in the next life.

Verses 22-27

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>23</sup> “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘You shall not eat any fat *from* an ox, a sheep or a goat. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> You are not to eat any blood, either of bird or animal, in any of your dwellings. <sup>27</sup> Any person who eats any blood, even that person shall be cut off from his people.’”

The fat of *an animal* which dies and the fat of an animal torn *by beasts* may be put to any other use

Fat was often used in making soap.

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.

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

Both of these prohibitions were covered in Leviticus 3:17 but here the punishment is set forth.

Verses 28-34

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>29</sup> “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. <sup>30</sup> 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. <sup>31</sup> The priest shall offer up the fat in smoke on the altar, but the breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons. <sup>32</sup> You shall give the right thigh to the priest as a contribution from the sacrifices of your peace offerings. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> 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.

**He who offers peace offerings shall bring his offering by his own hands**

There might have been a temptation for a very wealthy person to send his offering by the hand of a servant.

**That the breast may be presented as a wave offering before the Lord**

See Lev. 10:15

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

**The breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons**

**The right thigh shall belong to the priest who presides over the offering**

Peace offerings were eaten by the priests, the offeror, and his family and friends

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. <sup>36</sup> 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.**

**It is *their* due forever throughout their generations.**

1. Every quilt offering belonged to the priest who presented it
2. The hide of the burnt offering was not burned but given to the priest.
3. Every grain offering belongs to the priest who presents it.
4. The 3 kinds of bread that was offered with a piece offering belonged to the priest who presented it.
5. With a piece offering the breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons and the right thigh shall belong to the priest who presides 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,<sup>38</sup> 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.

In the next chapter we will see that part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ram of the Ordination Offering is eaten by the priests.

But this offering was only presented when a new priest was ordained.