



**Message 4-1-17**  
**VaYikra-And He Called**  
**Leviticus 1:1-5:26**  
**Isaiah 43:21-44:23**  
**Revelation 3:5**

**Introduction**

In Leviticus, Chapter 5, we read about a different kind of offering: the *Chattat*, sin offering. The *Chattat* is for the unintentional commission of a prohibited act by a priest, the community, the head of the community, or an individual.

**Leviticus 5:17-19**

**17** "If anyone sins, doing any of the things that by the LORD's commandments ought not to be done, **though he did not know it, then realizes his guilt, he shall bear his iniquity.** <sup>18</sup> He shall bring to the priest a ram without blemish out of the flock, or its equivalent for a guilt offering, and the priest shall make atonement for him for the mistake that he made unintentionally, and he shall be forgiven. <sup>19</sup> It is a guilt offering; he has indeed incurred guilt before the LORD." (ESV)

Another translation of verse 17 is: **Leviticus 5:17** "Now if a person sins and does any of the things which the LORD has commanded not to be done, though he was unaware, still he is guilty and shall bear his punishment." (NAU)

The difference between the two sentences is the one from the ESV or English Standard Version has "then realizes his guilt", and the other from the NAU or New American Standard does not have that part in it, and the Tanach translation does not have it either. The distinction is made between one saying that even if they sin and don't know it, they are guilty and must bring an offering, but the problem would be what type of sin have they committed because that would directly relate to the type of sacrifice or offering they had to bring. In the other instance, the translation indicates that when they realize they have sinned, then they bear their iniquity. When you look at the Hebrew in that passage, it lines up with the translation that follows the realization that one has sinned. Once you understand you have sinned, then you take hold of your sin and deal with it. The sacrificial system called for a sin offering for unknowing sin. Deliberate sin did not have an offering. So, the realization that one has sinned brings them to have to make an offering to the Almighty. What happens when we do not have a temple where we can bring a sacrifice? The rabbis came up with an alternate system after the destruction of the temple. This system put in place prayer, keeping the commandments, and *tzedakah* or charity. The rabbis said this would suffice for one who sins. The problem this brings is the sin offering

and burnt offering require the shedding of blood, and without a Temple in the place that the Holy One chose, we have a problem. The rabbinical system does not work. What does work is the sacrifice of Messiah Yeshua who took our sins upon Himself and then offered Himself up to His Father as a sin offering by shedding His blood and dying for us.

What He did for us is unacceptable to most Jews because they do not believe in human sacrifice and, most importantly, they do not believe the Father has a Son. The problem with this line of thinking is how does one gain redemption or salvation from their sins without the blood atonement called for by the Torah? Is the Almighty against human sacrifice? I believe He is, but He knew the only way to deal with sin is by a blood atonement, and we cannot continue to offer up one animal after the other because this has always been only a temporary solution. The solution that works is one where the Son of the Holy One agrees to be our sacrifice for our sins, and to accomplish this, He must become human like us for this to succeed. This is the problem. We must stop trying to fit God into our understanding. He is beyond that, but like everything else we try to do, we want to define God by placing our limitations on Him when it cannot be done.

The first three chapters of Leviticus detail the main types of sacrifices that individuals offer. The *Olah*, the burnt offering, provides a pleasing odor for God. The *Miha*, the grain offering, must be without leaven. The fat and the blood of the *Shelamim*, peace or whole offerings, cannot be consumed. These sacrifices serve different purposes, communal and individual, required and optional. Chapter four we already covered in the Scripture for this week.

Finally, the *Asham*, guilt offering, is for robbery or fraud, for the misappropriation of temple property, and for the unintentional violations of prohibitions.

When you look at this list of sacrifices the Almighty requires from us, you see there is a grain offering. Here we have an offering that does not require blood, but almost everything else does, including the *Shelamim* or peace offering. Why the need for any offerings at all if one sacrifice can fulfill all of them? In the time of Yeshua, the belief in one God was not the majority rule. Paganism or many gods was the norm in His day. The Jews were looked on as being a strange people because they worshipped only one God. Other nations could not understand this, and today while a belief in one God is followed by most people, how they choose to worship that God is the question, and is their one God the same as the God we worship? According to them it is, but then again it may not be because who is the god they are worshipping, and is the god called Allah the same as the God called YHVH? We are told that we must accept the beliefs of others even if they try to ram it down our throats. What's wrong with this picture? I am not advocating violence against anyone, but as followers of Messiah Yeshua, we must be able to share our faith with others. More importantly, we must live our beliefs in our own lives in order that others may see our walk. Yes, we can become strident about our beliefs, and it may lead to disagreements. It's how we deal with these disagreements that will set us apart. If we try to force what we believe on others, how does that make us different from them?

We have all been guilty of this at one time or another; I know I have. At times, we must show some restraint in talking to others with differing beliefs. Arguing usually does not get us anywhere except that the loudest one believes they have won. It's not about winning but about sharing a walk that involves Yeshua and Torah. They go hand in hand, and in the times we live in, this will be how we get through it. People have many ways of looking at the events that are happening right now throughout the world, and much of it is being triggered by what is happening here in the United States. We all care, in some fashion, about what we see happening, and whether we agree or disagree, the one thing we need to keep in mind is the Almighty is in control!

What we need to do is to make sure we have sacrificed ourselves by surrendering ourselves to the Messiah who stands between us and the Father. He is our sin offering, our burnt offering, and our peace offering. The sacrificial system was put in place to point the way to Him. Everything centers on Him. There is nothing besides Him, and if we think or believe otherwise, we had better wake up very quickly before it is too late.

### **Isaiah 43:21-28**

**21** the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise. <sup>22</sup> "Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob; but you have been weary of me, O Israel! <sup>23</sup> You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings, or honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with offerings, or wearied you with frankincense. <sup>24</sup> You have not bought me sweet cane with money, or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins; you have wearied me with your iniquities. <sup>25</sup> "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. <sup>26</sup> Put me in remembrance; let us argue together; set forth your case, that you may be proved right. <sup>27</sup> Your first father sinned, and your mediators transgressed against me. <sup>28</sup> Therefore I will profane the princes of the sanctuary, and deliver Jacob to utter destruction and Israel to reviling. (ESV)

Are we like Israel? Have we turned our backs on our Creator by failing to praise Him, to honor Him, and to love Him as He loves us? His love for us is a redeeming love, as He does not desire to see anyone lost. But His love is also a "tough love", and our acceptance of this will make things easier for all of us if we simply surrender ourselves to Him through His Son Yeshua. If you don't believe that the Almighty practice's tough love, then you need to read this passage from Isaiah because to redeem His people Israel, He needs to bring them back to Him, and sometimes He has to give them over to the enemy in order to accomplish this. If you believe He has abandoned Israel, I can tell you this much, He wouldn't be putting so much effort on reaching out to them if He did not care about them. It would be through them that Yeshua would come. Yes, they have made mistakes, but so have all the other nations and anyone who says they are followers of Yeshua. If we were perfect, we would already be at the end, but we are still on the journey.

**Malachi 3:14** You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts?' (Mal 3:14 ESV)

Is it vain to serve God? It is if we somehow elevate ourselves because of this. To serve is to humble oneself, and Scripture tells us this over and over. If we try to raise ourselves up in the eyes of men by claiming we are serving the Holy One of Israel, we are only asking for trouble. God has many ways to bring us back to reality to show us our place in His plan, and we had better hope our place in it will not be removed from it.

**Amos 5:22** Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them.  
<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. <sup>25</sup> "Did you bring to me sacrifices and offerings during the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel? <sup>26</sup> You shall take up Sikkuth your king, and Kiyun your star-god-- your images that you made for yourselves, <sup>27</sup> and I will send you into exile beyond Damascus," says the LORD, whose name is the God of hosts. (ESV)

What do we worship, and what represents our God? Are the symbols that represent our God what He wants or what we want to try to differentiate ourselves from others? Do we get caught up in the symbols when we should be focusing on Him? Is the cross His symbol or man's symbol? Is the star of David His symbol or Israel's symbol? Isn't Israel's symbol supposed to be the Menorah? This was the lamp that was lighted at night to shine on the veil that covered the Holy of Holies. Do we wind up putting our faith in what men create instead of the Creator? What does He think about what we have done?

**Daniel 9:11** All Israel has transgressed your Torah and turned aside, refusing to obey your voice. And the curse and oath that are written in the Torah of Moses the servant of God have been poured out upon us, because we have sinned against him. (ESV)

If you believe that in some way, shape, or form you are part of Israel, then you had better take the words of Daniel to heart. Transgression of Torah is to go against Yeshua, the Living Torah. If you say Yeshua is not the Living Torah, then you may be denying His covenant and find yourself on the outside looking in.

### **Revelation 3:5**

**5** The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and **I will never blot his name out of the book of life.** I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. (ESV)

This is the side where you want to be. If we stand our ground and overcome whatever is thrown our way, we will make it to the end. To never be blotted out of the Book of Life is the guarantee of eternal life. If we hold to our faith in Messiah and have done our best to follow His covenant of Torah, He will confess our names before His Father and the angelic host. Yeshua is willing to do this for us. What will you do for Him -- walk your own way or His way? In the end, you need to enter a relationship with the Father through the Son. That relationship is one built on faith in Messiah and living a life based on Torah. The ultimate sacrifice has been made, we just need to grab hold of it.

**Torah man says: "Pride is like a man's shirt, it is the first thing on, and the last thing off."**

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, a Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies. Drop us a line at [student.support@jsi-edu.org](mailto:student.support@jsi-edu.org) for more information. You can earn a certificate or diploma and take courses to help you grow in your understanding.

