

Holy to the Lord

You and the book of
Leviticus

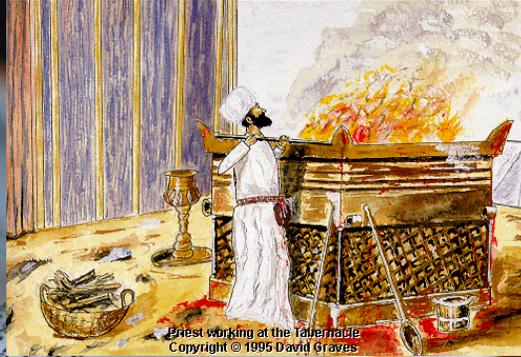


Chapters 4 and 5

Christ: I did not come to abolish the Law, but fulfill it. (Matt. 5:17)– Christ didn't abolish the Law; He fulfilled it! This means that God's Law has significance even today. We still observe the 10 Commandments, even though Christ fulfilled them. Can we learn anything from God's ceremonial law to guide us in worship today?

Purpose of Ceremony: Restore Ritual access to the Lord's Presence

Burnt Offering



1. Purpose: Make atonement so that God could be in the presence of His people.
2. "Whole" burnt offering, No leftovers.

Grain Offering



1. Purpose: Give thanks to God. Tithing
2. No mention of atonement

Peace Offering



1. Purpose: To share a meal with God
2. No mention of atonement.

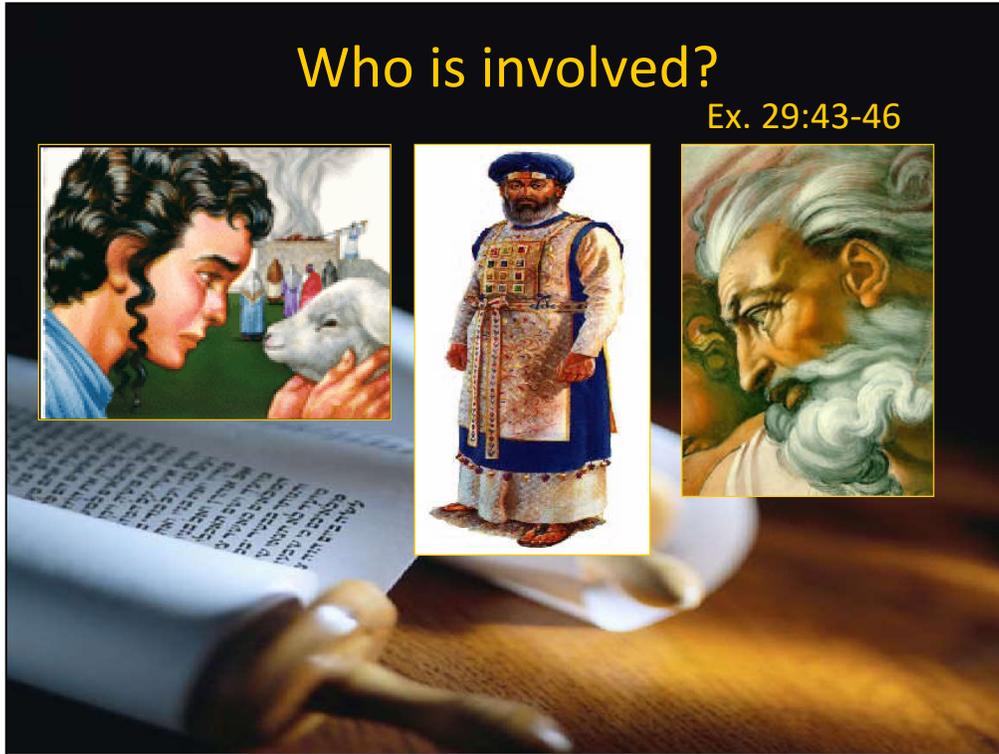
Sin Offering



1. Purpose: vv 4:20b, 26b, 31b, 35b; 5:10b, 13b = “Thus the priest shall make atonement for him/them . . . so that they may be **forgiven**.”
2. “Forgiven” not as precise as “released.”
3. Note!!!! Atonement is not synonymous with forgiven. Atonement is making things right between you and God, objectively. (E.g., if someone steals your car and wrecks it, the usual order of things is that the thief, when brought to justice, pays you for your car (ideally), then you forgive him. The payment is objective, your forgiving him is subjective). The forgiveness is in the subjectivity of God. Atonement is a prerequisite for forgiveness. – Just as cleanness is not synonymous with holiness, but it is a prerequisite of holiness.
4. Ch 4. Unintentional Sins; Ch. 5: Graded (classified intentional) sins

Who is involved?

Ex. 29:43-46



Who is involved in this sacrifice? How many people does it take to “make smoke?”

3. Who are they? 1) layman, 2) priest, 3) God (check out his nostrils –ready for smoke)

Too often we in the sacrifice we focus on what the people are doing (offering a sacrifice). But the primary function of the burnt offering was so that the Lord would graciously meet with His people. This is made clear in Ex 29:43-46 where God tells that He meets and sanctifies His people.

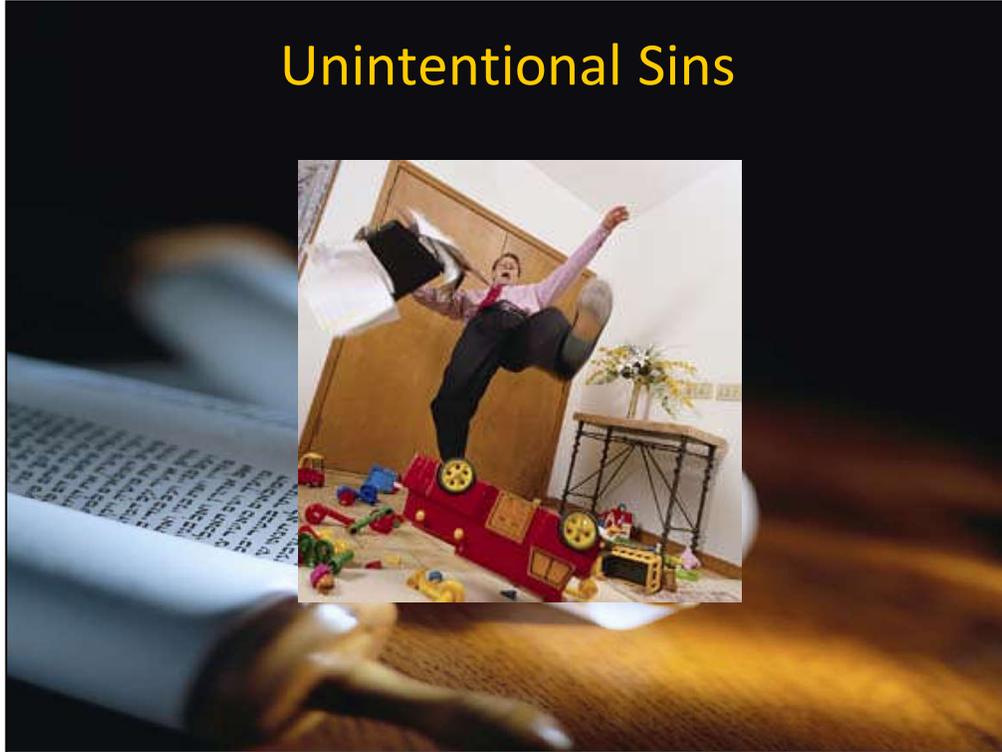
Who is involved



Congregation

1. Chieftain
2. Average Joe's (Laity)

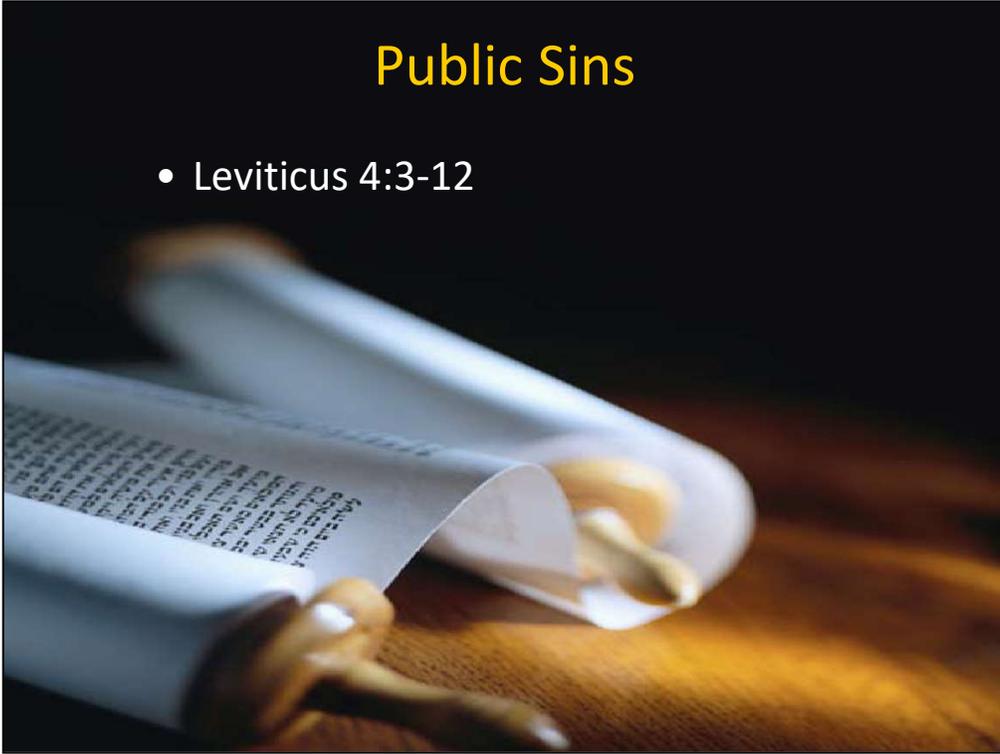
Unintentional Sins



1. Which sins are these? Doesn't specify.
2. Public and Personal

Public Sins

- Leviticus 4:3-12



Somebody read.

Sins of the Priest

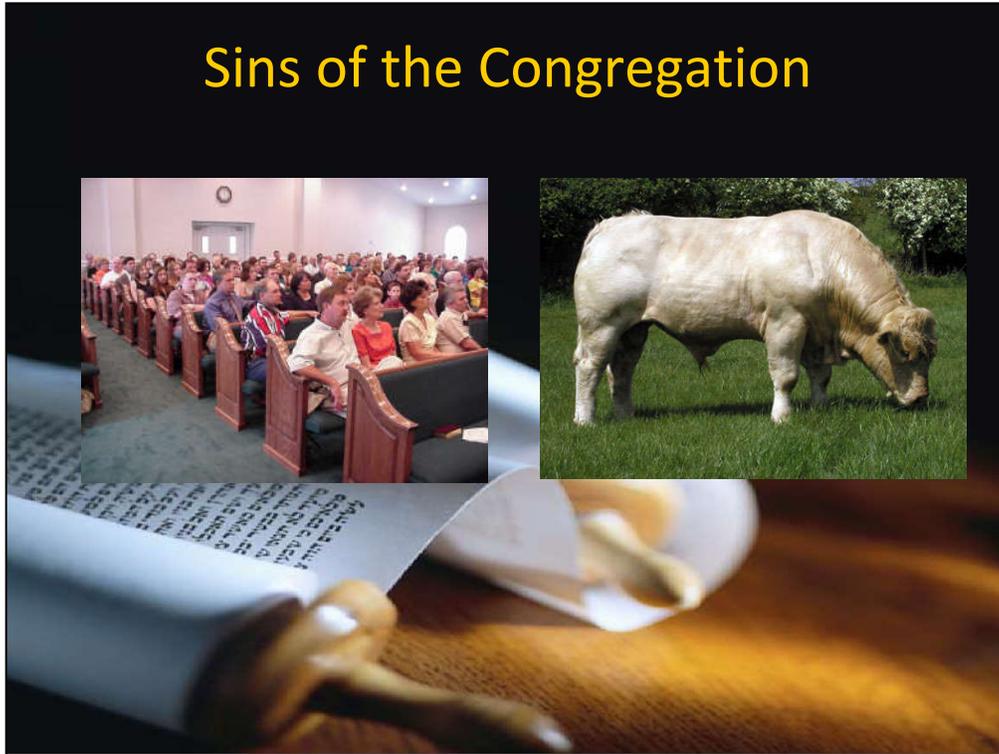


THE PASSOVER: SLAYING THE PASCHAL LAMB.—NUM. IX.



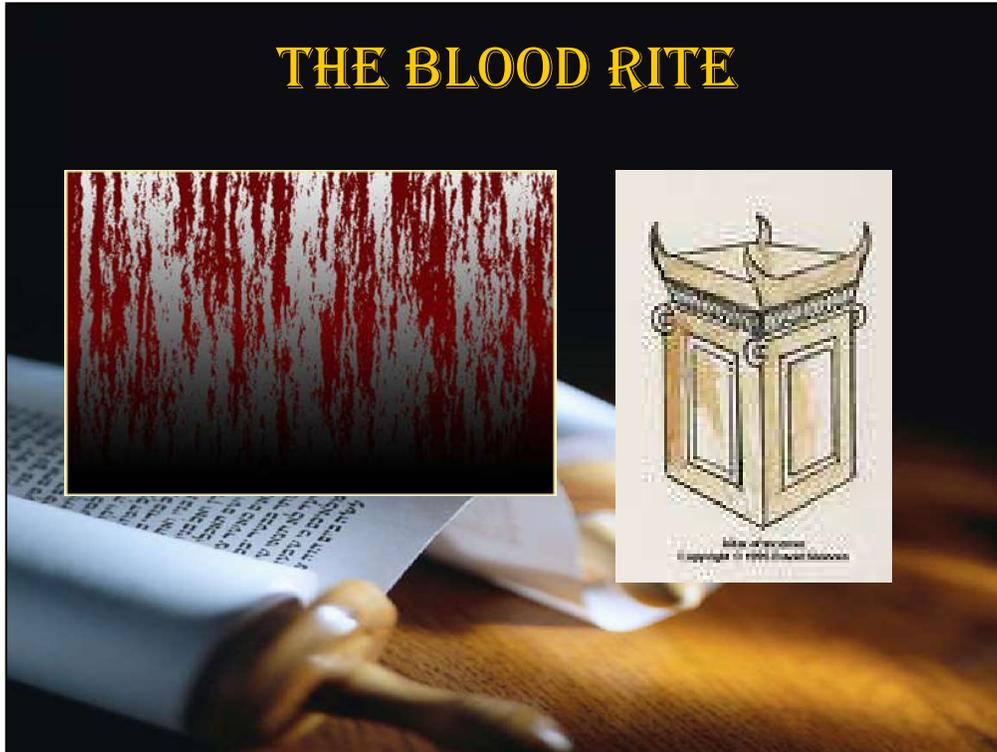
1. Sacrifices must be ritually clean, and edible.
2. Choice of animals meant to differentiate this sacrifice from the burnt offering
3. Priest -- “Domesticated” Bull
 1. Since the Bull was the head of the domesticated animals, it was used for the High priest.
 2. Bulls used elsewhere for Ordination of Priests (Lev. 8:14, 16:6) and Levites (Num 8:8)
4. Occasion: “The ritual transgression of the High Priest in the performance of some ceremony involving and so implicating the congregation (Kleinig 116) No specific case is given.
 1. Whatever sin it was, the congregation suffered as a result of it.

Sins of the Congregation



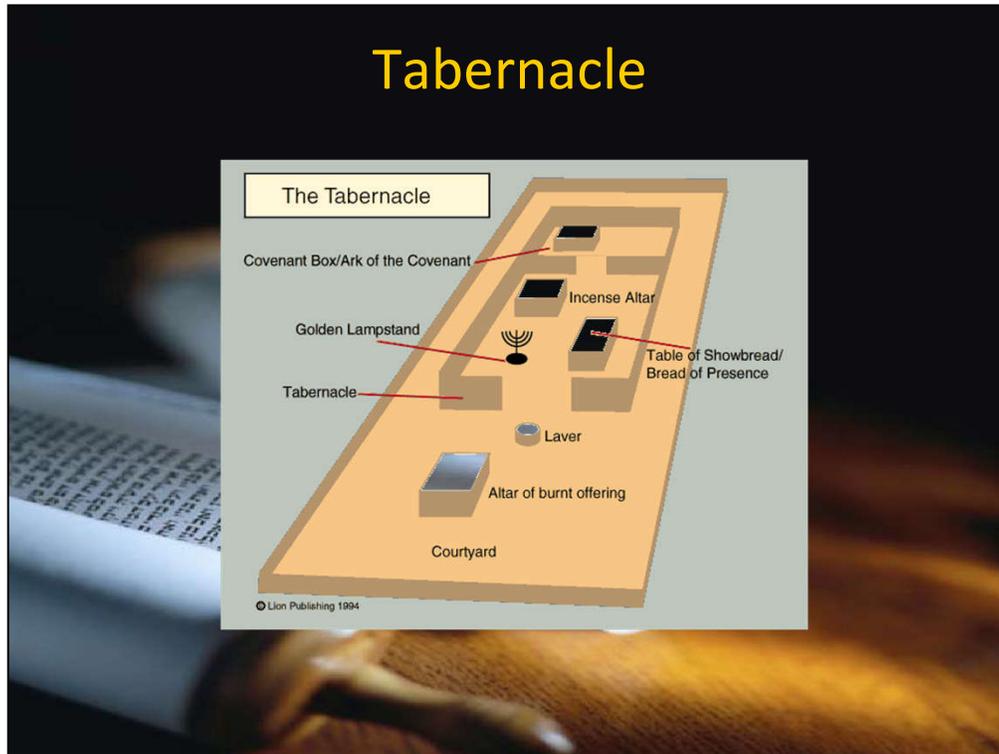
1. Brought forth by elders (4:15), who were legally entitled to act on behalf of it's tribes and clans.
2. Doesn't specify an "unblemished" bull. Why?
 1. Klenig doesn't comment but says that all sin offerings must come from unblemished stock (113). Maybe it's assumed that it's unblemished.
3. Why, then, is a bull used in sacrifice for congregational sins?
 1. Kleinig says that 4:3-12 and 4:13-21 are complementary remedies for the one sin committed by the high priest in his official capacity.

THE BLOOD RITE



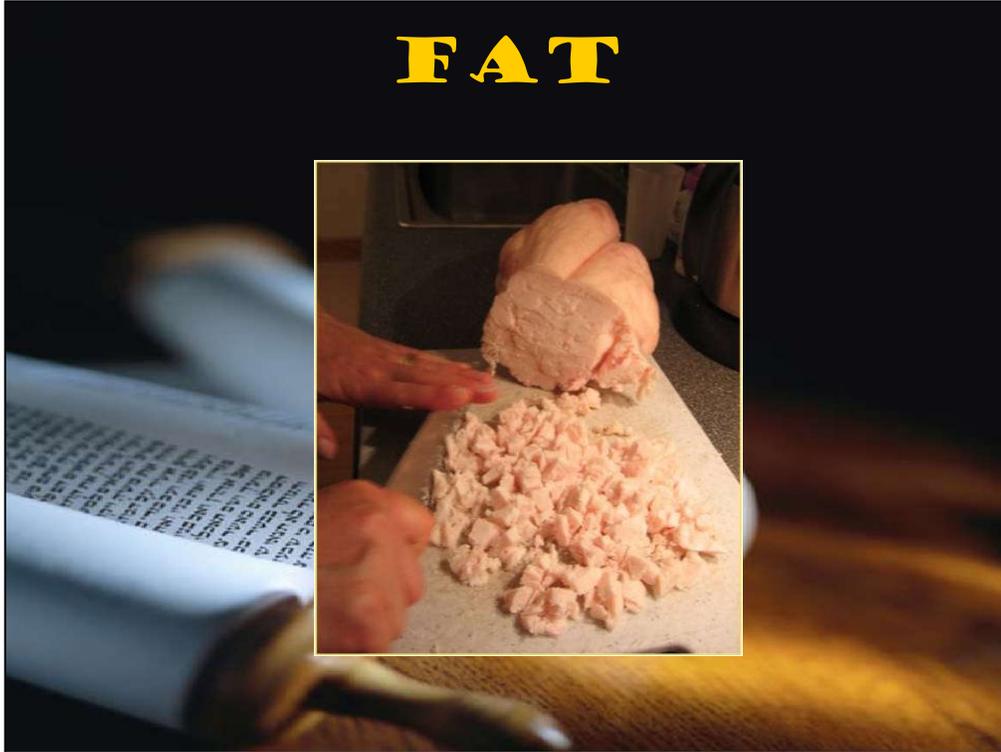
1. For unintentional public sins Lev 4:6-7, 17-18,
2. Sprinkled before the curtain, smeared on horns of altar of incense, then poured out at the base of the altar for burnt offerings.
3. “Since the sin offering was designed as a special rite of atonement, the blood from the animal was the most important ritual substance in it” (Kleinig 114).
4. Blood does not Forgive, it atones. Lev 4:20b = “Thus the priest shall make atonement for them, so that they may be forgiven.”
5. Hebrews 9:22
6. “Thus, the blood was brought into God’s presence and smeared on the horns of an altar.” (Kleinig 115)
 1. “The blood was THE MEANS BY WHICH ATONEMENT WAS MADE for a transgression against God”
 2. “It restored the transgressor and undid the damage done to the altar by his transgression”
7. Sacraments: MEANS OF ATONEMENT/GRACE. Jesus’ blood can do no good if it is just left at the cross. If we are temples of God, the Holy Spirit, our bodies must be smeared with the blood of Christ. Get rid of the sacraments, and Christ’s objective atonement cannot be communicated to you.
8. Purpose: “In this way, ritual access of the congregation to the Lord’s presence was publically restored.”

Tabernacle



1. Blood sprinkled on curtain and horns of incense altar.
 1. Sprinkling the curtain was a partial fulfillment of the comprehensive annual enactment of the Day of Atonement.
 2. By daubing the horns, the Incense altar was purged for the priests public act of intercession every morning and evening (Think Zechariah in Luke)

FAT



1. What other offering gives the fat to the Lord? (Peace offering)
2. What's different here in sin offering? (See Lev 3:5,11,16).
 1. NOT A GIFT to the Lord, but regarded as his by right of possession (Lev 4:8ff)

Leftovers



1. Burnt offering – No leftovers – “whole” burnt offering
2. Grain offering – Priests get leftovers
3. Peace offering – People feast on leftovers
4. Sin offering – Leftovers taken outside of the camp and burned (Lev 4:12) Why might this be?
 1. See exodus and scapegoat. The goat takes the sin and is unclean. – No
 2. Carcass taken to a ritually clean place outside the camp by the priest. “He thereby ensured that it could not be used by anyone for any other ritual purpose” (Kleinig 115).

Personal Sins

- Leviticus 4:22-35



1. Chief or Ordinary person
2. Still unintentional
3. No specific examples. Maybe the drinking of blood or eating of fat or polluted food. Maybe a failure to perform the divine service in a prescribed way.
4. Purpose: So they could enter the sanctuary without polluting it by THEIR impurity.

“Chief Sins”



1. Though rams were the most aggressive and powerful animals in any flock, the dominant male goats led the flock to water and to pasture.
2. Since the male goat represented the leaders of Israel, God's flock (Pss 74:1; 79:13; 95:7; 100:3), it was used for the sin offering of the congregation and its leaders. (Lev 4:23, 16:5)

Sins of Average Joe



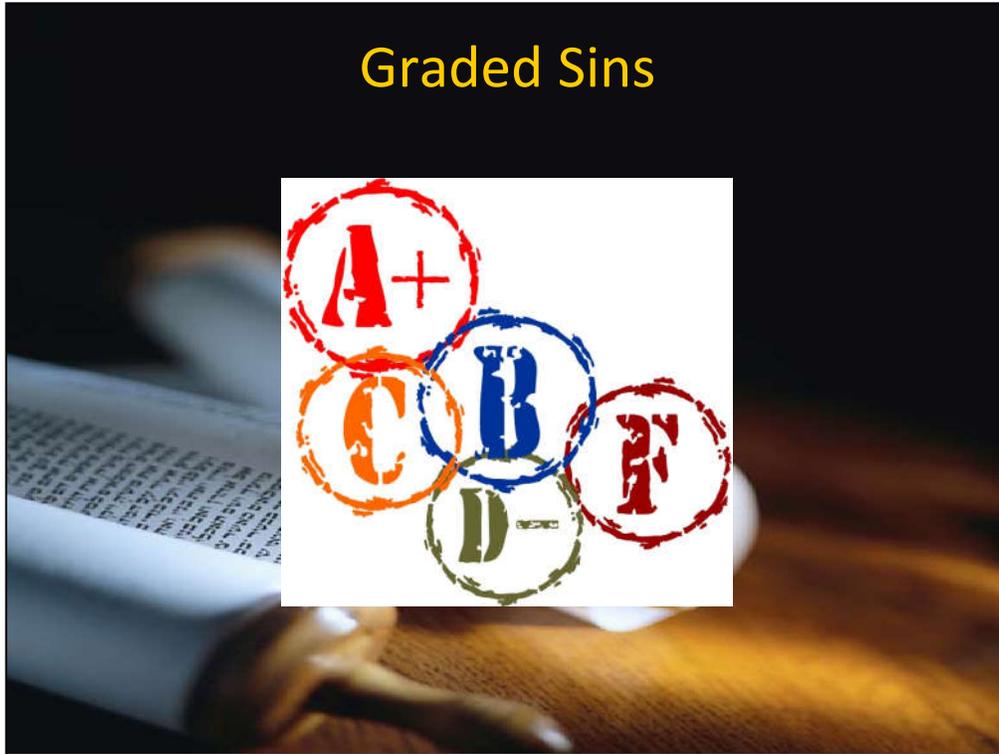
1. Female goats and sheep made up the bulk of any Israelite flock.
2. They therefore symbolized the members of the congregation and so were used for the sin offerings of the ordinary people. (Lev 4:28, 32; 5:6)

Other Differences?



1. Blood is not sprinkled before the curtain, but is smeared on the horns for the burnt offering altar. (For public sins, blood smeared on the horns of the incense altar)
 1. Altar needed cleansed b/c people merely had access to the burnt offering altar when they brought the sacrifice.
2. Fat is the Lords! Burnt in both.
3. Leftovers: In personal sin offering, the officiating priest received the skin and the meat for his own use. Since the meat was most holy, it could only be eaten in the sanctuary.

Graded Sins



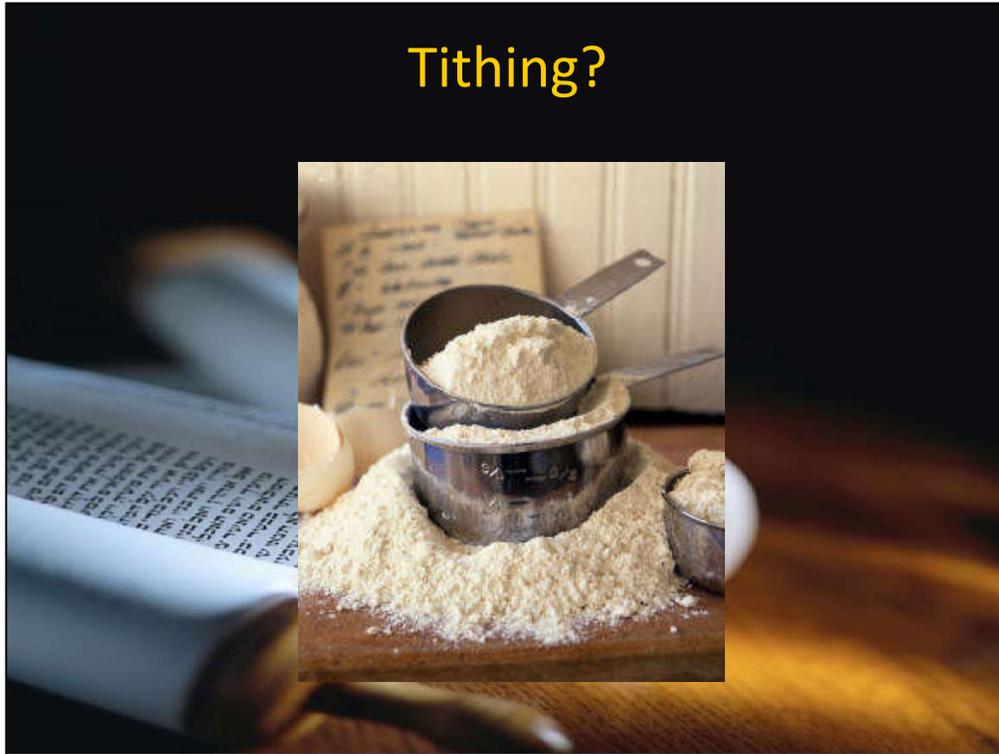
1. Graded = Classified and not completely unintentional.
2. Deal with the “alleviation of guilt from four acts of negligence affecting the divinely instituted sacred order” (Kleinig 119)
3. Lev. 5:1-5
 1. Oaths and uncleanness.
 2. “He shall confess the sin of which he is guilty” v.5

Two Birds



1. Turtledoves or pigeons

Tithing?



1. Tenth of an Ephah = amount given to a person for his ration for a single day.
2. No oil or incense. Why?
3. Flour not a gift, but rather “placed on the gifts on the altar.” Thus it served a different function than the grain offering—that is, it replaced the sprinkling of blood for the performance of atonement.
4. The leftovers eaten by the priest in the sanctuary b/c it is most holy.

Beyond the Old Testament

- Luke 18:9-14, 1 John 1:9
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Hebrews 13:11-12
- Hebrews 3:1-6
- 1 John 2:2



Notice in these verses how the atonement made by Christ transcends the sacrificial atonement in the Old Testament.

Next Week:



Trespass (Reparation) offering