

PEACE OFFERING

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Lev. 3:1-17 The PEACE (FELLOWSHIP) Offering

Meaning: “*shalom*” A Jewish greeting

Cessation of hostilities

State of well-being or prosperity

First mention = Garden of Eden; creation at peace

Change took place = sin (*Is 59:2*)

Sacrifices = appeasement of a holy God, look forward to the true sacrifice (Christ), picture of the eternal state (fellowship)

Uniqueness

Third of sweet savour offerings – celebration of His work (reconciliation)

Speaks of Christ in a more practical aspect of His sacrifice (*Eph 5:2*)

Only one that provides for participation of the offerer

Introduces worshiper

Fellowship: God, Priest (Christ) and the Offerer (Believer and family) (*1 John 1:7*)

Food of the offering – *vs 11, 16*

God is propitiated; man is reconciled (*Col 1:20*)

Offered after a burnt or meal offering

Atonement is the basis for all fellowship (*Rom 5:1*)

Substance of the Offering

Bullock (herd) – strength of servant

Lamb (flock) – unresisting surrender (*Is 53:7*)

Goat – the sin bearer (*Is 53:12*)

All were given same instructions for offering – no difference

Male or female – obedience, leadership/submission, compassion

Without blemish, “*in Him is no sin, 1 Jn 3:5*”

Laid hands on – personal identification (Burnt Offering)

Sprinkle blood around the brazen altar (*Heb 9:22*)

Division of the Offering

God's portion = burnt upon the altar first

Fat – the choicest part of the animal, love and affections

Kidneys – motives need to be pure, determines health of the body

Caul above liver – superabundance

Restriction = no fat or blood to be eaten (for God alone)

Lev. 7:29-34, 11-21 = Law of the Peace Offering

Priest's portion (Christ) – *vs 29-34*

Breast – affections in his life (resource for worship); wave offering

Shoulder – power and strength in his walk (resource for service) heave offering

Portion of the meal offering – one of each kind

Offerer's portion (family, friends, poor) – *vs 11-21*

Remainder of the animal; food for fellowship

Motivation (three opportunities)

- Thank offering – thankful response to a special unsolicited blessing
- Unleavened cakes with oil – Christ in the Spirit (meal offering)
- Leavened bread – man in his humanity; sin in our nature - allowable
 - To be eaten on the same day – immediate appreciation
- Vow or votive offering – answer to prayer accompanied by a vow
- Free-will offering – spontaneous praise and thanksgiving
 - To be eaten on the first or second day – not on the third day
 - Communion and sacrifice must be close together – freshness

Restrictions for Offering

- Cleanliness = Purity; sin on our conscience (unconfessed)
 - Confession is required for forgiveness (*1 Jn 1:9*)
- A requirement for fellowship with God
- Separation (cut-off)
 - Eating on second or third days – *vs 18* (avoid corruption)
 - Offering to touch no unclean thing – *vs 19* (unclean always defiles clean)
 - Eating with uncleanness – *vs 20, 21* (unconfessed sins)
 - Eating of the fat – *vs 23-25* (reverence to God's altar, worship)
 - Eating blood – *vs 26, 27* (blood of atonement)

Our Fellowship: Practical Applications

Full fellowship:

- How much do I enter into the fellowship that I have through Him?
 - Words of Christ (*John 14:21*)
 - Words of Apostle John (*1 John 1:3*)

Assembly fellowship

- Am I active and complete in Assembly fellowship?
 - (*Acts 2:42, 1 Cor 10:16*)

Material fellowship

- Does my fellowship affect my attitude toward others?
 - (*1 Jn 1:7, 2 Cor 8:4*)

Gospel fellowship

- Am I actively participating in fellowship that leads to the spread of the gospel?
 - (*Gal 2:9*)

Fellowship in Testimony

- Does my fellowship affect my testimony to the world?
 - (*Phil 3:10*)

Wrong fellowship

- Is my fellowship hindered by my associations?
 - (*2 Cor 6:14*)

False fellowship

- How far is what we say from what we do?
 - (*1 John 1:6*)

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:7)