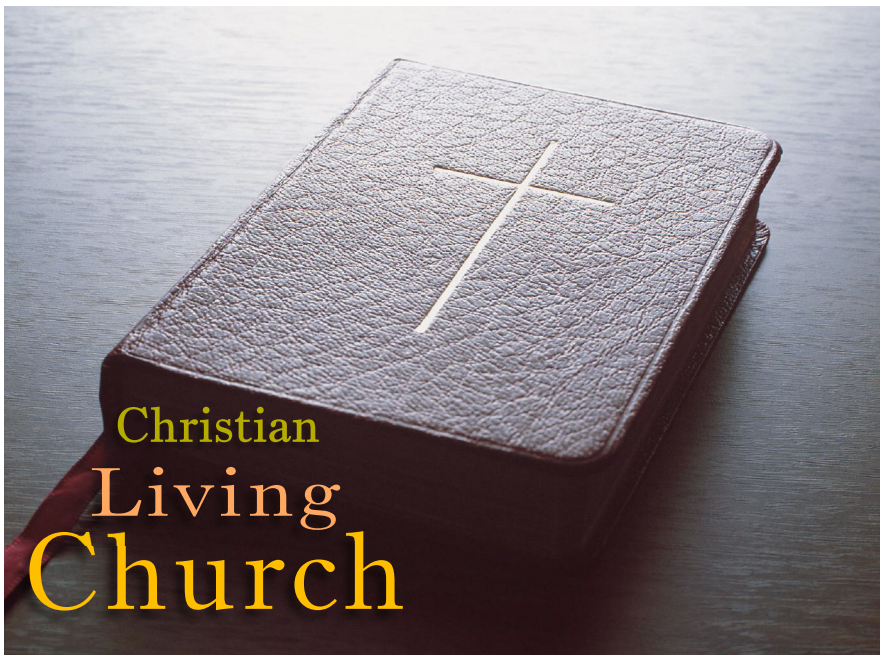


The Sacrificial Law

“Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, My offering, and my bread for my sacrifices made by fire, for a sweet savour unto me, shall ye observe to offer unto me in their due season.”



Christian
Living
Church

The Sacrificial Law



This series of lessons has been designed for private study or classroom presentation. The purpose of this foreword is to explain certain conventions utilized throughout the program. The overall concept is to begin with the basic concepts necessary for the new convert to understand and progress toward more complex doctrine. The lessons are numbered in order to maintain the proper sequence of study.

When Scripture references are encountered in the text, various actions are recommended. When in parenthetical bold (**Genesis 1:1**) the verse is to be looked up and read right away. Frequently, the next textual statement will comment on that verse. Reading verse and text in proper order will enhance one's understanding of the verse. Direct quotes from Scripture will be "***bold italicized and contained in quotation marks***" and, unless otherwise noted, will be from the King James Bible. When the reference is in parenthetical non-bold (Genesis 1:1) it is to provide the Scriptural basis for the statement if confirmation is desired. References in blue [Genesis 1:1](#) will be listed in the lesson section entitled **FURTHER STUDY**.

FURTHER STUDY is the "homework" section. Its purpose is to encourage Bible study at home. The referenced verses have a short summation to assist the student desiring more knowledge about a subject to find what they are looking for.

The **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** section is primarily for classroom use. Open discussion with the exchange of ideas produces growth for all involved. Most of the time the answer is contained in the referenced Scripture but sometimes the question is offered for open discussion. Even in private Bible study, analysis of the question and the search for its answer can be rewarding.

This work is offered to anyone with a desire to better understand God's Word. It is our hope and prayer that the person studying these lessons will come away with a better understanding of God's will and a closer walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With Loving Concern for all those seeking God's Message
The Church of God Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount, Virginia

Key Verse: Numbers 28:2



“Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, My offering, and my bread for my sacrifices made by fire, for a sweet savour unto me, shall ye observe to offer unto me in their due season.”

Discussion Question: What does this Key Verse mean to you?

The third type of law we will study is the Sacrificial Law, coming into practice after the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, and later expanded into the Priesthood Law after the Exodus from Egypt.

We can be sure that the practice of making sacrifices to God was in existence immediately after He commanded Adam and Eve to leave the Garden because Cain and Abel were offering sacrifices (**Genesis 4:3-4**). It is reasonable to assume that God instructed the first man and woman in many things in order

for them to survive, from hunting and food preparation, to making clothes, to conducting their new relationship with Him (**Genesis 3:21**). This would include a means of redemption, albeit temporary, by which Adam and his wife could reconcile themselves to God after their sin and they taught this practice to their offspring. The gravity of the ritual is evident when Cain was so moved by God’s rejection of his offering, he killed his brother because Abel’s offering had been favored (**Genesis 4:5, 8**).

The next example of offering sacrifices to God is when Noah emerged from the ark (**Genesis 8:20**). Thinking back to the last lesson about the Sanitary Law, take note that Noah distinguished between *clean* and

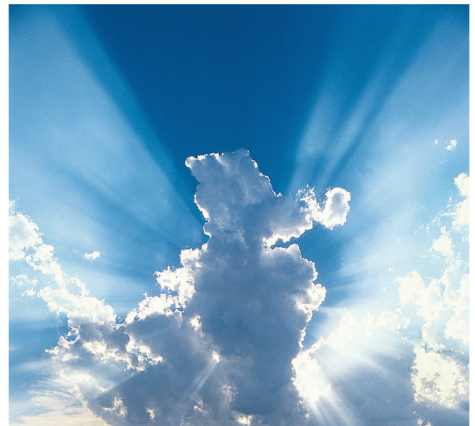
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unclean animals, using only the clean for the sacrificial offering. This proves that such law existed long before Moses ever met with God on Mount Sinai. Abram (Abraham) built many altars, indicating that the practice of sacrifice was quite commonplace for him (**Genesis 12:6-8; 13:18**). When told by God to travel to Mount Moriah (**Genesis 22:2**) to sacrifice his son Isaac, the story of the most symbolic sacrifice in the Old Testament is related. The offering up of his son places Abram in the role of God the Father sending His Son to die for us, and the substitution of the wild ram for Isaac portrays the surrogate death of Christ for us. The portion of chapter 22 telling this story is listed under “[Further Study](#)” at the end of this lesson.

All of the patriarchs conducted worship and sacrifice upon altars they built every place they traveled to and settled. As the head of their household, the

performance of these duties fell on their shoulders, but after the Exodus and the codifying of the law by Moses, the job fell to the Levites as the chosen tribe of priests. With the onset of this major change, an entire set of Priesthood Laws came into being, and worship and sacrifice became more structured. Very specific details of sacrifice for many different purposes were prescribed. The first seven chapters of [Leviticus](#) explain all of this. In the next three chapters the duties of the priests are spelled out in great detail. These rituals and ceremonies were still being practiced when Jesus began His ministry.



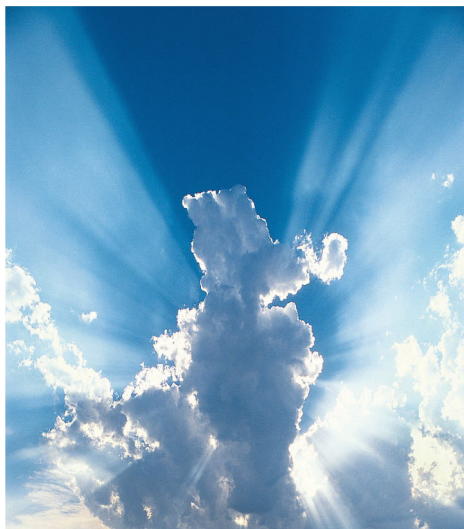
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Jesus made it quite clear that it was not His intention to do away with the law (**Matthew 5:17-19**) and to instruct others that He had done so would have dire consequences. There is no denying the fact that some laws were rendered void by His death (**Hebrews 7:12-14**). Priests had to come from the tribe of Levi. Jesus was of the tribe of Judah, a tribe given no altar attendance duties by Moses at all. Since Jesus is now our High Priest (**Hebrews 9:11**) there had to be a change in the law. Resurrected to eternal life, He is our High Priest forever, fulfilling the duties of the office of high priest by making intercession for us (**Hebrews 7:24-27**). He is holy, undefiled and being sinless does not need to offer sacrifice first for His own sins. No sacrifice is required today for the people's sins because He did this once and for all when He offered up Himself. In so do-

ing, He took away the ritual of the sacrifice of animals, substituting Himself instead (**Hebrews 10:9-10**). Since it is obvious that some laws have been "done away" and Jesus said He did not come to destroy the law, He had to be talking about a particular *class* of law, the Moral Law which represents the very mind set of God and has been in existence for eternity with God.

The next and last type of law to study is the Cultural Law.



The Sacrificial Law



Discussion Questions:

1. If Noah saved only two of each kind, how did some clean species survive after he offered some of them for sacrifice?

Genesis 7:2-3

2. When the priests labored on the Sabbath performing animal sacrifice, did all of this slaughter, gutting, and skinning constitute sin? **Matthew 12:5**

3. Do you think that reference to Jesus as a “lamb” was in the context of sacrifice? **Leviticus 23:12; John 1:29**

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FURTHER STUDY:

Genesis 22:1-14 The story of Abraham sacrificing Isaac.

Leviticus chapters 1-10 The different sacrifices and the duties of the priests.

Isaiah 53:7 Old Testament reference to Jesus as a lamb.

1 Peter 1:19 New Testament reference to Jesus as a lamb.

Notes:

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