
PRIESTLY RESPONSIBILITIES AS WORSHIP

Leviticus 7



SERMON THEME

Today, we conclude our study of the first major section of Leviticus—The Institution of the Sacrificial System—by considering Leviticus 7 and the priestly responsibilities in the sacrificial system.

- *All their responsibilities were to be done as an act of worship.*

“The offering of sacrifice was the principle act of Israel’s worship experience.”

MARK ROOKER, COMMENTARY ON LEVITICUS

PRIESTLY RESPONSIBILITIES AS WORSHIP

LEVITICUS 7

- I. The Priestly Responsibilities as Worship (6:8–7:36)
 - A. The Ascension Offering (6:8–13)
 - B. The Grain Offering (6:14–23)
 - C. The Sin/Purification Offering (6:24–30)
 - D. The Guilt Offering (7:1–10)

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I. The Priestly Responsibilities as Worship (6:8–7:36)

D. The Guilt Offering (7:1–10)

- i. Its Location—in the courtyard of the tabernacle (1–2)
- ii. Its Burning—only certain parts were offered (3–5)
- iii. Its Worship—the consuming of meat pictured acceptance (6–10)

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 - E. The Peace Offering (7:11–36)

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E. The Peace Offering (7:11–36)

- i. To be offered with praise (11–14)
- ii. To be eaten accordingly (15–18)

“The difference between [votive and freewill], on the one hand, and the [peace offering], on the other, is that the votive sacrifice (neder) is offered when the prayer is answered (Pss. 22:25[26]; 50:14 etc.), while the freewill offering is offered when there is no specific obligation to do so. Moreover the thanksgiving sacrifice is offered in response to the Lord’s gracious unilateral salvific act. Thus the more a worshipper owes to the Lord, the stricter the rules of eating the meat become. In other words, the Lord naturally expects more hospitality in the offering of [the peace offering] than of the [votive] and [freewill]. The common element of the three kinds of offering is the Lord’s desire that the offerer’s self-centeredness be removed by the time the communion meal is held.”

NOBUYOSHI KIUCHI, COMMENTARY ON LEVITICUS

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I. The Priestly Responsibilities as Worship (6:8–7:36)

E. The Peace Offering (7:11–36)

- i. To be offered with praise (11–14)
- ii. To be eaten accordingly (15–18)
- iii. To be kept clean (19–21)
- iv. The people were to avoid eating fat and blood (22–27)
- v. The people were to honor the priests (28–36)

“The Lord commands that some of the very best portions be given to the priests (vv. 31–32, 34). This would have taught the Israelites to honor those who led them in worship: if the Lord honored the priests by assigning the very best cuts of meat to them, surely the Israelites were to honor them as well.”

JAY SKLAR, COMMENTARY ON LEVITICUS

PRIESTLY RESPONSIBILITIES AS WORSHIP

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I. The Priestly Responsibilities as Worship (6:8–7:36)

II. A Concluding Summary (7:37–38)

III. Our Response to the Sacrificial System as Worship

A. Rejoice in the Lamb of God who has taken away your sin.

B. Draw near to God who desires to commune with you.

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