



Message 3-16-19
VaYikra-And He Called
Leviticus 1:1-5:26
1 Samuel 15:2-34
Matthew 26:36-39

Introduction

The Book of Leviticus is the pinnacle book of the Torah. Located in the very center of the Torah, it brings together the ritual and ethics that has always been the way of Torah.

Leviticus 1:1-5

1 Now the LORD called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, ² "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of the livestock-- of the herd and of the flock. ³ 'If his offering *is* a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; **he shall offer it of his own free will** at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD. ⁴ 'Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him. ⁵ 'He shall kill the bull before the LORD; and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar that *is by* the door of the tabernacle of meeting. (NKJ)

In these various sacrifices that Israel was to do, they were to come before the Lord for a variety of reasons. The main one was because of sin, and in bringing the offering of a burnt sacrifice, it will be accepted. The sacrifice must be without blemish and a male. Those bringing the sacrifice would do so of their own free will. They would put their hand on the offering, and then it would be accepted. The individual bringing the offering would kill it, and the priests would gather the blood and sprinkle the blood all around the altar that was by the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting. I believe this was a reference to the Holy Place, the first part in entering the Tabernacle. The other part would be the Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant was kept.

All of what we read here is a picture of the Messiah Yeshua, how we have laid our hands on Him, and received atonement for our sins, if we have freely done this as He freely offered His own life to bring redemption to mankind.

Ephesians 5:25 As for husbands, love your wives, just as the Messiah loved the Messianic Community, indeed, gave himself up on its behalf, ²⁶ in order to set it apart for God, making it clean through immersion in the *mikveh*, so to speak, ²⁷ in order to present the Messianic Community to himself as a bride to be proud of, without a spot, wrinkle or

any such thing, but holy and without defect. ²⁸ This is how husbands ought to love their wives- like their own bodies; for the man who loves his wife is loving himself. (CJB)

In this passage from Ephesians, it has been misused for so long, I don't know how anyone can understand what it is saying? The command is directed to families starting with the husbands and wives. This passage used to be used to force women to do what their husbands told them to do. What it is saying is husbands love your wives just as the Messiah loved the Body of Believers who would become the bride for Him. If the man loves his wife as himself, his wife will be willing to follow his lead, but they will be partners in this relationship.

The man will tend to make decisions that could be hurtful to their wives or children if they believe they have all the authority based on Scripture. The truth is the man has no authority if he does not love Messiah as Messiah loves him who was willing to die for him. The man must be willing to do the same thing. He must be willing to die for his family as Messiah did. If he does not, then we do not have a deal.

Romans 12:1 I exhort you, therefore, brothers, in view of God's mercies, to offer yourselves as a sacrifice, living and set apart for God. This will please him; it is the logical "Temple worship" for you. ² In other words, do not let yourselves be conformed to the standards of the *'olam hazeh*. Instead, keep letting yourselves be transformed by the renewing of your minds; so that you will know what God wants and will agree that what he wants is good, satisfying and able to succeed. (CJB)

Do not let yourselves be conformed to the standards of the *olam hazeh* or this world and this life. We live in this world, yet we are not of this world if we have placed our faith in Messiah Yeshua. We have been given a promise of a better world to come, and that is where we should be focused. Everything in the sacrificial system shows us that Messiah took our punishment upon Himself, and it was His blood that was shed around the altar. The Holy One gave us a picture of His Son through the Tabernacle and later the Temple. He does not desire sacrifices but uses them to teach us what he wants from us. It is all about Messiah and the bride promised to Him.

1 Samuel 15:22-23

22 And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams. ²³ For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king." ²⁴ Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. (ESV)

Notice how this passage confirms what I wrote before this. The Almighty would rather have us obey Him than to offer a sacrifice. Saul had taken upon himself responsibilities that belonged to Samuel. The Holy One became angry with Saul because he did not follow His instructions about the battle in which they were about to fight. Because of the

lack of obedience on the part of Saul, the Almighty took away his kingship and gave it to David, but it would not change hands until Saul's death. Saul makes it very clear why he did what he did in verse 24. He sinned because he was afraid of the people and obeyed their voice instead of the Holy One of Israel. Was it not Aaron who made the people a Golden Calf because they demanded it? This led the people to bow down to a false god on a false festival, and eventually, because of their continued lack of faith, an entire generation would be sentenced to death in the Wilderness of Sinai, forever lost, separated from their God forever.

Matthew 26:36-39

36 Then Yeshua went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." ³⁹ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; **nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.**" (ESV)

Just before Yeshua was to be taken, he gathered His disciples to pray with Him as He knew His time was coming to an end. He faced a death that would make any man suffer. He was sad for what was about to come, but He knew it was the only way. In His humanity, He dropped down and asked His Father if it would be possible to let the cup pass from Him. Was this doubt on the part of Yeshua? Of course not! It was His humanity coming through, and in that moment, He showed us He was one of us, human, and He went on to tell His Father not His will, but the Father's will be done.

If we can join the Messiah in His humanity, we will see what it is He wants us to understand about His Father's plan. At present, we are on a bumpy ride, and the world is changing right before our eyes. We need God more than ever, but we don't want Him to interfere in our lives. We willingly bend the knee to the god of this world, *HaSatan*, but struggle to bend the knee to the Creator of all things including Satan. Satan is a created being. He is not god. He is a false god who has misled many people throughout the ages who will spend eternity with him being punished in the Lake of Fire.

Look to the sacrifice of Yeshua, and you will find your way out of the darkness and into the light. It is God's way or no way. The road to redemption is there waiting for you to walk down it to meet your Redeemer at the end, Yeshua. We are all sinners and have fallen short of the glory of the Father. Yeshua is there to bring us back. Amen!

Torah man says: "Nobody is listening until you make a mistake."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, for Yeshua based Studies. Drop us a line at 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.

