

Leviticus 3:1-17 Peace & Fellowship with YeHoVaH

The first three Chapters of Leviticus provide Instructions from YeHoVaH to His people on how to properly respond to His love for them and how they would be able to develop and maintain their special relationship with Him through voluntary offerings and sacrifices.

The first Chapter revealed the Instructions for voluntary burnt offerings, a sacrifice where the whole offering was consumed on the Brazen Altar.

The second voluntary offering was a bloodless sacrifice with its special Instructions that went by various names depending on the version of the Bible used by the reader.

In this portion of Leviticus, we are introduced to an offering with a set of Instructions that are uniquely different from the first two offerings.

Several points will be made about this offering in this Chapter.

The Peace offering can come from the herd or the flock.
The Peace offering can be male or female.

The Peace Offering is portioned:

There is YeHoVaH's portion
The Priests' portion
The offerors' portion

The Peace Offering is considered by some to be a Fellowship Offering because it was eaten and shared with others.

A portion of the Peace Offering is eaten by the offeror and whomever they share it with, but with restrictions.

It is offered at the door of the Tabernacle.
The Offeror lays hands on the head of the animal and kills (not murder) it.
The Priest takes the blood and pours it around the Altar.

From the Herd

Lev 3:1 And if his oblation be a sacrifice of peace offering, if he offer it of the herd; whether it be a male or female, he shall offer it without blemish before YeHoVaH.

Verse one reveals many things about this particular Offering.

1. It is an oblation.
2. It is a sacrifice.
3. It is an offering of Peace.

Oblation – 07133 קָרְבַּן qorban {kor-bawn'} or קֻרְבָּן qurban {kooor-bawn'}

Meaning: 1) offering, oblation

Origin: from 07126; TWOT - 2065e; n m

Usage: AV - offering 68, oblation 12, offered 1, sacrifice 1; 82

Sacrifice – 02077 זָבַח zebach {zeh'-bakh}

Meaning: 1) sacrifice 1a) sacrifices of righteousness 1b) sacrifices of strife 1c) sacrifices to dead things 1d) the covenant sacrifice 1e) the passover 1f) annual sacrifice 1g) thank offering
Usage: AV - sacrifice 155, offerings 6, offer 1; 162

This is the first time this particular Hebrew word, “zebach”, is used in Leviticus.

3. It is an offering of Peace.

Peace – 08002 שְׁלֵמָה shelem {sheh'-lem}

Meaning: 1) peace offering, requital, sacrifice for alliance or friendship 1a) voluntary sacrifice of thanks

Usage: AV - peace offerings 81, peace 6; 87

The Peace Offering was offered to indicate peace between the offeror and YeHoVaH, as well as to give thanks and to vow unto YeHoVaH.

Yeshua is our Peace Offering.

Eph 2:13 But now in Messiah Yeshua ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Messiah.

Eph 2:14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

Eph 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

The Law associated with the Peace Offering is given in Leviticus 7.

Lev 7:11 And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he shall offer unto YeHoVaH.

The Peace Offerings are divided into "offerings of thanksgiving" and "vows or Freewill Offerings". If the offering is a Thanksgiving Offering, it has to be eaten on the same day and none left until morning.

Lev 7:12 If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried.

Lev 7:13 Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings.

Lev 7:14 And of it he shall offer one out of the whole oblation for an heave offering unto YeHoVaH, and it shall be the priest's that sprinkleth the blood of the peace offerings.

Lev 7:15 And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning.

If the Offering be a vow, or a Voluntary Offering, it can be eaten for two days but not on the third day.

Lev 7:16 But if the sacrifice of his offering be a vow, or a voluntary offering, it shall be eaten the same day that he offereth his sacrifice: and on the morrow also the remainder of it shall be eaten:

Lev 7:17 But the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burnt with fire.

Lev 7:18 And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings be eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted, neither shall it be imputed unto him that offereth it: it shall be an abomination, and the soul that eateth of it shall bear his iniquity.

The Peace Offering is offered at the end of a Nazarite Vow.

Nu 6:13 And this is the law of the Nazarite, when the days of his separation are fulfilled: he shall be brought unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

Nu 6:14 And he shall offer his offering unto YeHoVaH, one he lamb of the first year without blemish for a burnt offering, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish for a sin offering, and one ram without blemish for peace offerings,

There are restrictions of what can be eaten and who can eat of the Peace Offering.

Lev 7:19 And the flesh that toucheth any unclean thing shall not be eaten; it shall be burnt with fire: and as for the flesh, all that be clean shall eat thereof.

The Peace Offering could not be eaten by a person who is unclean.

Lev 7:20 But the soul that eateth of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, that pertain unto YeHoVaH, having his uncleanness upon him, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

Lev 7:21 Moreover the soul that shall touch any unclean thing, as the uncleanness of man, or any unclean beast, or any abominable unclean thing, and eat of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which pertain unto YeHoVaH, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.

Lev 3:2 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

Kill – 07819 שחט shachat {shaw-khat'}

Meaning: v 1) to kill, slaughter, beat 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to slaughter 1a1a) beast for food 1a1b) sacrifice 1a1c) person in human sacrifice 1a1d) beaten, hammered (of shekels) 1b) (Niphal) to be slaughtered, be slain (of food or sacrifice) n f 2) (BDB) slaughtering 2a) word doubtful

Usage: AV - kill 42, slay 36, offer 1, shot out 1, slaughter 1; 81

The offeror lays hands on the head of the animal and kills (not murder) it.

To kill an animal per the Instruction of YeHoVaH is NOT a violation of the Commandment “thou shall not kill”.

The word for kill in the Ten Commandments is associated with humans.

Kill – 07523 רצח ratsach {raw-tsakh'}

Meaning: 1) to murder, slay, kill 1a) (Qal) to murder, slay 1a1) premeditated 1a2) accidental 1a3) as avenger 1a4) slayer (intentional) (participle) 1b) (Niphal) to be slain 1c) (Piel) 1c1) to murder, assassinate 1c2) murderer, assassin (participle)(subst) 1d) (Pual) to be killed Usage:

AV - slayer 16, murderer 14, kill 5, murder 3, slain 3, manslayer 2, killing 1, slayer + 0310 1, slayeth 1, death 1; 47

YeHoVaH's Portion of the offering from the herd:

Lev 3:3 And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto YeHoVaH; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,
Lev 3:4 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.
YeHoVaH's portion is to be burned on the Altar.

The fat was specific to the inward parts, not any fat on the flesh that was to be eaten.

Lev 3:5 And Aaron's sons shall burn it on the altar upon the burnt sacrifice, which is upon the wood that is on the fire: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto YeHoVaH.

From the Flock

Lev 3:6 And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering unto YeHoVaH be of the flock; male or female, he shall offer it without blemish.

Flock – 06629 תֹּצֵאֵם {tsone} or תֹּצֵאֵם {tse'own} Ps 144:13({tseh-one'})
Meaning: 1) small cattle, sheep, sheep and goats, flock, flocks 1a) small cattle (usually of sheep and goats) 1b) of multitude (simile) 1c) of multitude (metaphor)
Usage: AV - flock 138, sheep 110, cattle 15, shepherd + 07462 2, lamb + 01121 2, lamb 1, sheep + 04480 1, sheepcotes + 01448 1, sheepfold + 01448 1, sheepfold + 04356 1, sheepshearers + 01494 1, shepherd + 07462 1; 274

When the offering is taken from the flock it can be a sheep or goat.

There are Instructions if the offering is a sheep and a different set of Instructions if the offering is a goat.

Remember, the word lamb could be a sheep or goat according to Exodus 12:5.

Ex 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

Lamb – 07716 אֵיִלִּים {seh} or אֵיִלִּים {say}
Meaning: 1) one of a flock, lamb, sheep, goat, young sheep, young goat 1a) sheep, goat 1b) flock (collective)
Usage: AV - sheep 18, cattle 10, lamb 16, ewe 1, lamb + 03532 1; 46

However, in this verse the word lamb is the Hebrew word meaning specifically a sheep.

Lamb – 03775 אֵיִלִּים {keh'-seb}
Meaning: 1) lamb, young ram, sheep
Usage: AV - sheep 9, lamb 4; 13

Lev 3:7 If he offer a lamb for his offering, then shall he offer it before YeHoVaH.
Lev 3:8 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons shall sprinkle the blood thereof round about upon the altar.

YeHoVaH's Portion

Lev 3:9 And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto YeHoVaH; the fat thereof, and the whole rump, it shall he take off hard by the backbone; and the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

Rump – 0451 אֲלִיָּהּ 'alyah {al-yaw'}

Meaning: 1) tail, fat-tail (of sheep - an Eastern delicacy)

Usage: AV - rump 5; 5

Lev 3:10 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.

Lev 3:11 And the priest shall burn it upon the altar: it is the food of the offering made by fire unto YeHoVaH.

Lev 3:12 And if his offering be a goat, then he shall offer it before YeHoVaH.

Lev 3:13 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of it, and kill it before the tabernacle of the congregation: and the sons of Aaron shall sprinkle the blood thereof upon the altar round about.

Lev 3:14 And he shall offer thereof his offering, even an offering made by fire unto YeHoVaH; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards,

Lev 3:15 And the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away.

Lev 3:16 And the priest shall burn them upon the altar: it is the food of the offering made by fire for a sweet savour: all the fat is YeHoVaH's.

Lev 3:17 It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood.

When anyone offered a Peace Offering, it was to be offered at a specific place.

Dt 12:17 Thou mayest not eat within thy gates the tithe of thy corn, or of thy wine, or of thy oil, or the firstlings of thy herds or of thy flock, nor any of thy vows which thou vowest, nor thy freewill offerings, or heave offering of thine hand:

Dt 12:18 But thou must eat them before YeHoVaH thy God in the place which YeHoVaH thy God shall choose, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates: and thou shalt rejoice before YeHoVaH thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto.