

LEVITICUS 7:1-38

Chapter 7 Outline

- v. 1-10 – More on the Trespass Offering
- v. 11-21 – Offerer's Portion of the Peace Offering
- v. 22-27 – Reminder of Perpetual Statute
- v. 28-36 – Priest's Portion of the Peace Offering
- v. 37-38 - Conclusion

SCRIPTURE

More on the Trespass Offering

7:1-5 *"Likewise this is the law of the trespass offering (it is most holy): In the place where they kill the burnt offering they shall kill the trespass offering. And its blood he shall sprinkle all around on the altar. And he shall offer from it all its fat. The fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, the two kidneys and the fat that is on them by the flanks, and the fatty lobe attached to the liver above the kidneys, he shall remove; and the priest shall burn them on the altar as an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a trespass offering."*

7:6-10 *"Every male among the priests may eat it. It shall be eaten in a holy place. It is most holy. The trespass offering is like the sin offering; there is one law for them both: the priest who makes atonement with it shall have it. And the priest who offers anyone's burnt offering, that priest shall have for himself the skin of the burnt offering which he has offered. Also every grain offering that is baked in the oven and all that is prepared in the covered pan, or in a pan, shall be the priest's who offers it. Every grain offering, whether mixed with oil or dry, shall belong to all the sons of Aaron, to one as much as the other."*

REMINDERS:

1. Not voluntary – required.
2. For unintentional vertical sins – against God – like forgetting holy days, etc.
3. Also for intentional horizontal sins – against your neighbor – lying, cheating, stealing, etc.
4. Required to replace that which was taken/lost, + 20%, and also bring a trespass offering to the tabernacle.
5. Offering must be a ram without blemish.
6. Frankincense and oil not mentioned, therefore probably omitted from this sacrifice = pungent aroma.

NEW INFO:

1. Blood and fat are removed.
 - Blood = atonement and forgiveness
 - Fat = most valuable parts to God, He does the work!
2. The male priest that offered the sacrifice can eat the rest of it, in the tabernacle courtyard.
3. According to the Mishna, only the skins of the most holy burnt sacrifices (sin and trespass) were eaten by the officiating priest. The voluntary and priestly burnt offerings were wholly burnt on the fire, including the skins.
4. Dry – indicates that these particular grain offerings (for sin) were without oil and incense.

Offerer's Portion of the Peace Offering

7:11-15 *"This is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings which he shall offer to the LORD: If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer, with the sacrifice of thanksgiving, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, unleavened wafers anointed with oil, or cakes of blended flour mixed with oil. Besides the cakes, as his offering he shall offer leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offering. And from it he shall offer one cake from each offering as a heave offering to the LORD. It shall belong to the priest who sprinkles the blood of the peace offering. The flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offering for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day it is offered. He shall not leave any of it until morning."*

7:16-18 *But if the sacrifice of his offering is a vow or a voluntary offering, it shall be eaten the same day that he offers his sacrifice; but on the next day the remainder of it also may be eaten; the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day must be burned with fire. And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offering is eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted, nor shall it be imputed to him; it shall be an abomination to him who offers it, and the person who eats of it shall bear guilt..."*

7:19-21 *"The flesh that touches any unclean thing shall not be eaten. It shall be burned with fire. And as for the clean flesh, all who are clean may eat of it. But the person who eats the flesh of the sacrifice of the peace offering that belongs to the LORD, while he is unclean, that person shall be cut off from his people. Moreover the person who touches any unclean thing, such as human uncleanness, an unclean animal, or any abominable unclean thing, and who eats the flesh of the sacrifice of the peace offering that belongs to the LORD, that person shall be cut off from his people.' "*

REMINDERS:

1. Voluntarily offered to obtain blessing or in thanksgiving for a blessing already received.
2. Of the herd, flock, or goats; male or female.
3. Shares procedure with burnt offering: laying on of hands, at the door, blood sprinkled around the altar.
4. Fat and blood are removed.
5. Layered on top of the daily burnt sacrifice.
6. Priest gets the breast and thigh of the animal.
7. Offerer takes the rest home to host a feast.

NEW INFO:

1. If offered in thanks, it must be accompanied by an unleavened grain offering AND a leavened bread loaf.
2. The only offering to allow leaven is the thanksgiving offering, reminding us that we should be forever grateful that God loved us despite our sin because of Jesus (Rom. 5:8)
3. One piece of the unleavened grain offering and one piece of the leavened bread loaf are offered to God. The priest gets the rest.
4. If offered in thanks, the animal must be fully consumed that same day it was offered. No saving some for the next day.
5. If it is offered as a vow to obtain blessing, you can eat some it the first day, and save some for the next day, but NOT the third day. It must be burned. It is an abomination and the Lord guarantees that what you requested will NOT come to pass if you do so.
6. The portion to be eaten cannot come into contact with anything unclean, or it cannot be eaten.
7. The people eating it must be ceremonially clean, and cannot have come into contact with anything unclean before eating it.

Reminder of Perpetual Statute

7:22-27 *And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘You shall not eat any fat, of ox or sheep or goat. And the fat of an animal that dies naturally, and the fat of what is torn by wild beasts, **may be used in any other way**; but you shall by no means eat it. For whoever eats the fat of the animal of which men offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, the person who eats it shall be cut off from his people. Moreover you shall not eat any blood in any of your dwellings, whether of bird or beast. Whoever eats any blood, that person shall be cut off from his people.’ ”*

NEW INFO:

1. Fat can't be eaten but can be used for other things: “as in medicine, for plasters, or for making candles, or for greasing of anything to make it smooth and pliable, or the like.” ~ Gill
2. This was only for animals killed naturally, not ones used for sacrifices.

Priest's Portion of the Peace Offering

7:28-31 *Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offering to the LORD shall bring his offering to the LORD from the sacrifice of his peace offering. His own hands shall bring the offerings made by fire to the LORD. The fat with the breast he shall bring, that the **breast** may be waved as a **wave offering** before the LORD. And the priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast shall be Aaron's and his sons’.*

7:32-34 *“Also the right **thigh** you shall give to the priest as a **heave offering** from the sacrifices of your peace offerings. He among the sons of Aaron, who offers the blood of the peace offering and the fat, shall have the right thigh for his part. For the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the heave offering I have taken from the children of Israel, from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and I have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons from the children of Israel by a statute forever.’ ”*

Heave and Wave Offerings

- **Ex. 29:27** – “And from the ram of the consecration you shall consecrate the breast of the wave offering which is waved, and the thigh of the heave offering which is raised, of *that* which is for Aaron and of *that* which is for his sons.”
- **Wave Offering:** Hebrew *t'nûpâ* (ten-oo-faw): waving
- **Heave Offering:** Hebrew *t'rûmâ* (ter-oo-maw): lifted, set apart
- **Bible Hub** - The wave offering involved a specific ritual where the breast was moved back and forth before the altar. This act symbolized presenting the offering to God and then receiving it back as a gift. The wave offering signifies the acknowledgment of God's provision and the sanctification of the offering. It also foreshadows the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself to God and was raised for our justification (Romans 4:25).
- **Matthew Henry** - He was with his own hands to lift it up [heave], in token of his regard to God as the God of heaven; and then to [wave] it to and fro, in token of his regard to God as the Lord of the whole earth.
- **Barnes** - Waving (a moving to and fro, repeated several times) or heaving (a lifting up once) the offering was a solemn form of dedicating a thing to the use of the sanctuary.
- **Matthew Poole** - The breast may be waved to and fro by his hands, which were supported and directed by the hands of the priest.
- **Cambridge** - The offering was waved towards the altar and back, apparently to express symbolically that it was first given to God and then restored by Him to the priest for his use. [Consecration and Provision]

Why the Breast and Thigh?

- **Ex. 29:27** – “And from the ram of the consecration you shall consecrate the breast of the wave offering which is waved, and the thigh of the heave offering which is raised, of *that* which is for Aaron and of *that* which is for his sons.”
- **Cambridge** - The right thigh was a further due of the priests, given to the officiating priest, as well as the breast, which was given to Aaron and his sons for ever.
- **Breast:** Hebrew *hāzē* (khaw-zeh), **Thigh:** Hebrew *šôq* (shoke)
- **Why?**
 - **Practical:** In Near-Eastern practice, the choicest cuts signified honor. The breast is meaty and central; the right (i.e., dominant) thigh is the strongest limb. Yahweh demands the best, yet immediately turns and sustains His ministers with it. Priests owned no farmland to raise livestock (Num. 18:20).
 - **Symbolic:** Affection and Strength- The breast, near the heart, points to divine love; the right thigh, symbol of power, points to divine might. In combination they declare that covenant fellowship rests on God’s love and power. (BibleHub)
 - Crucifixion: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” ~ John 3:16
 - Resurrection: “And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.” ~ 1 Cor. 6:14

7:35-36 *“This is the consecrated portion for Aaron and his sons, from the offerings made by fire to the LORD, on the day when Moses presented them to minister to the LORD as priests. The LORD commanded this to be given to them by the children of Israel, on the day that He anointed them, by a statute forever throughout their generations.”*

CONCLUSION

7:37-38 *“This is the law of the burnt offering, the grain offering, the sin offering, the trespass offering, the consecrations, and the sacrifice of the peace offering, which the LORD commanded Moses on Mount Sinai, on the day when He commanded the children of Israel to offer their offerings to the LORD in the Wilderness of Sinai.”*

Takeaways from Ch. 1-6

- **The Tabernacle**
 - God is here, present with us, Lev. 1:1
 - The veil is torn, Heb. 10:20
 - He has called us out from the world, 1 Peter 2:9-10
- **Theme**
 - Holiness: How can we be holy?
 - Worship and Walk
 - Sacrifice and Sanctification
 - The way to a holy God is through sacrifice, to abide requires sanctification
 - Washing the heart and legs – Heb. 10:22
 - 2 Cor. 7:1

The Sacrifices

- Anyone can offer a sacrifice. The 3-fold process of confession, designation, and transference is the process of salvation – Rom. 10:9-10, 2 Cor. 5:21. Salvation is for all.
- Burnt Offering is about consecration. Does Christ have all of you? Are you holding anything back?
- The sacrifice must be valuable to the offerer to give it meaning. Do you offer God your best and first fruits? Does He get the fat?
- Fire and trials purify us, they aren't punishment from God.
- Your actions in this world can be a sweet or a pungent aroma to God.
- Is there salt in all you say and do? Are you known as a preserver or a destroyer?
- The grain offering was a lot of work! Christ did the work, and was crushed and beaten, so you could escape it. Is. 53:10-11
- The more the responsibility, the more the valuable the sacrifice had to be. Are you taking your responsibility seriously? James 3:1
- Corporate sin = corporate sacrifice. Romans 5:12 – Through one man for all. This protects the innocent!
- Jesus is both our sin and our trespass offering – we are forgiven and paid for! 1 Peter 1:18-19, 2:24
- When multiple sacrifices were offered at the same time, the sin or trespass offering always went first, at the bottom. Until sin was dealt with, there could be no fellowship with God.
- Sinning against your neighbor is sinning against God because all humans were made in His image!
- The altar fire must burn 24/7 and never go out. Are you regularly fueling the fire God lit in you at salvation? Are you praying, reading the Word, worshipping, etc.? Are you in constant communion with Him?

The Ritual of It All

- *“Old Testament rituals were not to be used to manipulate divine results [like pagan magical and instrumental rites] but rather as worship ceremonies on earth that lay claim upon heavenly realities [holy sacramental rites]. A common error of both OT and NT worshipers has been the misuse of worship as a way to win heaven's blessings (instrumental rites) rather than as a means to identify by faith in blessings already secured for us in heaven (sacramental rites).” ~ LeFebvre & Packer, p. 23*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Based on the above from chapters 1-6, what would be your takeaway from chapter 7?
2. Read Malachi chapters 1-2 and make connections with Leviticus chapters 1-7. What message is God trying to convey to His people through the prophet Malachi?
3. Read Jeremiah chapter 1 (specifically vs. 8-11 and 22-26) and make connections with Leviticus chapters 1-7. What message is God trying to convey to His people through the prophet Jeremiah?