

Stealing From the King

Leviticus 5:14-6:7

Read Leviticus 5:14-6:7

Big Idea: Stealing From the King Creates a Debt That Must Be Paid.

Introductory Thoughts:

1.) The Name: The Reparation Offering

"The burnt offering uses a personal picture: of man the guilty sinner who deserves to die for his sin and of the animal dying in his place. God accepts the animal as a ransom for man. The sin offering uses a medical model: sin makes the world so dirty that God can no longer dwell there. The blood of the animal disinfects the sanctuary in order that God may continue to be present with his people. The reparation offering presents a commercial picture of sin. Sin is a debt which man incurs against God. The debt is paid through the offered animal..." (Gordon Wenham)

2.) The Subtle Differences Between The Reparation Offering and the Purification Offering

The Text Itself:

Three Acts of Unfaithfulness That Require a Reparation Offering

1.) Inadvertently Profaning a Holy Thing (5:14-16)

A.) The Sinner Was Unfaithful in the Holy Things of the Lord

B.) The Sinner Had to Make Restitution

Verse 16, "And he shall make restitution..."

2.) Unknowingly Profaning a Holy Thing (5:17-19)

Read Verse 17

Psalm 19:12

"and he does not know [what he has done], but he suffers guilt's consequences and bears his punishment. Then he will bring to the priest a reparation offering, a ram from the flock." —Jay Sklar

"In short, the person has sinned, but is unaware of what the sin is. The sinner therefore assumes the worst (the profaning of a holy item) and brings the costly reparation offering for atonement and forgiveness." —Jay Sklar

3.) Profaning the Lord's Holy Name (6:1-7)

The Lessons for Israel:

1.) Respect for the Lord's Holy Property Shows Respect for the Holy King.

2.) Sin Causes a Debt That Must Be Paid

A.) Specifically, Stealing Something that Belongs to the Lord, Would Make the Israelites Liable to Debt

B.) Generally, All Sin Creates a Debt

3.) Reparation Requires More Than Saying I'm Sorry

The Lessons for the Church:

1.) Jesus Christ Never Treated the Lord's Things as Common, But Took What Was Common and Made it Holy

Ephesians 2:19-21

2.) Sin Still Causes a Debt That Must Be Paid and Reparation Still Requires More Than Saying I'm Sorry

Romans 3:10-12

Application:

How Will We Ever Repay the Lord for a Lifetime of Disobedience, Plus Some?

Colossians 2:13-14