

Leviticus: A Kingdom of Priests and a Holy Nation

Part 3: Sin, Repentance, and Forgiveness

Text: Leviticus 4-6

Worship, fellowship, and God's rule in our lives are all connected to what we think about about sin, repentance and forgiveness.

I. What does this passage teach us about sin?

A. *Sin is doing what is forbidden in the Lord's commands.*

B. *All sin separates from God and is punishable, but all sin is not the same.*

- Joshua 20:3
- Psalm 119:67
- Job 12:16
- Numbers 15:30

- Matthew 27:17-25

C. Leviticus 4:3, 13, 22, 27 Sin will be committed by leaders (spiritual and civil), communities and individuals.

- Hebrews 7:27

D. Sin must be atoned for. Sin costs something to everyone involved.

- Hebrews 9:22

II. What does this passage teach us about Repentance?

- A. 5:5 Sin must be acknowledged specifically: *in what way he has sinned.*
- B. 6:1-6 Don't pretend to repent while your offense remains outstanding:

Feeling bad does not equal repentance.

III. What does this passage teach us about Forgiveness?

The cost of your sin is transferred from you to God.

We too are to imitate this in forgiving others: *"forgive us our debts as we forgive those..."*

Drawing Lines

*Making the connection between what we "know" about the Gospel
and how we think and live.*

- Is all sin treated the same in Scripture? Explain.
- Why is it important to understand that sin is defined by God's command rather than our conscience?
- Psalm 15 speaks of keeping our commitments even when it hurts. How seriously do you take your commitments? Do you relegate the level of importance to keep them to the level they keeping them serves your own goals or purposes?
- What do we learn about repentance, especially from Leviticus 6:1-6? Why is this so important?
- What do we learn about the importance of confessing sin from Leviticus 5?
- What did it cost God to forgive our sins? Does it cost us to forgive others?
- Why is it essential in your own life to be willing to bear a cost in order to forgive others?