

Message #14

Leviticus 7:28-38

As we come to this section of Leviticus, we come to the end of the first major section of the book. Throughout these first chapters we have learned many things:

1. Any relationship that is right with God begins with a blood sacrifice and blossoms by the blood sacrifice. Until the blood is applied to the worshipper, he cannot worship God on God's terms.
- 2) Any relationship that is right with God worships God in His prescribed way and His prescribed place. Worship is not a free-for-all emotional surge, it is carefully prescribed and planned. There is to be preparation in worship and there is a place of worship.
- 3) Any relationship that is right with God offers one's best to God. Whatever one is or has, one right with God wants God to have the best.
- 4) Any relationship that is right with God has ministers who oversee the worship, who are provided for by the ministry they oversee. God views caring for those who minister as part of worship.
5. Any relationship that is right with God is based on honesty and confession.

THE FINAL INSTRUCTION CONCERNING THE SACRIFICES ONCE AGAIN EMPHASIZES THAT PART OF THE OFFERINGS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE MINISTER WHO OVERSEES WORSHIP.

Let me state it another way; the one that ministers is to receive a portion of the offerings and this is actually, in the mind of God, part of worship. I doubt seriously that when a minister is paid that it is viewed as worship, but that is precisely how God views it. As Dr. Mark Rooker said in his commentary, "This section once again emphasizes the principle that those who are vocationally in 'full-time' service for the Lord should receive their sustenance from God's people." This truth is discussed in the New Testament passages like Matt. 10:10; I Cor. 9:7-14; I Tim. 5:18.

Apparently, as the sacrifice section came to a conclusion, God wanted to once again remind His people of this reality.

OBSERVATION #1 – This final instruction concerning the sacrifices comes directly from God . **7:28**

Notice how **verse 28** begins—"Then." Just as there are some who are to be "cut off" from their relationship with God, so also there are some who are not to be cut off from their relationship with God.

Even though God will cut off certain people, He will still fellowship with certain people. After the people of worship and the place of worship have been purified with evil removed, then we may go on to the next level of worship.

OBSERVATION #2 – The offerer is to bring his own wave offering to the Lord. **7:29-30**

(Fact #1) – The wave offering is a sacrifice. **7:29a**

(Fact #2) – The wave offering was to be brought by one's own hands. **7:29b-30a**

The offerer was to take a portion of his peace offering which was burned, and bring it to offer as a “wave offering.” The wave offering is called “wave offering” because it was to be waved before the Lord. According to Numbers 6:20, two specific movements for the wave offering were waving and lifting. According to Rabbi Hertz, the waving went forward and backward toward the altar and the lifting went up and down toward heaven. If we carefully analyze this motion or movement, we may conclude that it kind of forms a cross motion. If this is in fact what is in the mind of God, we see just how sacred this movement is.

1. Ex. 29:24, 26, 29 – This offering was made at the consecration and ordination of ministering priests.
2. Lev. 7:29 – The offerer is to bring his own wave offering.
3. Lev. 8:27, 29 – The offerer was to put the wave offering into the hands of the priests.
4. Num. 6:20 – The offering is a holy offering.
5. Num. 18:11, 18 – The offering was a special provision of God.

There are people who talk about the fact that all ministries are interested in is money. To be sure, there are some ministries that are like that. But the right way to think is this—when I care for a ministry that is based on the Word of God, I am actually personally participating in holy worship.

(Fact #3) – The offerer was to offer the fat with the breast as a wave offering. **Lev. 7:30b**

The offerer was to offer a very choice and large portion of the offering to the priest. The priest was to receive a fattened breast.

OBSERVATION #3 – The priests were to receive specific portions of the wave offering.
7:31-35

Now there can be no real harmony in one's relationship with God apart from ministry.

OBSERVATION #4 – God was very serious about having His ministers cared for. **7:36**

Notice this is called a commandment that is due the priesthood forever.

OBSERVATION #5 – These offerings are God’s Law. **7:37-38**

We have learned many things from this first part of Leviticus and one of the main things we have learned is that all of these sacrifices are serious in the mind of God because they all point to Jesus Christ. Can we not see from this text that Jesus Christ deserves our best? Can we not see from this text that Jesus Christ deserves our all? Is not He the Priest who did so much for us and should we not do our best for Him?