

Tuesday Night at the Crescent

"APPROACHING GOD"

A study of the Levitical Offerings

TUESDAY, APRIL 24th, 1990

Subject: "When You Feel Like Quitting"

A study of the Law of the Burnt and Sin Offerings

Reading: Leviticus 6: 8-13; 24-30

1. The laws of the offerings were not given to the people at large but were addressed to the priests. They were the ones who had to maintain a complicated system. They were to ensure that the fire on the altar was never allowed to go out (verse 13). We too are priests and have the task of pointing people to the sacrifice of Calvary that can take away their sins. We are to maintain the glow of spiritual devotion to the Lord and to see that that fire never goes out.
2. The law of the burnt offering; how to keep the fire on the altar going:
 - (a) Take away the ashes (verse 12); the secret is to put new material on the altar.
 - (b) Lay wood upon the fire (verse 12); there was no "magic" in how the fire kept burning.
 - (c) The sacrifice must be laid in order (verse 12); organisation of the material used was absolutely vital.
 - (d) All of the fat of all of the offerings must be offered on the fire (verse 12); we must give God the best.
3. The law of the sin offering: the emphasis was not on the fire but on Holiness. How do we maintain the Holy?:
 - (a) The sin offering (forgiveness) must be killed (verse 25) in the place of the burnt offering (devotion); we must never allow our christian service and worship to become a cold, formal or professional matter.
 - (b) The priest was to eat of the sin offering in the Holy place (verse 26); we must always keep what is sacred, sacred.
 - (c) When a person cuts the flesh of the sin offering that person immediately became consecrated; when anyone comes to Christ, our sacrifice and receives His salvation then immediately all that they are and have becomes His.
 - (d) If any part of the sin offering was cooked in a vessel then that vessel must be broken afterwards or if it had been cooked in a bronze pot, the pot was to be scoured and rinsed in water. Even if any part of the blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on any of the priest's garments then he was to wash that on which it was sprinkled in a Holy place (verse 27-28); Holy things must never be allowed to become common.
 - (e) Some sacrifices were not allowed to be eaten by the priest; the bodies of the sacrifices from which any of the blood was brought into the Holy place were to be then taken outside the camp and burned; we must behave consistently with the gospel and the sacrifice of Christ (verse 30).

