



VAYIKRA - AND HE CALLED

Leviticus 1:1 to 6:7
Isaiah 43:21 to 44:23
Hebrews 10: 1-18
Romans 8:1-13

Introduction

🌿 **Exodus 19:5-6** “Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

The book of *Exodus* teaches the proper materials, order, and functionality of the Tabernacle. However, as the dwelling place of God/*Elohim* is to be kept *holy*, the maintenance of the Tabernacle rested solely on the *Levites*, more precisely the *Kohath Levites*, as they are the acting priests and caretakers of the Tabernacle. Therefore, the Scriptural narration pauses to impart this teaching to the Levites (*Leviticus*) and to highlight their specific roles in the care of the Tabernacle. We note how important this function is today when we observe Peter in the New Testament/*Brit Chadashah* obeying and quoting Exodus 19:5-6 in his first book to believers saying, “you are a royal priesthood and a holy nation.”

🌿 **1 Peter 2:9** “But you [believer] are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God/*Elohim*, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (Exodus 19:5-6).

The book of *Exodus* imparts the Bride’s *identity* as a chosen people, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation. *Exodus* also conveys *the pattern* of the Bridegroom’s Kingdom (House) and Covenant. The book of *Leviticus* explains the details of how His Tabernacle and Kingdom function, what the walk of the priesthood is, and how the Bride (believer) today walks in that priestly role with her Bridegroom, who is also her High Priest. Therefore, the Bride’s wedding preparations for holiness are contained in *Leviticus* along with the anointing and empowering of the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*. Thus, it is imperative the Bride understands the wisdom and function of her identity through *Leviticus* before she can move forward to serve with her Bridegroom in His Kingdom (Revelation 21:9-10).

- 🌿 **Hebrews 8:1-2** “now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest [*Yeshua*], who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true Tabernacle which the Lord [*Yeshua*] erected, and not man.”

In Our Likeness

While Moses was on Mount Sinai, he saw the heavenly Tabernacle. God/*Elohim* handed him detailed instruction on how the Israelites were to recreate this exact pattern for *their* Tabernacle to be legal on the earth. These directives formed the foundation for sanctification. Therefore, accuracy was essential.

- 🌿 **Genesis 1:26-27** “Then God/*Elohim* said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness’ So God/*Elohim* created man in His *own* image; in the image of God/*Elohim* He created him; male and female He created them.”

Likeness:

Strong’s H1823 דְּמוּת *demuwth*

Paleo-Hebrew 1082. The root picture is *a door and water*.

Door represents the idea of moving back and forth.

Water can represent any liquid, especially *blood*.

Combined these two words represent “*the moving back and forth of water*” or the “*flowing of blood*.” **Similarly, the grape plant takes water from the ground (earth) and moves it to the fruit where the water becomes the blood of the grape.** The blood of man is also water, which moves through the body. A son from the blood of his father resembles his father (AHRC).

In John 2, during the wedding at Cana, *Yeshua* turned the *water* into *wine*. In this demonstration, *Yeshua* imparted a prophetic message detailing His image and how man (earth) is made in His likeness through His blood. Without the understanding of the root word *likeness*, His people would not see or recognize that He is God’s/*Elohim* heavenly word (*Yeshua*/pattern/tabernacle/sanctification) manifest in the flesh on the earth.

- 🌿 **John 2:9-10** “When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, ‘Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the *guests* have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!’” (John 1:1, 14).

- 🌿 **Hebrews 8:1-2** “Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest [*Yeshua*], who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord/*Adonai* erected, and not man.

🌿 **Ezekiel 37:27** “My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God/*Elohim*, and they shall be My people.”

🌿 **Revelation 21:3** “Behold, the tabernacle of God/*Elohim* is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God/*Elohim* Himself will be with them *and be* their God/*Elohim*.”

Upon Yeshua’s death, water and blood poured from His pierced side revealing one of the many witnesses to the truth that He is the Father’s Word made flesh. They are one in the same (1John 5:6-8 KJV/NKJ).

🌿 **John 19:33-35** “But when they came to Jesus/*Yeshua* and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe” (1John 5:20).

🌿 **1 John 5:6-8** “⁶ This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one” (KJV/NKJ only).

🌿 **John 17:18-24** “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

The Law Of The Temple

Ezekiel Chapter 40 through 48 is full of *prophecies yet to unfold*, therefore, are still applicable for *today*. In chapter 43, Ezekiel records the correct ruling concerning God’s/*Elohim* house. Since the Temple/Tabernacle pattern is eternal, it is also prophetic. Consequently, the directive for the Tabernacle pattern outlined in Exodus is in use today as a *measuring line*.

🌿 **Ezekiel 43:10-12** “Son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern. And *if* they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of

the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write *it* down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them. This is the law of the temple: The whole area surrounding the mountaintop *is* most holy. Behold, this *is* the law of the temple.”

What pattern would cause believers to feel ashamed? The pattern Ezekiel referred to was the template of the heavenly Tabernacle given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Ezekiel said, “*Let them measure the pattern.*” The guilty ones were those who had missed the mark by not copying the prescribed heavenly path of righteousness on the earth. Thus, their iniquity was exposed for all to see. How so? Believers are instructed to walk in the exact copy of the Tabernacle, as man is made in God’s/Elohim image. A measurement is taken to see if the *copy* matches the *original* pattern. If the copy is out of order, the amount missed is calculated against them. Seeing how much a believer missed the target made them feel ashamed, as they knew the way but did not apply it in their life.

If one misinterpreted the pattern (slightly or by a wide margin), the word *sin* described the Hebrew term for *missing the mark, goal, purpose or intent of the word/pattern*. *Sin* is Strong’s H2403 חָטָא *chatta* meaning to *measure, cord or miss*. Cords are used for binding as well as measuring. Knots were placed in the cord to measure the distance between two points. When one missed the target or was off the mark, the distance missed was measured. The wrong action was then measured against the correct action and categorized as *sin*.

Ezekiel not only gave a word of admonishment but also encouraged God’s/Elohim people. He showed believers *how* to re-examine their walk by returning to sanctification through the measurement and pattern of God’s/Elohim house.

🌿 **Ezekiel 43:11** “And *if* they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write *it* down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them.”

Yeshua came to restore those lost. He accomplished this through the Law of the Tabernacle/Temple, the same law that He imparted to Moses. “*For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he [Moses] wrote about Me [Yeshua]. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?*” Yeshua also taught His people the pattern of His Tabernacle through a prayer. “*Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.*” (*Kingdom and Tabernacle are interchangeable here*). The pattern Ezekiel prophesied is the prayer Yeshua taught His people to pray each day (John 5:46-47).

🌿 **Matthew 6:9-13** “In this manner, therefore, pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’”

The Ram Of Consecration

“Give us our daily bread”

Part of Yeshua’s prayer that He taught us to pray, *“Give us our daily bread”* is not only about His Word but also about the daily offerings and the Ram of Consecration (Exodus chapter 29). Asking for His daily bread reminds us His word can supply all our needs each day. By maintaining the pattern of His Kingdom, we are given the wisdom and understanding of His image, likeness, and life. Following His ways brings consecration and sanctification. Paul taught believers there was no other image or pattern we are to follow.

 **1 Corinthians 3:10-11** “According to the grace of God/*Elohim* which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*.”

The Tabernacle was not only a picture of Yeshua’s image but also His character and Kingdom. To walk in Yeshua’s authority on earth believers must walk in sanctification - His image. When earth mirrors the heavenly Tabernacle pattern, God’s/*Elohim* glory fills the Temple (our heart) (Exodus 40:33-36; Deuteronomy 30:14). The *plan* for Yeshua’s priesthood is found in the book of *Exodus*. The *details* of His priesthood are described in the book of *Leviticus*.

The Tabernacle was not for those outside the law/Torah or who walked the way of the nations (*Goyim*/Gentiles), but for believers, those in Covenant, abiding in the Torah/Yeshua - holiness. That being said, *all* people and nations are welcome. However, the only approach into the Tabernacle is by way of the person and image of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*. He is the door (Exodus 19:5-6; John 10:7-10; 1 Peter 2:9).

 **John 10:7-10** “Then Jesus/*Yeshua* said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.”

The outer court that surrounds the Tabernacle, with all of its furnishings and activities, is set in such a way as to teach Yeshua’s people how to walk in His Kingdom (holiness). As the Bride is made in the image of the High Priest, her thoughts, attitude, speech, and walk must reflect Yeshua and His Kingdom (holiness). It is in the outer court that she learns what sanctification and holiness are, and how to speak, act, and walk in the likeness of her King/Bridegroom. It is this departure from the world and worldly affairs that will bring her to the door of His Chambers - His Tabernacle - to dwell with Him. Thus, the book of *Leviticus* is for those in pursuit of their Bridegroom – holiness (Genesis 9:6).

✿ **Acts 7:48-50** “However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: ‘Heaven *is* My throne, and earth *is* My footstool. What house will you build for Me? says the Lord/*Adonai*, or what *is* the place of My rest? Has My hand not made all these things?’ (Isaiah 66:1-2)

✿ **Revelation 3:20-22** “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

All in Yeshua have a choice. Yeshua redeemed His people giving them equal opportunity to be with Him in His dwelling place (eternity). When Yeshua offered Himself as our payment for the sin and guilt offerings, no other hindrance blocked the Bride. All are given access to His Kingdom. In the past, the twelve tribes could only enter the outer court, the area that surrounded the Tabernacle and only under the aid of a Levite. As an outsider (outer court person - *unconsecrated*), they could not proceed past the Brazen Altar, enter the Tabernacle or the Holy of Holies. Those areas were reserved for the *consecrated* – the priests and the High Priest. Now, those who emulate the King Yeshua by choosing to walk in His Holy pattern have the same opportunity to enter, as did the priests.

Therefore, understanding the Tabernacle pattern is the critical maturing process in a believer’s walk, as the Tabernacle/His Kingdom is a matter of *holiness*. If believers miss this vital detail, their walk may miss the fullness of inheritance as promised in His Word. All who came out of the Exodus and those in Yeshua received the same gift of the Gospel. Sadly, only a few will choose to walk the narrow path of holiness. Not all Israel is Israel. In other words, not all believers desire holiness (Isaiah 63:10-11; 2 Samuel 6; Matthew 7:13-14, 22:14; Luke 13:24; Romans 9:6-13; Galatians 3:8).

✿ **Matthew 22:14** “For many are called, but few “*are*” chosen.” (Note: The word “*are*” is not in the original text. Therefore, the text should read, “*For many are called but few choose*”).

✿ **Matthew 7:13-14** “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

✿ **Ezekiel 44:10-16** “And the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity. Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary [*in the outer court of the sanctuary*], as gatekeepers of the house [*Tabernacle*] and ministers of the house [*Tabernacle*]; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people [*in the outer court of the sanctuary*], and they shall stand before them to minister to them [*in the outer court of the sanctuary*]. Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised

My hand in an oath against them,” says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Elohim*, “that they shall bear their iniquity. And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place [*not allowed in my Tabernacle*]; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed. Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the temple [*outer court*], for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it. But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary [*Tabernacle*] when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to minister to Me [*in My Tabernacle*]; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood,” says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Elohim*. They shall enter My sanctuary [*allowed to enter My Tabernacle*], and they shall come near My table to minister to Me [*in My Tabernacle*], and they shall keep My charge.”

Remember that Ezekiel 44:10-16 is prophetic for the priesthood (the Bride of Yeshua), therefore, still applicable for today (Hebrews chapters 3-4). As mentioned earlier, only *consecrated* priests were allowed to enter the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*. Therefore, this instruction for understanding the function of the Tabernacle/Temple is necessary for believers otherwise they may be barred from entering.

🌿 **John 13:8** “Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash my feet!’ Jesus/*Yeshua* answered him, ‘If I do not wash [*consecrate*] you, you have no part with Me.’”

Without holiness, no one will see God/*Elohim*. Therefore, learning to walk in Yeshua’s courts brings correction and abundant life, which elevates one from an outer court life to life in the royal courts of His Kingdom/Tabernacle.

🌿 **Exodus 29:31-35** “And you shall take the ram of the consecration and boil its flesh in the holy place. Then Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram, and the bread that *is* in the basket, *by* the door of the tabernacle of meeting. They shall eat those things with which the atonement was made, to consecrate and to sanctify them; but an outsider (outer court person) shall not eat *them*, because they *are* holy. And if any of the flesh of the consecration offerings, or of the bread, remains until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten, because it *is* holy. Thus you shall do to Aaron and his sons, according to all that I have commanded you.”

🌿 **Ezekiel 39:17-22** “And as for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Yahweh*, ‘Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: ‘Assemble yourselves and come; gather together from all sides to My sacrificial meal which I am sacrificing for you, a great sacrificial meal on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh and drink blood. You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams and lambs, of goats and bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan. You shall eat fat till you are full, and drink blood till you are drunk, at My sacrificial meal which I am sacrificing for you. You shall be filled at My table with horses and riders, with mighty men and with all the men of

war,' says the Lord GOD/*Adonai Yahweh*. 'I will set My glory among the nations; all the nations shall see My judgment which I have executed, and My hand which I have laid on them. So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD / *Yahweh their God/Elohim* from that day forward.'

🌿 **Luke 14:15-24** "Now when one of those who sat at the table with Him heard these things, he said to Him, 'Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God/*Elohim*!' Then He said to him, 'A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one *accord* began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here *the* poor and *the* maimed and *the* lame and *the* blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.'"

🌿 **John 6:51-58** "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this *Man* give us *His* flesh to eat?" Then Jesus/*Yeshua* said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven - not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

The book of *Leviticus* contains the protocol of how to enter the Tabernacle/Kingdom by imparting wisdom and knowledge of The King through His Spirit Life/*Ruach HaKodesh*. This learning provides oil for the Bride's lamp (Exodus 19:5-6; Ezekiel 43:10-12; 1 Peter 2:9).

🌿 **Hebrews 12:12-16** "Therefore [*believer/bride*] strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed. Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; looking carefully lest anyone [*believer*] fall short of the grace of God/*Elohim*; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many [*believers*] become defiled; lest

there *be* any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.”

✿ **Matthew 7:24-27** “Therefore everyone [*believer*] who hears these words of mine [*Yeshua’s Ten Wedding Vows with their 613 supporting Principles*] and puts them into practice is like a wise man *who built his house on the rock*. The rain came down, and streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against the house [*tabernacle*]; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But **everyone** [*believer*] **who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice** is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

The Priesthood – The Firstborn Son

The Abrahamic Covenant is about kingship. Initially, the priesthood, the firstborn son, became heir to the Kingdom. Adam was the firstborn son. So was Noah etc. Their heirs were the next in line and represented the King, acting on His behalf in His Kingdom on earth.

✿ **Exodus 13:2** “Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.”

Jacob had twelve sons who were known as the twelve tribes of *Israel*. Twelve represents God’s/*Elohim* government upon the earth.

✿ “Israel is My son, My firstborn” (Exodus 4:23).

The firstborn of these tribes became God’s/*Elohim* priesthood. However, many adulterated themselves worship the golden calf while at Mount Sinai. Thus, their firstborn status was *set-aside for a season*. Therefore, God/*Elohim* raised one tribe, the Levites, to serve as a perpetual priesthood before Him until Messiah’s days of Redemption for the firstborn in Him.

✿ **Numbers 3:12-13** “I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine, *because all the firstborn are Mine. On the day that I struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the LORD/Yahweh.*”

The pattern and teachings given us in Leviticus are vital for the restoration and consecration of Yeshua’s priesthood. According to Scripture, to be His disciple representing His Heavenly Kingdom on the earth, His priesthood must function in the order of Melchizedek (king/priest) (Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10).

🌿 **Revelation 1:5-6, 5:9-10** “and from Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, [of] priests to His God/*Elohim* and Father; to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God/*Elohim* with Thy blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. And Thou hast made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God/*Elohim*; and they will reign upon the earth.” (NAS)

Establishing Kingdom Order in Our Lives

The *Abrahamic Covenant* offers the gift of salvation and redemption (kingship) to God’s/*Elohim* people and creates the believer’s identity *as part of Israel*. This information is found in the book of *Genesis*. The *Abrahamic Covenant* supports the *Mosaic Covenant*. Moses was given two stones inscribed with the pattern for life (called the Ten Commandments and known as *the Gospel*), as a gift to His Bride/believer. This pattern is found in the book of *Exodus*. *The specific details of His pattern for life, consecration, and royal priesthood are contained in the book of Leviticus*. Without *Leviticus*, *Yeshua*’s people will not know how to enter His Bridal Chamber/Kingdom, as only priests enter.

🌿 **John 14:15** [*Yeshua said*,] “If you love Me, keep My commandments [*the Mosaic Covenant*].”

🌿 **John 14:21** “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

Choose Life

If believers innocently (or deliberately) fail to follow God’s/*Elohim* wisdom and instruction for daily life, they could incur folly and open themselves up to realms that can lead to death.

🌿 **Hosea 4:6** “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge [*of My Word*]. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God/*Elohim*, I also will forget your children.”

In history, some religious people have taught God’s/*Elohim* loving instructions in a manner that brought legalism upon His people. Living in bondage to the letter of the law brought death (Matthew 23:4). Early church fathers like Marcion began to teach a two-deity principle stating that what God said in the Old Testament (Torah) was no longer valid now that the Church was under the New Covenant of grace in Jesus. Further, they translated the word for Torah or law under a hybrid Greek term by joining the law of life

(*Torah*) with the law of sin and death (including *man-made religious laws*) into one generic term called *nomos*. That interpretation made it very confusing for believers. How were they to discern which law the Bible verse was referring? When the term *nomos* was introduced, God's/*Elohim* loving instructions began to take on an unfavorable quality among New Testament believers. Marcion taught that anything to do with *the law* of the God of the Old Testament was bad, harsh, and cruel and the *law of Jesus* in the New Testament was like a "new" good law/covenant. However, the book of Romans teaches differently.

✿ **Romans 3:31** "Do we then make void the law [*Torah*] through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law [*Torah – God's/Elohim loving teaching and instruction*]."

✿ **Matthew 23:23** Yeshua said, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cumin, *and have neglected the weightier matters of the law [Torah]: [which are] justice and mercy and faith.*"

Separated from God's/*Elohim* teaching and instruction for many generations, the people began to see *Torah* as a strange thing. However, God/*Elohim* said He would cause His people to return to His loving kindness (His teaching and instruction) and restore them in the last days (Hosea 8:12; Amos 8:11-13; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:8-12) (Strong's H8451 Hebrew for *Torah*. G3551 Greek for *nomos* (For more information on the word *nomos* see *Devarim*/Words: Deuteronomy 1 www.sheepfoldgleanings.com).

✿ **Amos 8:11** "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord/*Adonai* GOD/*Elohim*, "That I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD/*Yahweh*."

Grace Or Redemption?

Many mainline Christian denominations focus more on the cross and the death of Jesus (which they celebrate once a year) than on His resurrection. With that criterion, people tend not to look past the cross, therefore, only see half the Gospel message – where forgiveness is spoken, but they will always be a sinner. However, the whole purpose of the cross is that Yeshua rose from the dead. The miracle of Yeshua's death *is His resurrection*. His resurrection showed people they were not only *a forgiven people* but also *a redeemed people*. Now they could choose life. That is important, as only a few teach the redeemed *how* to walk in a redeemed, sanctified lifestyle - *no longer a sinner*. Giving the full Gospel message, the same message Moses and the Israelites received at Mount Sinai, drew thousands to Yeshua and caused the Pharisees to be envious, as they did not teach the ways of redemption but held the people in contempt.

✿ **Hebrews 6:1-2** Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ/*Messiah*, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God/*Elohim*, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

🌿 **John 6:68** “But Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.’ ”

What happens when people learn that Yeshua forgave their sin on the cross, but they sin after their born again experience? At the cross, Yeshua *appropriated* forgiveness for all *past, present, and future sin*. However, does that mean a believer, now that he or she is born again, no longer needs to obey or apply His instructions spoken at Mount Sinai? No. They need to be sanctified. That means taking responsibility for their actions and repenting for any wrongdoing after their vow of obedience to Him. Otherwise, that sin will be outstanding and counted against them, even though they are “born again.” That is why gaining knowledge of His constitution for life is vital (Hosea 4:6).

🌿 **Hosea 4:6** “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge [*of My Word*]. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God/*Elohim*, I also will forget your children.”

🌿 **John 5:46-47** [*Yeshua said to His believers*], “For if you [*My people*] believed Moses, you [*believer*] would believe Me [*the Bridegroom*]; for he [*Moses*] wrote about Me [*at Mount Sinai*]. But if you [*believer*] do not believe his writings [*the pattern of My Kingdom spoken at Mount Sinai*], how will you [*believer*] believe [*and act on*] My words [*today*]?”

In Leviticus, through Yeshua’s prescribed instructions for restoration as shown by the Tabernacle pattern, believers learn *what* sin is and *how* to walk in sanctification and redemption. If they do not follow His direction, that new sin will activate against them over and over again bringing a separation in their relationship. The original Tabernacle design measures all sin in a believer’s life *before and after* the cross. If the copy of His pattern is off, then that amount needs to be corrected. If not, consequences occur. The offer of forgiveness is graciously appropriated through Yeshua’s death. His hand of redemption is always extended. However, as mentioned earlier, the same rules that were given at Mount Sinai still apply today. Through Leviticus, believers learn *how* to acknowledge their sin, take responsibility, and repent. When the appropriate action for restitution is taken, then that sin is no longer repeated.

🌿 **Isaiah 1:16-17** “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.”

Believers must also understand that their walk is more than a good-feely emotion. Love, if applied as Yeshua taught, is the *grace* of God/*Elohim* that causes life-changing behavior in people’s lives. What we lack in the body of believers today is not a belief system but the instructions for how to walk out redemption.

Zacchaeus

In Luke 19, Yeshua dined with Zacchaeus and associates. They were a covenant people but still walking in sin, which meant they lacked proper redemption teaching. In Yeshua's day, the Pharisees were to impart this knowledge to covenant people. Instead they were shunned and judged as sinners. Yeshua took the time to sit at Zacchaeus' and table to describe dishonor in such a way as not to make them feel uncomfortable, condemned or guilty. Yeshua's sincerity and truth in the ways of consecration encouraged them to repent and take responsibility for their actions. Yeshua shared the principle behind what sin was and gave them the grace to know how to cleanse themselves of that transgression. Equipped with clarity regarding redemption came the miracles that changed people's lives *forever*.

The principles Yeshua taught came directly from the *Mosaic Covenant* as listed in the book of Leviticus. Not one person with Zacchaeus that night had heard the principles of redemption like that before. At the dinner, Yeshua imparted the spiritual food for the salvation of their souls then revealed how to turn from sin (circumcising sin from their hearts) and enter eternal life.

Redemption is not only about forgiveness. It is about washing (consecrating) the body of guilt and sin (Ephesians 5:26). Without the application of consecration in our redemption, grace and forgiveness have no power and fall flat. After Yeshua had healed the people, time and time again, He said, "*Sin no more.*" He could only have said this *if* the people understood what sin was and how to deal with it appropriately. That knowledge gave His people a disciplined life through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit that strengthened and enabled them to walk away from sin, never to return.

If the explanation of sin and how to responsibly cleanse is missing, then there is no Gospel message (no grace). That is known as *being religious*. In my early days, a neighbor handed me a little booklet called, "The Four Spiritual Laws." It mentioned sin but did not describe what it was. The booklet went on to explain that *humanity brought sin into the world thus all are tainted by sin that is why we can't know God's plan for our life*. However, in reading Genesis 1, it says the opposite.

God's/*Elohim* plan for redemption was declared in eternity, and that sin/chaos was on the earth before man. Genesis says that God/*Elohim* put two trees in the Garden – The Tree of Life (life) and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (sin and death), and then instructed man not to eat of that second tree or he would die; plan and simple. However, man did eat of that tree. Therefore, he is responsible for his own sin, as it is with each of us.

When I read that Four Spiritual Laws booklet, like Zacchaeus, my heart was also aware of sin, however, what it was or how to cleanse and sanctify was still lacking. Nevertheless, I responded to their prayer of repentance. God/*Elohim* honored my heart that day, and from that time on, I was His. The leadership we were with at the time taught that once you repent and believe you are saved, therefore, good to go. They also believed that salvation and *cleansing* were one in the same. Without questioning their theology, I

too believed until I read Paul's exhortation to *believers* that said, "run the race as if to win" and that even he was concerned about being disqualified.

✠ **1 Corinthians 9:24-27** "Do you [*believer*] not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you [*believer*] may obtain *it*. And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for* an imperishable *crown*. Therefore I [*Paul*] run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as *one who* beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified" (1 Corinthians 10:1-10).

I continued to read to the end of the Bible where God/*Elohim* asked John to write seven letters to churches all filled with *believers*. The letters defined their sin and what would happen if *they* did not repent. So I was aware there was a necessary cleansing and maintenance after salvation. For years I searched for this consecration, but no one could answer my questions (1 Corinthians 9: 24-27; Hebrews 12:1-2; Revelation 2:1-3:22).

Salvation Is A Gift. Holiness Is Learned

Salvation gifts a believer with a status change, from death to life in a Covenant relationship with the Living Torah, Yeshua. However, cleansing from sin and the walk of redemption and holiness is the work a believer must apply/learn.

Yeshua told believers, "to sin no more." He taught His people, through Moses (Leviticus), to cleanse from sin, not stay in it. Once God's/*Elohim* people are taught *how* to walk in consecration and redemption they are no longer a sinner but redeemed, walking as His chosen people, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation. That is known as the order of Melchizedek. The Gospel according to Moses is where believers learn the goal of their salvation and the importance of redemption that leads to eternal life in Yeshua (Micah 6:8; John 5:45-46; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Timothy 3:2-5).

When Yeshua met with Zacchaeus and friends, sin was the first message. Cleansing and redemption was the second. Yeshua taught them in love by giving them the right tools to help make their restitution firm in eternity. A clear explanation of sin is essential for a believer to begin the walk of redemption. Otherwise, people practice greasy grace, *a form of religion/godliness but denying its power* (2 Timothy 3:2-5). At the dinner, Yeshua drew a line of distinction between the principle of sin and death and the principle of life so people could choose. By adding direction and instruction (which is found in Leviticus), Yeshua explained that obedience to His teaching (Leviticus) would bring about the change in their lives called *eternal life*. Eternal life is the goal of all who have received salvation in a redeemed lifestyle (John 5:46-47).

The idea that one could be responsible for their sin and free from it was revolutionary in Yeshua's day. No one had taught like this before. Yeshua placed the opportunity to *choose life or death* right in the hands of the people. He taught them how to measure the pattern and gave them the tools to measure. Since the foundation of the world, Yeshua

made the way for believers and gave them the anointing power of His Spirit to overcome temptation (Revelation 13:8). All through Scripture, and specifically the crucifixion, it is now up to His people to be responsible for missing the mark/sin. If we ask, He will always show us the way. Following His Way (pattern) and instruction (measurement / direction) for life, opens understanding that brings freedom from sin's entanglements and enters His people into *eternal life*. This revolutionary teaching was why thousands followed Yeshua. Today, His message is just as powerful.

That acknowledgment of truth prompted Zacchaeus and his people to delight in repenting, as witnessed by his reaction. Here he was, a dishonest tax collector. When he understood the principles of life spoken at Mount Sinai through the pattern Moses taught, and how far off the mark he had strayed, he was ashamed of his sin against God/*Elohim* and his fellow man.

🌿 **Ezekiel 43:10-12** “Son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern. And *if* they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write *it* down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them. This *is* the law of the temple: The whole area surrounding the mountaintop *is* most holy. Behold, this *is* the law of the temple.”

We purposely repeat Ezekiel 43:10-12 in the story of Zacchaeus, as he now understood the process behind its meaning thus was able to participate. Therefore, he *gladly repented*. He joyfully took responsibility for his sins and made restitution repaying many times over the amount he initially robbed through dishonest gain. Zacchaeus experienced a heart transformation through Yeshua's *grace (truth/Leviticus)*, and his world changed (Luke 19:8).

Today, many believers do not weep over their sin or repent like Zacchaeus, as they do not have an understanding of sin or how far off the original pattern (mark) they may have wandered. They also do not know what is needed for a course correction according to the book of Leviticus. Still, others hope their fellow church members will embrace and support an unscriptural lifestyle by branding it as tolerance, diversity, open-mindedness, progressiveness, socially correct and sameness. How far is grace extended before sin is acknowledged as sin?

People are looking for answers: “*What is sin and how do we take responsibility and make it right before God?*” That is the whole goal of the Gospel message of grace, love, and forgiveness that leads to *eternal life* (Matthew 23:23). Have we forgotten the pattern and watered down the Gospel message? In the Book of Revelation, Yeshua noted how lukewarm *believers* had become and that *they* had compromised His Message of the pattern. Too often believers are worried about their image or offending a brother or sister, so they do not speak up. Often an inordinate amount of grace is applied, which is what keeps a sinner from repenting and taking responsibility for *their* sin. My hope and prayer

is that we not use a carnal love, but really “love” people as Yeshua loved.

Yeshua said this about His love,

🌿 **John 14:21** “*He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.*”

Yeshua revealed His Kingdom constitution and how to have eternal life through the use of prophetic pictures. One of these is the image of the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle is the pattern that announces the embodiment of the Living Torah and explains Yeshua’s Gospel life to all His people. The Tabernacle is also where we find Spirit Life/*Truth*. With this picture and prophetic pattern, we enter the study of the book of Leviticus.

The Book of Leviticus - *Vayikra* Examining The Pattern

Leviticus opens with the five offerings called *korban* in Hebrew, which means *to come near to God/Elohim*. They were not presented for reasons of salvation but for consecration. The five are *the elevation/burnt offering, the meal/grain offering, the fellowship/peace offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering*.

The Five Offerings - *Korban* Leviticus 1

Who brought these offerings? The Sages say, “*The offerings effectiveness depended upon the high moral and spiritual character of those who live by the discipline of His Word - Torah.*” The purpose of the offerings was to bring an unclean status of the soul into a clean moral state, and a redeemed people into a holy sanctified lifestyle. If we examine each sacrifice, we cannot fail to note that they are clearly meant to prepare God’s/*Elohim* people to meet with Him in His Holy Place.

1. Elevation Offering: *The Olah* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 1:1-17

In Hebrew the elevation offering is called the *olah*, meaning *to experience the staff or yoke to perform work, i.e., collar, to rise up, offer, light, flame, and ascent*. In Greek, *olah* is *holocausta*, which conveys *wholly consumed*. The elevation offering is also called the burnt offering. The *olah* was first brought to atone for impure or dishonoring thoughts. Unclean thoughts can influence the body; hence, tempt many by leading them astray physically, emotionally, and spiritually. That was why God/*Elohim* designed the *olah* as a volunteer offering. The second case for the *olah* was for failing to perform a required instruction.

🌿 **Romans 7:23** “But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my *mind*, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin [*and death*] which is in my members.”

This first offering promotes the heart and mind to help keep God’s/*Elohim* people purified thus preserving the Tabernacle. The olah was brought with a *willing* heart. If it were offered in a conditional state, such as a hard heart or under duress, the offering would not be appropriate before God/*Elohim* (Exodus 35:5, 21; Isaiah 1:11-20).

The person offering would bring according to his or her financial status, a male bull, a sheep or goat, a dove or pigeon to the entrance of the tent of meeting. They would place their hand on the head of the animal transferring their *sin* to the animal, and the animal would die in their place to be atonement for the dishonor he or her had caused. Note that the hand was placed on the head of the animal, as the mind contains the thoughts of the person. The other hand would draw a knife across the throat of the animal, cutting the main artery of the life-giving blood to that animal. The person would then watch the life of that animal drain out and die before them. If it were a male from the herd, the priest would catch the blood in a bowl and sprinkle it on all four sides of the brazen altar. If a sheep or goat were offered, the blood was sprinkled on the north side of the altar. The olah offering was then washed, skinned, cut into pieces and placed on the fire of the altar to be burned whole, causing it to go up in smoke – a pleasing aroma to God/*Elohim* (Leviticus 1:13,17).

An olah *animal* blood offering could only cover the sin, not remove the guilt permanently. Today, it is not *animal blood*, but *Yeshua’s sinless more perfect, pure, unblemished blood* offering, sprinkled on the altar in the heavenly Tabernacle, which cleanses His people from the guilt of their sin. Yeshua’s blood not only covered sin but also canceled the *law* for that sin (that caused death) once and for all. Once cleansed, it was now up to the believer to keep their heart clean before Him (1 Corinthians 3:16).

🌿 **Hebrews 7:27, 9:12** “Unlike the other high priests, he [*Yeshua*] does not need to offer [*animal*] sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for *their* sins once for all when he offered himself. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all *by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.*”

The Israelites were commanded to place two logs daily on the brazen altar morning and evening. The fire represents God’s/*Elohim* word, as it is the altar that cleanses the sin from within the offering. Animals represent people in Scripture. His Word is a consuming fire characterized by the two pieces of wood on the fire symbolizing a Torah scroll. The sacrifice of Yeshua atones sin. Upholding and obeying His word daily refines His people by fire making them fit for life in the Bridal Chamber. The two logs can also represent the Two Houses of Israel, the House of Israel and the House of Judah, who are the two mouthpieces/witnesses of His Word/Yeshua (Acts 10:9-29; Jeremiah 23:29; Revelation 6:9; Isaiah 44:15-20).

🌿 **Zechariah 13:9** “I will bring the *one-third* through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘This *is* My people;’ and each one will say, ‘The LORD/*Yahweh is my God/Elohim.*’”

🌿 **Luke 3:16** “John answered them all, ‘I baptize/*mikvah* you in water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize/*mikvah* you with the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKhodesh* and with *fire.*’”

Does The *Olah* Apply To Believers Today?

Positively! The elevation offering is still in effect today. Since believers are representative of the Tabernacle and ministering priests before God/*Elohim* what would the offering be today? The *olah* is how believers *voluntarily elevate others*. When God/*Elohim* dwells within His people and they have fellowship with one another God/*Elohim* abides in their midst. When we come face to face with others, whose character do we represent? Do they see the presence of Yeshua and the purity of His heart in our speech and by our actions? How we behave toward others reveals how we approach Yeshua. Regarding others with a pure heart is our elevation/*olah* offering before Yeshua.

🌿 **Matthew 18:20** Yeshua said, “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

An elevation offering comes first from within, from the heart. Before believers can love and elevate others, they first must truly trust and obey Yeshua then their consideration of others will be out of love. Life comes by serving others. Elevating and inspiring others above our self brings blessings into our lives as well as the lives we serve. Manipulating people through emotion, speaking superficially, sarcastically, harshly or with malicious intent will cause a death process not only in ourselves but those around us. Serving people with care and integrity, with respect for one another, will resurrect the dead. Volunteering to reach out to people, treating them with sincere love is the heart of the *olah* offering today. Loving our neighbor as our self is obeying God’s/*Elohim* principles that govern His Kingdom. Even if a person has harmed us in the past, the choice is still ours to forgive and love unconditionally. Therein lies the true test of character that promotes maturity in a believer’s walk. The *olah* is the first volunteer sacrifice in His Tabernacle that presents believers today with the option. Will we offer ourselves as an *olah* freewill offering to God/*Elohim*?

2. Meal Offering: *The Minchah* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 2:1-16

The meal offering is also known as the grain offering. In Hebrew, it is called *minchah*. The *minchah* is a volunteer worship presentation of thanksgiving to God/*Elohim*. The

process of preparing the minchah was very labor-intensive, as first the seed was sown in a prepared field, cared for until harvest and then threshed to remove the chaff. The kernels are crushed, sifted to refine, then mixed with oil and incense before offering as a pleasing aroma before God/*Elohim*. No yeast or honey was present in this offering.

🌿 **Leviticus 2:11** “No grain offering which you bring to the LORD/*Yahweh* shall be made with leaven, for you shall burn no leaven nor any honey in any offering to LORD/*Yahweh* made by fire.”

At the presentation, the priest removed a handful of flour from the portion offered to burn on the altar. This small amount (a tithe) is called the *memorial offering* and represents Yeshua. Yeshua is the Bread of Life and our memorial offering. These terms also accompanied *the Ram of Consecration*. The remainder of the meal offering, known as *the most holy portion*, belonged to the priesthood. Only those who were *consecrated* could eat this offering.

🌿 **Luke 22:19** “And He [*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*] took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them [*the consecrated ones*], saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; do this in *remembrance* of Me.’”

The unleavened *minchah* was baked in the oven as a cake or wafer, grilled over the fire and *broken* in pieces (representing Yeshua’s body that was broken for us) or thirdly cooked in a covered pan.

🌿 **Isaiah 53:5** “But He [*Messiah Yeshua*] was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

Only during the Feast of Pentecost/*Shavuot* was the minchah offering made with yeast and honey. This *leavened* offering is called *the firstfruits offering* (Leviticus 23:17). New heads of grain were roasted, crushed, and mixed with oil and incense. The memorial portion was also removed before presenting. All are symbols of Yeshua.

🌿 **2 Corinthians 9:10-11** “Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have *sown* and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while *you are* enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God/*Elohim*.”

The Salt Of The Covenant

🌿 **Leviticus 2:13** “Season all your grain offerings with *salt*. Do not leave the Salt of the Covenant of your God/*Elohim* out of your grain offerings; add salt to all your offerings.”

As God’s/*Elohim* people, we are joined with Him through the Covenant of Salt (Numbers 18:19; 2 Chronicles 13:5; Matthew 5:13). The qualities found in salt paralleled the

character and attitude of the priesthood, the Bride of Yeshua. Salt is a preservative that prevents decay and corruption. It is eternal, purifying, never changing, and abiding forever. Salt is the very symbol of God's/*Elohim* character, reliability, faithfulness, and cleansing. The term *Covenant of Salt* is indicative of the eternal nature of the Covenant relationship between the Children of Salt and their Creator.

🌿 **Matthew 5:13** Yeshua said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."

🌿 **Mark 9:49-50** "For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt. Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another."

🌿 **Colossians 4:6** "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."

The teaching of salt reminds Yeshua's people to maintain His identity and character within their hearts. They are called to preserve His Word. If His Torah is not studied and shared with His Spirit Life, there is no life-sustaining quality within. His people are to worship in *Spirit* (Yeshua) and *Truth* (Torah: His teaching and instruction). How will they know if the word they hear or speak is filled with His Spirit/Truth? The word spoken will follow *the pattern* as outlined by Moses. The world religions in Yeshua's day (as they are today) were temporal shifting doctrines whose worshippers had short-term commitments to particular movements and gods in vogue at the time. However, it is God's/*Elohim* desire to be sealed with His people in an eternal Covenant relationship - *seasoned with salt*.

- Salt symbolized hospitality. God's/*Elohim* people should be the world's most hospitable people.
- Salt heals. In the past, when a dispute needed settling with a neighbor you would then invite that person into your home to share a dish of salt. Each would lick their finger, dip it in the salt and then eat the salt together. It was the symbol of friendship that healed the rift. That is why the offerings we make to Yeshua are salted, to heal and settle any disagreement or offense we may have innocently or knowingly made against Him or our fellow man.
- Salt is pure. Germs cannot live in salt. In the same way, believers are also to be pure. Salt purifies. Believers are called to be the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13). They purify by speaking the truth and by refusing to accept false philosophies, dishonest gains at work and selfish desires, etc.
- Salt added to the flavor and satisfaction of a meal represents how believers should add spiritual interest, hope, and excitement to other's lives. Salt produces thirst. The believer should always have a spiritual thirst for the word of God/*Elohim*.

- Lack of salt in the diet leads to an energy graveyard. A month without salt and a person would die a slow agonizing death. Consider the spiritual analogy! Sodium regulates the passage of nutrients into the cells. Without it, nutrients cannot enter your cells causing malnutrition and exhaustion no matter how good the diet. Without Yeshua, we would be spiritually starved and morally exhausted.
- Salt is Life. One of the best ways to maintain health is to replenish with natural organic elements containing *real sea salt, Himalayan salt or sea salt* not a synthetic substitute. Without salt, we run out of electrolytes and without electrolytes our batteries die out. Just a *small* amount each day recharges the cells and energizes the mind and body.
- Salt Baths. The antiseptic and hygienic healing properties of salt-water baths were well known from the ancient world to modern times. They are rich in minerals and microelements and have wonderful therapeutic properties. The healing principles include rehabilitating the skin, the immune system, circulatory system, respiratory system, and much more. People come from all over the world to enjoy the therapy that comes from the high content of salt from the Dead Sea. There are also good cosmetic companies who sell the mud and cosmetics made from the Dead Sea for their healing qualities.
- At Hebrew weddings, the Covenant of Salt is shared between the bride and the groom in response to the covenant they are entering, and that is also held for them in eternity with Yeshua.

Do Believers Participate in the Meal Offering Today?

Absolutely. The *minchah* is the communion between Yeshua and His people representing their Bridal Covenant relationship - *The Bread of Life*. Gathering on His Sabbaths and Feast Days, taking great care in the preparation of the offerings to our Bridegroom, sharing the meal offering and *breaking* bread together continually reminds us of our betrothal commitment. The *minchah* always accompanies the elevation offering as a memorial of thanksgiving. Today, a believer's responsibility is to bless and serve these to others.

 **Acts 20:7** “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.”

3. Fellowship/Peace Offering: *The Shelamim* A Volunteer Offering Leviticus 3:1-17

Shelamim is a Hebrew word from *shalem* or *shalom*, meaning *peace, friendship, complete or fellowship*. The fellowship offering is a freewill offering of thanksgiving, praise, and blessings for the peace, friendship, and fellowship God's/*Elohim* people experience because of His faithfulness. It was an animal offering (male or female) from the herd.

Do Believers Participate In The Fellowship Offering Today?

Yes. The fellowship/peace offering is still active today. The *Shalamim* is a *lasting ordinance for the generations to come*. Believers are called to assemble in one accord in Yeshua's Presence to offer praise, worship, and thanksgiving.

How do we as believers approach our heavenly Father on a daily basis? How do we approach His Sabbath and Feast Days? What about our neighbor? Do we approach with a clean heart or have we tolerated a contentious spirit with arguments and quarrels among ourselves? Have we hid unfinished business within our hearts such as unforgiveness? Do we act with pure motives or are they selfish and envious? Have we concealed negative thoughts and judgments critical of others? Have we spoken unkindly to family and friends in the name of righteousness? Approaching His altar or taking His elements while neglecting outstanding sins in our lives can bring contamination upon us. Eventually, the whole camp will suffer as *we* have touched the unclean realm that brings death. When believers enter fellowship and worship with unrighteous issues still outstanding, what manner of *fellowship gift* are they offering? Will it be acceptable before a holy God/*Elohim*? God/*Elohim* asks His people to first examine their hearts before approaching Him. These are considerations in respect to the sanctification of the soul. Leviticus is arranged in such a way as to show God's/*Elohim* people how to approach others in a right manner before entering His holy realm.

✿ **Matthew 5:23-24** “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

✿ **1 Corinthians 11:27-29** “Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.”

Yes, difficulties may rise between brothers and sisters. However, when believers put aside their differences, encourage each other, and practice what they learn through the offerings, in their communications and lifestyle, it will help bring health and healing to the whole body of Yeshua.

Scripture explicitly says that if *our brother* has something against *us* we are to seek him or her out to bring reconciliation. Many believers today are waiting for the offender to come to them, but Yeshua asks *us* to find the one who has hurt us (whether right or wrong) and *settle it quickly* before we bring our offering before Him. Some have approached an offender (and vice versa) with a heart of reconciliation, but forgiveness was refused. If this happens, then the one who tried has fulfilled their scriptural obligation and can move forward to approach the altar with their gift. That is our peace offering, a sacrifice and gift of worship before Him.

🌿 **2 Corinthians 5:18** “Now all things *are* of God/*Elohim*, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.”

Change is a question of the heart. Loving one another can be contagious. A hard heart brings deafness, blindness, and poverty. To heal, believers must practice love in the home first. Love breaks down walls of separation that brings healing. Elevating our brother, breaking bread together, and fellowshiping in Yeshua’s Name, if done in the right heart of Torah, is health and blessing to all. That is the *freewill offering* we bring before Him.

On a community level, the separation that has existed between the Two Houses of Israel is beginning to weaken. Those who show a humble and contrite heart towards their brother and sister are tearing down the walls of hostility that have existed for generations. Forgiveness, healing, and restoration are the true heart of the remnant, the Bride of the Messiah. The Bride prepares herself for holiness by walking in reconciliation. In acting this way, the House of Israel and the House of Judah become one in the Messiah, brought together under the instruction of the Holy Spirit/*Ruach Ha Kodesh*. By returning to the original pattern of God’s/*Elohim* teaching and instruction, they receive healing. Together in the Father’s hand, they then will bring healing to the Nations (Ephesians 2:14-22).

🌿 **Ezekiel 37:15-19** “Again the word of the LORD/*Yahweh* came to me, saying, as for you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it: ‘For Judah and for the children of Israel, his companions.’ Then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and *for* all the house of Israel, his companions.’ Then join them one to another for yourself into one stick, and they will become one in your hand. And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, ‘Will you not show us what you *mean* by these?’ - say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord/*Adonai* GOD/*Elohim*: ‘Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which *is* in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.’”

The first three offerings are all voluntary offerings of the heart. When God’s/*Elohim* people bless His word and walk according to it, He becomes the center and heartbeat of the Tabernacle. When His people give willingly with a pure and cleansed heart, the blessings multiply bringing honor and glory to His Name. These are the fundamental principals behind the offerings and how His people grow into true His disciples / *talmudim*.

Eating Fat And Blood Forbidden

🌿 **Leviticus 3:17** “This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live: **You must not eat any fat or any blood.**”

After the teachings for the volunteer offerings, God/*Elohim* commands His people not to eat any fat or blood. He also added that this commandment is for *all generations*, which means it is eternal and still active today. Yeshua’s death and resurrection did not “*do*

away with Torah or the Torah principles,” as they hold the universe together. We also still need the rulings of morality just as much as we need the rulings for temple maintenance like food and clothing. They are His pattern for life! Over time, not one of His commandments has changed. Man has tried to trade out or eliminate several of His instructions through man’s theology, but God/*Elohim* has not substituted nor has He altered His laws. They are universal. If we go against His instructions for life (by ingesting *fat or blood* for instance), our health will deteriorate, and our conduct will grow lax toward Him, along with our attitude. We will also run the risk of forfeiting our position as priests in His courts if we do not initiate a course correction (More on this in the next study – *Tzav* Leviticus 6).

4. Sin Offering: *The Chatas* A Required Offering Leviticus 4:1-5:13

The sin offering or *chatas* in Hebrew is the first of the two *required* offerings God’s/*Elohim* people are to bring before Him. The *chatas* was required to atone for unintentional sin that resulted from acts of carelessness, laxness or for *our* lack of judgment that brings defilement against God’s/*Elohim* Tabernacle and Name. Our behavior is our responsibility. When a priest or the congregation offered the sacrifice, a bull was slaughtered, and the blood applied in three ways. First, it was sprinkled seven times in the Holy Place toward the veil in front of the Holy of Holies. Secondly, the blood was smeared on the horns of the golden altar of incense and, thirdly, the blood was poured out on the ground at the bottom of the brazen altar where the fat and kidneys were burned. To complete the atonement for unintentional sin the remainder of the bull was burned outside the camp. In the case of a leader, a male goat was required. For an individual, a female goat/lamb or bird was to be offered, and the blood placed only on the brazen altar. It was a required offering since no one in Israel was without sin.

🌿 **Romans 3:23** “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God/*Elohim*.”

5. Guilt Offering: *The Asham* A Required Offering Leviticus 5:14-6:7

The guilt offering is called *asham* in Hebrew and spoke of the covering of guilt. The *asham* is a *required* offering. A person who unintentionally misappropriated (for personal use) sanctuary property would be held responsible and viewed as guilty regardless of his or her intention. Secondly, the *asham* was brought when there was doubt as to whether a sin had been committed or not. And, thirdly, the *asham* was for an intentional trespass against God/*Elohim* in that one lied under oath, defrauded his fellow man by cheating, stealing, lying, or did not return lost property to his neighbor, therefore, was guilty, and his sin was before God/*Elohim*. Every case of *asham* involved some inherent status destruction, rather than a simple mistake. He or she was to offer a bull and make restitution for the full amount plus a fifth.

Do Believers Participate in the Sin and Guilt Offerings today?

Yes. Yeshua *appropriated* the sin and guilt offerings for us today. Therefore, it is our job to *activate* and uphold His appropriation in our life just as the Israelites did in Biblical times. If God's/*Elohim* people have sinned against a neighbor, that sin is also toward Him. If His people vow to God/*Elohim* or a neighbor, that which was spoken becomes holy and belongs to the sanctuary. If that promise was not kept or there was no intention of upholding it in the first place, then that, which was holy, is now rendered unclean. These unrighteous behaviors bring contamination. They also defile the sanctuary (the pattern). That is why vows and oaths, no matter how large or small, are taken very seriously in God's/*Elohim* Kingdom. His people must be very careful with promises and what they speak, as their words are accountable before God/*Elohim*. Thus our attitude and character will inherently affect our walk here in the physical and on a spiritual level as well.

- An example of the importance of being truthful to the words we speak is Ananias and Sapphira. They sold a piece of property and promised the full amount to God/*Elohim*. In the process, they chose not to give the full amount but held a portion back for their personal use. Once promised to God/*Elohim*, *it became holy*. Ananias and Sapphira defiled the offering by lying, thus brought about their own demise (Acts 5:1-11).

Our words are powerful in the universe, as Yeshua lives in us. What we speak will come towards us. Being faithful to our word facilitates the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh* to prosper our body, soul, and spirit. Speak blessings; receive blessings. Speak curses or negatively will result in the fruit of your words - poverty and destruction physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Remember, sin is the distance measured from the mark *that becomes the witness against us*. Many are sick, enslaved by the thoughts, deeds, and words *they* speak. A deceived heart does not magnify the truth behind the image they profess to walk. Thus, believers reap what they sow if not reconciled to God's/*Elohim* order for life.

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” Proverbs 23:7 KJV

Our offerings must be according to the sanctuary - holy. If believers approach in an unworthy manner, it's a blemished offering that will reap consequences, as we have misappropriated *God's/Elohim property*. If we call ourselves believers and speak behind people's backs without their knowledge or share negatively about a neighbor, that is a sin of dishonor before God/*Elohim*. If a believer lies by manipulation of words, body language or wrongful deeds (to an individual or in business transactions, etc.), these acts are sins before God/*Elohim*. If believers vow to give the whole tithe then hold some back, they lie and rob God/*Elohim*. In light of these offerings, if believers want their prayers answered, we suggest looking carefully at the practices of the heart, as all believers are in Covenant, called to serve as a royal priesthood ministering in God's/*Elohim* Holy House. Therefore, we must learn to make the distinction between what are His clean and unclean ways.

✿ **Romans 3:20-25** “Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, *through the law (Torah)* we **become conscious of sin.**”

✿ **Hebrews 10:2-22** “For then would they [*animal offerings*] not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats [*animals*] could take away sins.”

“Therefore, when He [*Yeshua*] came into the world, He said: ‘Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.’ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - In the volume of the book it is written of Me - To do Your will, O God/Elohim.’” (Psalm 40:6-8).

“Previously saying, ‘Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin [*using animals*] You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them’ (which are offered according to the law), then He said, ‘Behold, I [*Yeshua*] have come to do Your will, O God/Elohim.’ He takes away the first [*animal sacrifice for the sin offering*] that He may establish the second [*Yeshua’s perfect blood for the sin offering*]. By that will [*Yeshua’s willing offering for sin*] we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach* once for all.”

“And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same [*animal*] sacrifices, which [*that blood*] can never take away sins. But this Man [*Yeshua*], after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever [*His own perfect blood*], sat down at the right hand of God/Elohim, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering [*His blood*] He has perfected [*purified*] forever those who are being sanctified.”

“But the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh* also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD/Yahweh: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,’ (Jeremiah 31:33) then He adds, ‘Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more’ [*as Yeshua’s perfect blood atoned our sin forever*] (Jeremiah 31:34). Now where there is remission of these [*sins*], *there is* no longer an offering for sin [*required*].”

“Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus/*Yeshua* [*not animal blood*], by a new and living way [*Yeshua’s blood*] which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and *having* a High Priest over the house of God/Elohim, let us draw near with a true [*faithful to His word*] heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled [*with Yeshua’s blood*] from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water [*Yeshua’s eternal blood offering*].”

In closing: We live in a world deficient of a sense of purity and holiness. It is full of compromise, loose morals, and lawless living - a society devoid of Torah. Today, by returning to the ways of Scripture, believers are learning a better way. Today we are those twelve living stones Moses assembled in the desert being fitted together in the pattern of the Tabernacle. Yeshua is calling us from between the cherubim, to be in this world but not of it.

✿ **1 Peter 2:5** “You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/*Elohim* through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*.”

✿ **Romans 8:5-15** “Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God/*Elohim*. It does not submit to God’s/*Elohim* law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God/*Elohim*. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God/*Elohim* lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ/*Messiah*, he does not belong to Christ/*Messiah*. But if Christ/*Messiah* is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus/*Yeshua* from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ/*Messiah* from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you. Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation - but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God/*Elohim* are sons of God/*Elohim*. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba,’ Father.”

“Return, O Virgin Israel, return.” (Jeremiah 31:21)

Prayer of Repentance and Sanctification For Eternal Life

“I believe that the Messiah/Yeshua Ha Mashiach is the promised Son of God/Elohim, the Messiah of Israel. He was crucified for my sins, was buried and arose the third day according to the Scriptures. I believe He is ascended into the heavens and all power in heaven and earth is given unto Him. I believe He has promised to return and all that believe in Him are immersed into His Name will receive remission of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit/Ruach Ha Kodesh and citizenship in the Israel of God/Elohim (the land of our inheritance). I receive and confess this day Yeshua of Nazareth as my personal Lord and Savior.”

“Lord God/Elohim, the God/Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, I ask You now to forgive me of my disobedience, iniquities, and

transgressions. I ask You to forgive my forefathers for turning their backs on Your Torah. I forgive all those who hurt me physically, spiritually, and emotionally. I ask that all evil influences be bond and not permitted to operate in my life according to Torah and that your Holy Spirit is loosed to operate in my life according to Torah, to rule and reign in my life, and to help me walk out Your will. I ask this in the name of my Lord and Savior, Yeshua Ha Mashiach (Yeshua the Messiah). Amen.”

If you have prayed this prayer of redemption and sanctification, we suggest a *mikvah* (immersion in water) and an anointing of oil for a status change from the unclean realm to the clean.

To be continued...

Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker

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