

A People of the Book
A Topical Study

A Study of

Why Jesus Died

Chris Guin

Lesson Theme: This lesson will introduce us to the sacrificial system at a high level and explain the essence of blood atonement and its relationship to Jesus.

References:

Edersheim, Alfred, The Temple

Gambill, Chuck, "The Sacrificial System: A study from notes taken in Gerald Paden's class at the Sunset School of Preaching from 3/22/78 through 4/10/78"

Jackson, Wayne, "A Study of Biblical Typology" from www.christiancourier.com archives, 11/3/99

Russell, Rusty, "Blood Atonement" from www.bible-history.com

Russell, Rusty, "The Five Levitical Offerings" from www.bible-history.com

Introduction:

- • This series of lessons will seek to understand the concept of blood atonement, uncover the history of the sacrificial system and survey the study of types (typology) in order to answer the ultimate question: "Why did Jesus have to die?"
- • One of the hardest truths for us to ever try to comprehend is that the life of an innocent victim would have to be slaughtered on behalf of the guilty.
- • Definitions:
 1. 1. "Atonement" - Making amends, reconciliation, satisfaction for an injury or wrong
 2. 2. "Death" - a separation.
- • We begin with a similar beginning of our last series - The Curse. But this time, we evaluate the consequences of and the solution to the curse not through the lives of man in history (who, when and where), but through the sacrificial system, the idea of atonement through blood, and the relationships of these things to Jesus (the why and how).

The Curse:

- • In Gen 3:14-19, we read of the curse God gives. Mankind (Adam & Eve) had the perfect lives in the perfect setting communing with our perfect God, however they let sin separate them from God. From this time on, man would be separated from God as long as sin existed in man.
- • Read in Gen 1:28-30 and see that God gave Adam authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, over every living creature, every seed-bearing plant and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. (Question: Did the trees of life and knowledge of good and evil not have fruit with seeds in them?)
- • In submitting to Satan and bringing sin upon himself, Adam handed to Satan the crown of spiritual power and dominion that he formerly possessed. At that moment, Satan legally became the ruler of this world. 2 Cor 4:4 identifies Satan as the "god of this age" (NIV) or "god of this world" (KJV). We can also see that Satan was given control over the world from Luke 4:5-8.
- • What now? Man has ruined the perfect thing he had. He has separated himself from God, which is a spiritual death. Recall what does death mean? (Separation) Physical death is a separation from this world, and spiritual death is a separation from God. But God has a plan for man's spiritual death. We first see

that plan in Gen 3:15. From this, we have a foreshadowing of Jesus' victorious reign over Satan.

Concept - The Blood:

- • After the Lord finds Adam and confronts him, we see the first mention of the shedding of blood from an innocent animal in Gen 3:21 "The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them." Up until now, we aren't shown that they had ever seen anything die, yet they saw the giver of life take a life because when God clothed them He had slaughtered an innocent animal to do it.
- • From this point on, one could only approach God through the blood. Regardless of how good man may be, there was no other way for man to be saved. Lev 17:11 "For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life."
- • **What is blood?** Blood is life. Life is blood. When blood is shed, a life is shed. Jesus came for one reason, to shed His blood. He came to restore what Adam and Eve had forfeited. I Cor 15:21-22 "For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive."
- • **How was blood treated?** In Gen 8:20-9:3, we see by the last sentences that God for the first time allows man to eat animal flesh, however, he begins to give restrictions concerning the blood in 9:4 "But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it." and in verse 6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man." Now, blood could not be eaten, nor could it be shed. See Lev 17:10 & Lev 7:26-27 for more examples of strict commands concerning the eating of blood.
- • **Why such strict commands concerning blood?** Blood was holy, set apart. Blood could not be handled in any other context except sacrifice. He made it off limits so that everyone would treat it with reverence. Even during a woman's menstrual cycle, she was considered unclean and could not even be touched by her husband until after her purification. Even after giving birth there were restrictions because of contact with the blood.
- • **How does blood atone for our sins?** Blood (innocent life) is the bridge that rejoins where sin has separated us from God. Recall that "atonement" is when something reconciles or makes satisfaction for a wrong or injury. It is the blood (innocent life) that takes the place of, or covers over the sin. Under the sacrificial system of the Old Testament, the blood of innocent life would cover over specific and individual sins that had been committed. At that point, man would be united again with God, but every time man would sin, he would again need to be made pure with another innocent sacrifice to take the place of his sin.

Conclusion:

- • After submitting to Satan and giving him control of this world, mankind was separated from God and had to have a way to somehow be reunited with Him. The fundamental way to do that is for something (innocent life) to take the place

of (atone for) that which keeps man from being united with God (sin). This is also known as blood atonement. The problem up to this point was that the blood atonement in the Old Testament had to be done over and over as mankind continued to sin over and over in order to keep coming back into communion with God. We will go into detail of how Jesus' perfect blood will eventually be the final and continual atonement for mankind.

Application:

- • Most of the applications from this series will not be the normal applications that we are accustomed to making in that they may not directly apply to us in our lives. Rather, the applications we will see are how the lessons apply to Jesus specifically in his fulfillment of the scriptures.

Lesson Theme: This lesson will give us an understanding of the specific kinds of Old Testament sacrifices and their meanings.

References:

Edersheim, Alfred, The Temple

Gambill, Chuck, "The Sacrificial System: A study from notes taken in Gerald Paden's class at the Sunset School of Preaching from 3/22/78 through 4/10/78"

Russell, Rusty, "The Five Levitical Offerings" from www.bible-history.com

Review:

- • We will evaluate the consequences of and the solution to *the curse* not through the lives of man in history (who, when and where), but through the sacrificial system, the idea of atonement through *blood*, and the relationships of these things to Jesus (the why and how).
- • What is blood? How was blood treated? Why such strict commands concerning blood? How does blood atone for sin?

Introduction:

- • To answer the ultimate question, "Why did Jesus have to die?" we must understand a little more about the sacrificial system. The sacrificial system represents all that Jesus ultimately fulfilled.
- • One thing to keep in mind as we learn about the specific sacrifices is that in all cases, repentance was necessary.

The Burnt Offering:

- • Leviticus 1:1-17, 6:8-13, 7:8-10, Exodus 29:39-46
 - • The primary purpose of this offering was to consecrate the worshipper (set apart, dedicate, entire surrender).
 - • Instructions for this offering were given first. Why? God wants consecration. If the people gave themselves to God first, then the need for atonement decreases - we don't sin as much.
 - • The Burnt Offering and Peace Offering were a sweet savor or aroma to God. We will find that Sin and Trespass Offerings were not a sweet savor. Based on this, to which offerings do the following passages probably refer: II Cor 2:14-16, Eph 5:2
 - • How do the following details of the Burnt Offering apply to Jesus?
1. 1. This sacrifice could not be offered without the shedding of blood.
 2. 2. The sacrifice was to be a male animal, depending on the wealth of the worshipper (a bull, lamb, goat, pigeon or turtledove).
 3. 3. The animal had to be without blemish.
 4. 4. It was to be brought to the door of the tabernacle.
 5. 5. None of it was eaten, but all of it was consumed by the fire - total surrender to God.
 6. 6. The worshipper (sinner) would place his hands on the head of the animal and in awareness that this innocent animal was standing in for the sinner, he would ask the Lord for forgiveness and then kill the animal immediately.

7. 7. Read II Corinthians 5:21. Where have our sins been laid and by whom?

The Peace Offering:

- • Leviticus 3:1-17, 7:11-36, 19:5-8, 22:21-25, Numbers 15:2-16, Deut 12:5-14
- • Like the Burnt Offering, this sacrifice was a sweet savor or aroma to God.
- • The primary purpose of this offering was *spiritual communion with God*. This was a sacrificial banquet hosted by God for His people. It was a happy occasion.
- • Part of this was the Thank Offering, the Vow Offering and the Free Will Offering.
- • Who is our Peace Offering? Isaiah 9:6-7
- • Who killed our Peace Offering? Us, the worshippers.
- • This offering is closely related to the concept of the Lord's Supper. The worshipper ate the Peace Offering, as we take Communion with God.

The Sin Offering:

- • Leviticus 4:1-4, 5-35, 5:1-13, 6:24-30, Numbers 15:22-36
 - • This is the most important of all the sacrifices.
 - • The primary purpose of this offering was *for atonement and symbolized general redemption*. Consider these facts and see if they apply to Jesus.
1. 1. This applied to the overall person for sins done in ignorance and unintentional weakness as opposed to those done in defiance. Upon learning of their sin, one would offer the sin-offering.
 2. 2. For those sins done in defiance, there was no atonement.
 3. 3. These were for sins done in violation of God's nature - first 5 of 10 commandments.
 4. 4. The different classes of people (high priest, leaders, common Israelites) had separate ordinances to perform.
 5. 5. Read Hebrews 9:25-28 & Romans 8:2-4 & II Cor 5:21

The Trespass Offering:

- • Leviticus 5:14-19, 6:1-7, 7:1-7, Numbers 5:5-8
- • This sacrifice was very similar to the Sin Offering, except that this was used *for reparation or restitution for very specific sins*, and for sins done to man rather than God's nature (ex: Achan in Joshua 7:1 stole from God so this was a trespass against God.)
- • The trespass offering involved full restitution (payback) plus 20% (2 tithes), as well as a ram given to the priest for the offering.
- • Today - No individual is right before God until he is right with his neighbor.

The Meal (Gift) Offering:

- • Leviticus 2:1-16, 5:11-12, 6:14-23, 23:9-22, Numbers 5:11-15
- • The purpose of this offering was *to express thanks, a consecration of possessions*.

- • These Offerings were to have salt and oil in them. Salt represents incorruption. Oil was always used in sanctifying and anointing someone or something.
- • They were NOT to have leaven (yeast) or honey. Both represent fermentation and sin.

Conclusion:

- • We can see how Jesus is identified closely with the sacrifices of the Old Testament. This helps us to associate the history of what had to be done on a continual basis with what was done for us once and for all time through Christ becoming all those sacrifices in one.

Lesson Theme: This lesson will introduce us to the most holy day of the year, Yom Kippur, also referred to as the "Day of Atonement", and help us to see its relationships to Jesus.

References:

Edersheim, Alfred, The Temple

Gambill, Chuck, "The Sacrificial System: A study from notes taken in Gerald Paden's class at the Sunset School of Preaching from 3/22/78 through 4/10/78"

Russell, Rusty, "Yom Kippur - The Great Day of Atonement" from www.bible-history.com
Leviticus 16, 23:26-32

Review:

- • We will evaluate the consequences of and the solution to *the curse* not through the lives of man in history (who, when and where), but through the sacrificial system, the idea of atonement through *blood*, and the relationships of these things to Jesus (the why and how).
- • What is blood? Why such strict commands concerning blood?
- • What are the 5 Levitical Sacrifices, and what were they for?

Introduction:

- • "Yom" means "day" and "Kippur" means "atonement". This Day of Atonement is the holiest day of the year.
- • The Day of Atonement took place on the 10th day (10 signified "completion") of the 7th month (7 symbolizes rest or completion as in the seven days of creation and the Sabbath.) By our calendar, this lands around late September or early October.

Preparations for the Ceremony:

- • Prerequisites for the people - they would spend the day afflicting their souls (Lev 23:31) They must fast, must do NO work (this is a High Sabbath), must show visible signs of sorrow (possibly use sackcloth and ashes), must examine himself personally that day. They met OUTSIDE the courtyard that day.
- • Activity for the High Priest - He alone carried out the activities of this day; he was the one representative for all the sin of all the people. (Lev 16:17) Jesus is our High Priest, and carried out the activities on Calvary alone. He had no help from mankind in making atonement for us.
- • **1. Before Aaron could come into the Tabernacle, he had to unclothe himself for bathing.** Normally, he wore priestly, colorful, glorious garments, but today he had to remove these garments to bathe. Symbolically, he had to remove himself from these divine or sanctified garments. Today, he would be coming before God as a sinner seeking forgiveness. Jesus, our Great High Priest, removed himself from divinity and the spiritual garments of glory by coming to earth.
- • **2. The High Priest had to bathe himself in water.** This was not like the daily ceremonial washing in the laver, but a total bathing to symbolize purity. (Read Matt 3:13-15 to see that Jesus' baptism was not for the forgiveness of sins, but was to "fulfill all righteousness" before He began His work of atonement.)

- • **3. He would put on white garments of servitude**, dressed as the ordinary servants of the Lord. He humbled himself down to the ordinary servants of God as Jesus eventually would. He performed all the services of this day in this state, just as Jesus did.

The Ceremony:

- • **Five (5) total animals would be used:** 1 bull (sin offering for priests), 2 goats (for a single sin offering for all the people), 1 ram (burnt offering for priests), 1 ram (burnt offering for the people). Leviticus 16⁶ "Aaron is to offer the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. ⁷ Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting." He would cast lots over the goats to see which would be sacrificed to God as the sin offering, and which would live as the "scapegoat".
- • On this one day of the year, the Alter of Incense is taken into the Most Holy Place, so there is the Alter of Incense and the Ark of the Covenant with the Mercy Seat on top, signifying the presence of God. **The high priest goes into the Most Holy Place with 2 hands full of incense and throws it all on the fire from the Alter of Incense making a cloud of incense that covers the Mercy Seat.** Incense is symbolic of prayer. Read Ps 141:2 & Rev 8:3-5 Aaron will eventually leave the Most Holy Place and bring the Alter of Incense out with him until the next year. Compare this to Jesus in Hebrews 7:25, and Romans 8:34. Jesus went in, sat down at the right hand of God and stayed, *continually* making intercession for us; not once a year.
- • **The killing of the bull** and the sprinkling of its blood for the sins of the High Priest and his family.
- • **The killing of the goat that was set aside for God** - the sin sacrifice for the people. The first goat is the "cause of atonement". Without the shedding of blood, there could be no removal of sins. The High Priest killed it. Similarly, Jesus offered Himself in John 10:17-18.
- • **The presentation of the live goat, or scapegoat (literally "removal" goat).** This goat is the "effect or result of atonement". Read Lev 16:21-22. The goat was sent away into an uninhabited land never to return. Israel is no longer responsible for those sins. Heb 8:12, 10:17, and Jer 31:34 all say, "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." Read Heb 9:26 & I Jn 3:5.
- • The High Priest re-enters the Holy Place (leaving the Most Holy Place), removes the white garments, re-bathes himself leaving his lowly garments there, re-clothes himself with the bright garments of glory, honor and holiness, and **gets the burnt offerings for himself and for the people.**

Conclusion:

- • We can see how Jesus is identified closely with the elements of the Day of Atonement. The following things symbolize what would later be revealed in Christ.
 1. 1. The High Priest: Removing himself from divinity, bathing in preparation for atonement, humbling himself to be like the ordinary people.
 2. 2. The sin offering of the priest (bull)
 3. 3. The sin offering of the nation (the sacrificed goat, and the scapegoat)
 4. 4. The burnt offering for all people (ram): consecration to God, sweet aroma
 5. 5. High Priest as the intercessor for incense/prayer
 6. 6. High Priest as coming back into glory after the sacrifice.

- • The sins were removed and forgotten, but they were not paid for. They were just put on the head of the scapegoat and sent away. They would not be paid for until Christ paid for them all in full.

Lesson Theme: This lesson will answer the question "Why Did Jesus Have to Die?" by showing how Jesus fulfilled the Hebrew law and gave all mankind the opportunity to fellowship with God.

References:

Barrow, Martyn, "Discover the Tabernacle", www.domini.org/tabern

Edersheim, Alfred, The Temple

Gambill, Chuck, "The Sacrificial System: A study from notes taken in Gerald Paden's class at the Sunset School of Preaching from 3/22/78 through 4/10/78"

Jackson, Wayne, "A Study of Biblical Typology" from Christian Courier Archives, www.christiancourier.com, 11/3/99

Review:

- • We will evaluate the consequences of and the solution to *the curse* not through the lives of man in history (who, when and where), but through the sacrificial system, the idea of atonement through *blood*, and the relationships of these things to Jesus (the why and how).
- • What is blood? Why such strict commands concerning blood?
- • What are the 5 Levitical Sacrifices, and what were they for?
- • What is the significance of Yom Kippur?

Introduction:

- • Many of the things we have examined so far have been things that we could see represented Jesus Christ. Now, we will define these things as "types". The word "type" doesn't mean "a kind" or "a type" of something, but it refers to a *physical person, place or event that prophesied something spiritual to come*.
- • The word "type" can also be referred to as a "**shadow** of things to come" as in Heb 8:5, 10:1. It can also be thought of as a "**copy**" or "**pattern**". Heb 9:23-24
- • Picture your bible open to the first page of the New Testament, and having a statue of Jesus standing up on the New Testament pages. If you can picture the shadow of that statue being cast to the left onto the Old Testament pages, this would help understand how we can read the OT, but that it is only a shadow of the reality to come in Christ. You can't see the reality itself, but only the pattern, copy, or shadow of the reality that will be in the New Testament.
- • The word "Antitype" is the reality which fulfills the prophesy, namely Jesus Christ for our study of types in this series of lessons.
- • Let's look at some types that we have already discussed.

Types from Previous Lessons:

- • **Adam** - Rom 5:14 "Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come." From one man, in Adam, all generations were given life. Spiritually, through Christ, all mankind can have spiritual life. Adam was a type of Christ, and Christ was the antitype in this example. Adam was the pattern of the one to come.

- • **Melchizedek** - Was a priest and king at the same time. Jesus was a spiritual High Priest and king at the same time.
- • **High Priest** - The intercessor for prayer, only he could go into the Most Holy place for the people. This office was a type of Christ in many ways.
- • **Priest** - Today, Christians are considered priests. I Pet 2:4-5, 9-10.
- • **Sacrifices:**
 - 1) 1) **Burnt Offering** - This offering could not be offered without the shedding of blood, it had to be a male without blemish (sin), it had to be brought to the door of the Tabernacle by the sinner, it was a pleasing aroma to God, and the innocent animal would stand in the place of the sinner. All of these attributes show how the Burnt Offering was a type of Christ.
 - 2) 2) **Peace Offering** - Also a sweet savor aroma to God, this offering represented spiritual communion with God when it was killed. Similarly, we killed Jesus to make peace (atonement) for us. This offering also is a type for the Lord's Supper as we have communion with God.
 - 3) 3) **Sin Offering** - The most important offering of all, the sin offering was for atonement and symbolized general redemption. Without it, man could not be in fellowship with God. Similarly, it is only with Jesus' atonement can we be redeemed and have fellowship with God.

Types Concerning the Tabernacle:

- • **The Court** - The Children of God (Jews) were permitted to come into the court and use the alter to offer animal sacrifices. In the Christian age, anyone can come to the place of sacrifice because Jesus gave His life and His blood for everyone who desires to use its power.
- • **Alter of Burnt Offering** - Here is where the offerings were sacrificed for different purposes. We can recall all the different kinds of sacrifices and their significance in relation to Jesus.
- • **The Bronze Laver** - This was filled with water so that all of the priests could wash their hands and feet every time they came to the alter to minister as priests and every time they entered the tabernacle. But the greatest significance is the fact that before Aaron could become the high priest and his sons could become priests, they were required to have the complete bodies washed at the laver. Then they were anointed and consecrated to begin their ministry. We see from Mt 3:15-16 that Jesus had to be baptized to fulfill all righteousness before he began in ministry.
- • **The Holy Place** - This area is where only the priests can go to perform services, tending to the lampstand, burning incense, tending to the table of showbread and eating of it. This area of the sanctuary represents the church today. Christians are priests and ministers to God in the church.
- • **The Golden Lampstand** - The Lampstand was lit permanently, to give light inside the Holy Place. John 1:9 says, "The true light which enlightens every man was coming into the world".
- • **The Table of Showbread** - On the Showbread Table were placed twelve loaves of unleavened bread, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. The loaves were replaced every week freshly on the Sabbath: fresh food in the house of God

for the priests, Aaron and his sons. This unlimited supply of heavenly food, fresh every week, is to be the portion of the priests. John 6:33-35 says "For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." Today's counterpart to the table of showbread ate every from Sabbath is the Lord's Supper that is eaten by Christians, as priests, with our High Priest, Jesus, every first day of the week, Sunday.

- • **The Golden Alter of Incense** - The priest had to burn incense at this altar in the morning and at twilight (Exodus 30:7-8), as a perpetual fragrance before the Lord. As we have previously discussed, burning incense represents prayer to God for us. Ps 141:2 says, "May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice."
- • **The Veil** - This was the one thing that separated the Holy Place in the sanctuary from the Most Holy Place, or Holy of Holies. This veil represents Christ's flesh. The greatest significance of the veil was when Christ died on the cross and the veil was torn from top to bottom. Mt 27:50-51 says, "And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split." This moment signified the combining of the Holy Place with the Most Holy Place. At this point, man no longer needed a physical priest to enter into the presence of God in his behalf, but Jesus made it possible for man to commune with God personally. Also, notice the significance of the tearing of the veil from the top to the bottom. This implied that man did not tear the veil, but God tore it. In the tabernacle, the veil was about 13 feet high, however in the Temple, it was 75 feet high.
- • **Most Holy Place** - This area of the sanctuary housed the Ark of the Covenant and was considered the dwelling place of God. This was God's official presence. Only the High Priest could enter this room one day of the year (Day of Atonement). This place is a type of Heaven today. Heaven is God's spiritual dwelling place.

Conclusion:

1. 1. So why did Jesus have to die? He died in fulfilling the Hebrew law to give mankind a new law of life. He had to fulfill, or close, the old law.
2. 2. How can we explain fulfilling the law? Imagine being in a house with an old roof. When it rains, water leaks in certain places. Just as God gave His people a means of atonement through animal sacrifices which were temporary fixes, we could put buckets under the leaks to catch the water. But those buckets will fill up and we will constantly be making temporary solutions until there is a final fix. The death of God in the form of man was the ultimate fix and closing of the old Law, similar to how a new roof would be the final fix to our illustration. Jesus had to die to fulfill the old law and thereby giving us a new law of life.
3. 3. The answer to the question "Why did Jesus have to die?" can be summed up in Rom 8:1-4 "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are

in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the *law of the Spirit of life* set me free from the *law of sin and death*. ³For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit."

A People of the Book

Where Truth and Love Abound



Our Service Schedule

Sunday:	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study (classes for all ages)
	11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.	Worship
Wednesday:	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study (classes for all ages)

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