

ONE STORY | ONE SAVIOR - UNIT 1 | LESSON 10

The Pentateuch – The Promise Given Through the Royal Gift Covenant

God is a PROMISE Making God

God 1) **CREATES** a place where 2) He will **MEET** with his People 3) for their **JOY**. 4) His People reject Him. 5) God binds Himself through **PROMISE (i.e. The Royal Gift Covenant)** to 6) **RESCUE** His people from their sin and 7) **RESTORE** them to Himself for their **JOY**.

ILLUSTRATION – The sacrificial system in Israel speaks of substitution. The innocent animal is a substitute for the guilty sinner. **The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins**: Although not strictly a children's story, Katniss Everdeen volunteers to take her sister Prim's place in the deadly Hunger Games, demonstrating her protective instincts and the lengths she will go to ensure her sister's safety. Through the shadow of the Old Testament example, Jesus takes our place and dies the sinner's death so that the sinner might receive His righteousness.

VIDEO




- Rules for Sacrifice | **Elementary** | The Gospel Project
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZjAPd10ROs>
- Rules for Sacrifice | **Preschool** | The Gospel Project
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxVJqngDAqs>

“Sacrifices and the Priesthood”

Jesus is not only the offering, but the one who offers

Leviticus 1:13

Leviticus 1:13 **And the priest shall offer all of it and burn it on the altar**; it is a burnt offering, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

	<p>THE HEAD - To Know how the Bible records the gracious provision for humanity's sin and death by providing mediators who can bring a blood sacrifice for the sins of His people. Q – As you think of the picture of priests and blood sacrifices, what are your initial thoughts?</p>
	<p>THE HEART - To Choose the biblical record concerning your need for a mediator and a blood sacrifice. Q – Forgive me for asking, but how does it make you “feel” that someone other than you can do for you what you cannot do for yourself?</p>
	<p>THE HAND - To Pray we will choose the mediation and offering brought by Jesus in our behalf. Q – Have you chosen Him and how might you share this message with others?</p>

EMPHASIS

The mediation of this sacrifice and approach is through an ordained priesthood through Jacob's son, Levi.

The book of Leviticus provides the details of the sacrifices required because of sin until Jesus fulfilled the **SEED PROMISE** and completed the **BLOOD PICTURE** at His death on the cross. The **SACRIFICES** keep people in *Story* waiting for the perfect Lamb of God.

LITERARY CONTEXT

In Leviticus chapters 1–7 we find detailed instructions for offering sacrifices—five regular offerings that will invade all of the Israelites' senses, informing their minds and engaging their hearts in regard to the seriousness of sin as well as the possibility and provision of a substitute.¹

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

In the Old Testament from the time of Moses the priests were descendants of Levi. The Levites provided the priestly line and performed the priestly duties on behalf of all the people of Israel. Their duties were to minister at the altar, burn the sacrifices and teach the law (Deuteronomy 33:8-10; Hosea 4:1-10). In Israel, when the priesthood represented the nations' relationship with God, the Levites served in a representative character for the whole nation in the matter of honor, privilege and obligation of priesthood. In their separated condition they maintained the nations' covenant with God intact and they symbolized the purity and holiness that God required. Their primary function was to maintain and assure, as well as reestablish, the holiness of the chosen people of God (Exodus 28:38; Leviticus 10:7; Numbers 18:1). They mediated the covenant of God with Israel (Malachi 2:4; Numbers 18:19; Jeremiah 33:20-26). They acted as judge imparting answers to legal questions (Exodus 33:7-11). In early Israel, an important function of the priests was to discover the will of God by means of the Ephod (1 Samuel 23:6-12).²

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

STRUCTURE

- A. In the garden, the sin of Adam and Eve was covered by the death of animals to make clothes for Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21).

In the killing of this first animal there are several ideas.

- First, without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness of sin (Gen. 3:21; Lev. 17:11).
- Second, the life of the innocent atones for the life of the guilty [i.e. substitution; vicarious].
- Finally, in this shadow, we will see Jesus.

- B. After God rescued His people from Egypt, He required blood sacrifices of unblemished (perfect) animals because of sin (Leviticus 1:3). This points to Jesus who was perfect and without sin.

The sacrifices were pleasing to the Father (Leviticus 1:17). They pointed to Jesus and the plan the Father had for His Son for the benefit of His people (Isaiah 53:10).

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
 he has put him to grief;
 when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
 he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
 the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

- C. The sacrifices required by the Law (Leviticus) point to Jesus who saved us from our sins:

- John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

Notice the following Chart.

A Type and Anti-Type	
OT Sacrifice Leviticus SHADOW	NT Sacrifice of Jesus Christ SUBSTANCE
Burnt Offering	1 Pt. 1:19; Eph. 5:2
Meal Offering	John 12:24; Isa. 53:12
Peace Offering	Eph. 2:145-17; Col. 1:20
Sin Offering	Isa. 53:12; Heb. 13:12
Guilt Offering	Isa. 53:10; 1 Pt. 2:24

- D. All of the sacrifices were brought to the Priests and through the Priests to God.

“The priests were to officiate at many offerings under the Law of Moses, including the Passover sacrifice, sin offering, guilt offering, release of the scapegoat, burnt offering, peace offering, heave offering, meal offering, dough offering, drink offering, incense offering, thank offering, etc., throughout the liturgical year. As well, they would engage in many different rituals, such as the priestly blessing, the red heifer, the redemption of the firstborn, and various purification rituals.”³

JESUS IN THE TEXT

In the Book of Hebrews, we have the following comparisons between the Old Testament system and the New Testament Jesus.

- I. A Better Priesthood (4:14-7:28)

- II. A Better Covenant (8:7-13)
- III. A Better Sanctuary (9:1-10)
- IV. A Better Sacrifice (9:11–10:18)

The Greek word for “chief priest” is archiereus. It occurs extensively in the four Gospels and Acts. And then only in the book of Hebrews.

The Occurrence of “CHIEF PRIEST” in the NT					
Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	Acts	Hebrews
24	21	16	20	22	17

The Book of Hebrews portrays Jesus as the ultimate High Priest who offers the ultimate blood sacrifice that substitutes as an offering for the sins of His people. Read the following verses to enforce this idea and learn to wallow in their joy.

- Heb 2:17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- Heb 3:1 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,
- Heb 4:14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.
- Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.
- Heb 5:10 being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.
- Heb 6:20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.
- Heb 7:26-28
²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.
- Heb 8:1 Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,
- Heb 9:11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)
- Heb 9:25 Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own,

Jesus as the fulfillment of the SEED PROMISE and the completion of the BLOOD PICTURE qualified as the perfect High Priest and the perfect substitutionary blood sacrifice.

APPLICATION

The Father provided a cure for my sins. It is His Son Jesus. He made this provision in His promise in the garden.

I know that Jesus died for my sins as the will of his Father. I join with other believers in this good news to thank the Father for the life I have through the death of His Son, Jesus.

1. Sin always has consequences.
2. God required that blood sacrifices to deal with sin.
3. Jesus died as a sacrifice for our sins.
4. Jesus, as the High Priest, is not only the sacrifice, but the priest who brings the sacrifice. He not only mediates as our priest, but propitiates God's wrath and justice as our substitutionary sacrifice.
5. Have you accepted Jesus as your high priest who is your blood sacrifice for sin?

VISUALS

- With the smaller kids splatter red paint on a cardboard box to show the sprinkling process. Make them put the blood on the lintels of the door and on a cardboard altar.
- You can use a red sheet to cover a child showing how the blood sacrifices cover an individual.
- On a 11x17 sheet of paper copy a door and fold the ends in. have the children paint the door like the Passover and put the animals in the door.
- Show how the animals in Genesis 15 are the offerings in Leviticus.

MEMORY VERSE

Leviticus 1:13

And **the priest shall offer all of it and burn it on the altar**; it is a burnt offering, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

RESOURCES

ENDNOTES

¹ <https://www.crossway.org/articles/the-provision-of-sacrifice-in-the-old-testament/>

² <https://blogs.bible.org/the-jewish-high-priest-and-jesus-significance/>

³ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priesthood_\(ancient_Israel\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priesthood_(ancient_Israel))