

Timeline of Truth: The Trespass Offering (Leviticus 5:14-; 6:24-30)

When Was This Offering Required?

1. For Violating the _____

Lev 5:14-16 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹⁵ "If a person commits a trespass, and sins unintentionally in regard to the holy things of the LORD, then he shall bring to the LORD as his trespass offering a ram without blemish from the flocks, with your valuation in shekels of silver according to the shekel of the sanctuary, as a trespass offering. ¹⁶ "And he shall make restitution for the harm that he has done in regard to the holy thing, and shall add one-fifth to it and give it to the priest. So the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and it shall be forgiven him.

What Were the Holy Things?

- The Lord's Name (Ex 20:7)
- The Sabbath Day (Ex 20:8)
- The Offerings & Temple Details (Lev 19:7-8)
- National Purity (Lev 19:2)

What Are Some of Our Holy Things?

- The Lord's Name (Matt 6:9)
- The Gospel (Gal 1:8)
- Our Bodies (1 Cor 6:19-20)
- The Lord's Supper (1 Cor 10:14)
- Our Conduct (1 Pet 1:13-16; cf. 1 Pet 2:5,9)

2. For Sinning in _____ (a Type of Unintentional Sin)

Lev 5:17-19 "If a person sins, and commits any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD, though he does not know *it*, yet he is guilty and shall bear his iniquity. ¹⁸ "And he shall bring to the priest a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a trespass offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him regarding his ignorance in which he erred and did not know *it*, and it shall be forgiven him. ¹⁹ "It is a trespass offering; he has certainly trespassed against the LORD." (Gen 26:8-10 for an example)

3. For Committing _____ or _____

Lev 6:1-7 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ² "If a person sins and commits a trespass against the LORD by lying to his neighbor about what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or about a pledge, or about a robbery, or if he has extorted from his neighbor, ³ "or if he has found what was lost and lies concerning it, and swears falsely-- in any one of these things that a man may do in which he sins: ⁴ "then it shall be, because he has sinned and is guilty, that he shall restore what he has stolen, or the thing which he has extorted, or what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or the lost thing which he found, ⁵ "or all that about which he has sworn falsely. He shall restore its full value, add one-fifth more to it, *and* give it to whomever it belongs, on the day of his trespass offering. ⁶ "And he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD, a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a trespass offering, to the priest. ⁷ "So the priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD, and he shall be forgiven for any one of these things that he may have done in which he trespasses." (cp. Matt 5:23-24)

Details of This Offering:

Lev 7:1-6 Likewise this *is* the law of the trespass offering (it *is* most holy): ² "In the place where they kill the burnt offering they shall kill the trespass offering. And its blood he shall sprinkle all around on the altar. ³ "And he shall offer from it all its fat. The fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, ⁴ "the two kidneys and the fat that *is* on them by the flanks, and the fatty lobe *attached* to the liver above the kidneys, he shall remove; ⁵ "and the priest shall burn them on the altar *as* an offering made by fire to the LORD. It *is* a trespass offering. ⁶ "Every male among the priests may eat it. It shall be eaten in a holy place. It *is* most holy.

Jesus' Fulfillment of this Offering:

Is 53:10-11 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. ¹¹ He shall see the labor of His soul, *and* be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

Heb 10:10-18 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. ¹¹ And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. ¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, ¹⁶ "This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," ¹⁷ *then He adds*, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, *there is* no longer an offering for sin.

Lessons on Addressing Guilt:

1. **Train your conscience.** It must alert us when we have failed to do, as we ought. This requires faithful teaching (1 Tim 1:3,5) and faithful learning, including the use of what we learn (Heb 5:11-12,14).
2. **Confess what you know.** 1 John 1:9 validates the role confession has in the life of the believer. It contains the promise of cleansing, and by faith, we know that our known failings will eventually be behind us, and our unknown failings brought to light and cleansed.
3. **God addresses unknown sins.** The sin nature is a deep, festering pool. Now that we know the Lord instituted an offering for this, we may have confidence that this is normal and covered by the cross. (The rest of 1 John 1:9 addresses this.)
4. **Make restitution when possible.** When restitution is offered, accept it. Restitution is what uniquely distinguishes the guilt offering from the sin offering. Restitution brings healing, and cancels the legal and moral debt on the horizontal level between men.
5. **Learn the lesson, accept forgiveness, and move on.** Consider the Israelite who appears before the priest with the property of his neighbor, plus 20 percent of its value in grain, plus the ram. When all has been offered, what else is there to do? The moral and legal debt is paid. What more can he do? Nothing. Continuing to carry it around as baggage is not faith and may violate the holiness of the guilt offering and the atonement of the priest. (This lesson adapted from: <https://bible.org/seriespage/6-guilt-offering-leviticus-514-67-71-6>)