

Leviticus Chapter 04 Verses 13-21 Congregational Sins Of Ignorance

Le 4:13 ¶ "And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing be hid from the eyes of the assembly, and they have done somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which should not be done, and are guilty; 14 When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the tabernacle of the congregation. 15 And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the bullock before the LORD: and the bullock shall be killed before the LORD. 16 And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood to the tabernacle of the congregation: 17 And the priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood, and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD, even before the vail. 18 And he shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar which is before the LORD, that is in the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. 19 And he shall take all his fat from him, and burn it upon the altar. 20 And he shall do with the bullock as he did with the bullock for a sin offering, so shall he do with this: and the priest shall make an atonement for them, and it shall be forgiven them. 21 And he shall carry forth the bullock without the camp, and burn him as he burned the first bullock: it is a sin offering for the congregation."

First let's discuss what a sin of ignorance is. A sin of ignorance is the commandment of God to Israel, which has not been understood, or taught, so that the people are not aware that in the commission of the sin they are defying God. Understand also, just because they do not know about it, God still holds them accountable for breaking his commandment. Now, take these thoughts and apply them to your life as a child of God. Ask yourself the question: am I studied enough of the whole of the King James Bible, that I understand what I ought to do and what I ought not to do? I freely confess, and that with shame, that I fail miserably in reading and studying enough, to keep myself in remembrance of the commandments of God.

As an elder, I have failed many times to preach and teach with clarity, and with proper understanding, simply because I did not know enough about the subject I was speaking upon. Therefore, I became guilty of the sin of ignorance, and I passed that sin of ignorance on to the congregations to whom I preach and teach.

Understand, ignorance of the commandments of God is our own faults. Why? Is there anyone under the sound of my voice, who does not have the ability to purchase a King James Bible? If there is, if you will make it known, someone will assist you in getting one. This is true in most nations of the world, although there are some nations that have a scarcity of King James Bibles.

Is there anyone who does not have time to read the bible? If you say you do not, you need to examine your life and see that there are some things that can be left off to make time for God. But preacher, I need to spend time of Facebook and YouTube, or watch tv, or attend ball games, and other community activities, like the rest of the world. Now, I ask you this question: which is more important, the things the world has to offer, or the knowledge of the word of God and his commandments? If you need help in answering that question, I point out what the bible says about the things of this world, when Jesus returns in **Re 20:12 "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."** The things you do to satisfy the lust of your inherited sin nature are recorded in the "**books**," and they are a testimony against you, condemning you to the eternal lake of fire. However, after the new birth is given to you, knowledge and obedience to the commandments of God, is of the utmost importance for you to have a fruitful life in Christ, because your name is recorded in "**the book of life**."

Furthermore, remember what Jesus said when He was questioned about the greatest commandment, seen in **Mt 22:36-40; 36 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."** Part of loving the Lord thy God with all thy heart is knowing what is recorded in the written word of God, which is the testimony of the finished work of Jesus Christ and the textbook of God's people, to keep us from sins of ignorance.

When the whole congregation has committed sins of ignorance, the congregation shall bring the sacrifice. The elders of the congregation shall lay their hands upon the head of the sacrifice, and the bullock shall be killed

before the Lord, and the priest shall catch the blood in the proper container. Why the elders? First, because they represent the whole of Israel, as Israel is under their rule. Secondly, it is obvious that the elders have failed, in their duty as elders, to teach themselves, and to teach the congregation properly, or they would not have committed the sin of ignorance.

Take that thought and apply it to the New Testament Church. It is the duty of the elders of the church, to teach the whole council of God, which is inclusive of both the Old and New Testaments of the Word of God. It is also the duty of parents to bring their children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Likewise, it is the duty of each individual, of each congregation of believers in Jesus Christ, to teach and build up one another in the whole truth of the word of God, as seen in **Jude 1:20-25; 20 "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."** This is why it is important that we fellowship with one another, not just on Sunday, but all the time. All the load of teaching the scriptures is not on the elders alone.

Again, we see that the priest is to take the blood and sprinkle it seven times before the curtain of the holy place. This still signifies that there must be blood applied before entering the holy place. However, this time the priest does not enter the holy place, as he did when making a sacrifice for himself. He is to put blood on the altar of sacrifice, the brazen altar, and then pour out the remainder at the bottom of the altar. This still signifies that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. This still points us to the prophetic picture of Jesus, in his prepared body, which was sinless, shedding his blood on the cross, for the eternal remission of the sins of all of God's people.

Remember, the elders were to lay their hands upon the head of the sacrifice before it was slain, thereby imputing upon the animal the sin for which it was being sacrificed. This is the prophetic picture that when Jesus was hanged upon the cross of crucifixion, the sins of all of God's people were imputed to his prepared body to bear once for all. Once the debt of our sins was fully satisfied, Jesus cried "**it is finished**," commended his spirit to God, and gave up the ghost.

The priest was to burn the fat upon the altar and take the body without the camp to burn it completely. Think about the fat for a minute. What is fat? Fat is a vital organ of the body, which stores and releases energy for the body to function properly. This is indicative of the fatness of Jesus of Jesus Christ and the New Testament Church. What do you mean? Jesus is the vital organ of the New Testament Church. It is from Jesus we receive all the vitality of the life of a child of God.

We do not eat fat to get fat; we eat a well-balanced diet, which produces the necessary fat for the body to function properly. Our bodies require two things to live: food and water. Jesus tells us in **Joh 6:35 "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."** And in **Re 21:6 "And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."** Thus, we have in Jesus all that is needed to sustain the spiritual life.

Remember that Jesus is the Word, as seen in **Joh 1:1-4; 1 ¶ "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men."** The testimony of the "**Word**" is recorded for us in the King James Bible. Therefore, we need to prayerfully search the scriptures to feed on the bread of life, and to drink from the fountain of living waters, which will give us a well-balanced diet, as well as a full knowledge, of the Word of God, which will keep us from sins of ignorance.

Thank you, King Jesus, for the voluntary sacrifice of yourself on the cross, which redeemed all of God's people from sins of ignorance, as well as all other sins. Thank you for the written Word of God, the King James Bible, to which we may resort at any time, to refresh our spirits with knowledge of our Saviour and Lord, and of his great, and abundant, mercies. Hallelujah! Praise, ye the Lord!