

Leviticus Chapter 04 Verses 22-35 Rulers and Individuals Sins Of Ignorance

Le 4:22 ¶ "When a ruler hath sinned, and done somewhat through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD his God concerning things which should not be done, and is guilty; 23 Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish: 24 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the LORD: it is a sin offering. 25 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out his blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering. 26 And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him."

If a ruler has sinned, through ignorance breaking a commandment of God, the sin now being revealed, he shall bring his burnt offering, and the ritual is carried out as prescribed by God. The priest is to make atonement for the ruler that has sinned, and his sin is forgiven. Notice, he is guilty of the sin of ignorance, whether he knows, or doesn't know, he is guilty, and a sacrifice for sin is required. This is a reminder to us that we are all guilty of sins of ignorance. Therefore, we need to be sure to make our prayers to God daily, confessing that we are the sinners, and Jesus, our sacrifice for sin, is pure and holy, through whom we have been granted eternal remission of sins.

This reminds us that as the priest was atoning for the forgiveness of those who sinned, under the law ordinances, Jesus has already made atonement for us eternally, and Jesus is still interceding for us daily as seen in **Ro 8:33-34; 33 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.** This is a reminder to us that as we make our daily confession that we are sinners, Jesus hears our prayers and intercedes for us before God the Father in heaven. Thus, in our daily prayers we find the assurance that Christ has redeemed us of our sins. We find the assurance of God's love for us, which strengthens our faith, and brings assurance to comfort our hearts and minds.

Thinking about rulers sinning, we are reminded of our duty to pray for them as seen in **1Ti 2:1-4; 1 ¶ "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."** What should we pray for when praying for rulers? My first thought is to pray that they might be saved by God's marvelous grace, which would cause them to rule, and live, in accordance with **"thus saith the Lord,"** which would enable us to live quiet and peaceable lives as children of God. Pray that if they are not saved, they would still rule in accordance with **"thus saith the Lord."** Pray that they would rule with favor toward God's children and the New Testament Church.

Not only should we pray for natural world leaders, we should pray for the pastors, elders, ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, deacons, and all in authority in the church organization, as seen in **Heb 13:7 "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."** Pray that God would give them the will, and the ability, to preach and teach the whole truth of the Word of God, by walks and talks. Pray that they would be ardent students of the King James Bible, under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit, which would enable them to rightly divide the Word of truth and avoid teaching false doctrine.

Any, in the ministry, who preach and teach false doctrine are to be rebuked, in accordance with the Word of God. We do not go around gossiping behind their backs. We are to confront them as a brother, as found in Matthew chapter 18. Remember also, we are commanded in **1Ti 5:19 "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses."** Approach them with love and compassion, express their error according to the scriptures, seeking the intent of their heart. Have the correct scriptures to prove you are presenting to them, **"thus saith the Lord,"** and not just your opinion.

27 ¶ "And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth somewhat against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and be guilty; 28 Or if his sin,

which he hath sinned, come to his knowledge: then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he hath sinned. 29 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering. 30 And the priest shall take of the blood thereof with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar. 31 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings; and the priest shall burn it upon the altar for a sweet savour unto the LORD; and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and it shall be forgiven him. 32 And if he bring a lamb for a sin offering, he shall bring it a female without blemish. 33 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay it for a sin offering in the place where they kill the burnt offering. 34 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar: 35 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed, and it shall be forgiven him."

The same ritual is required for the common people. We do notice that these last few rituals tell us when the ritual is completed, there is forgiveness of their sins. All these sacrifices are prophetically pointing to the coming of the one true and living, sinless sacrifice of Jesus, the Christ, who is the eternal redeemer of all the sins of all of God's people.

We point out again: even if the person did not know they had committed a sin of ignorance, they were still guilty. This is why king David prayed in *Ps 19:12* "**Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.**" This is why Job made daily sacrifices for his children seen in *Job 1:5* "**And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.**" This is why we are commanded today to purge ourselves daily as seen in *2Ti 2:20-22; 20* "**But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. 22 ¶ Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.**" It is why we lean upon the assurance of our eternal salvation in Christ as seen in *Heb 9:14* "**How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**" Understand, we must choose daily who we will serve, the devil, who is represented in our inherited sin nature, or God.

How thankful! we should all be that these prophetic Old Testament scriptures, though veiled from the sight of the Old Testament saints, have been revealed to us, as seen in *2Co 3:1-18; 1 ¶* "**Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? 2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: 3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.** (Notice that each child of God is an epistle of God. Epistle means *written message*.) It is our duty to always give evidence of the salvation of God in our lives. *2Co 3:2* "**Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:** "

Think about this whole text, which tells us what we are representing in the way we live our lives.

- The way we live our life is the manifestation of what Jesus means to us. (He is the master and we are the slave, positionally)
- The manifestation of what the Word of God means to us,
- The manifestation of our belief of what our pastors and ministers are teaching and preaching.
- We are presenting to our natural family what we believe about God. Remember, children learn what we live before them.

May the Holy Spirit of Christ in us, help us all to be faithful and true epistles, in all that we do and say, which will glorify the name of God, our heavenly Father, in the sight of all.

One point which was missed in the first portions of this chapter. Remember, when Israel and the priests had sinned, and the priest had to enter the holy place and place blood upon the horns of the altar of incense? This

indicating the purification of the priest's prayers before God. Why? Now the priest is praying, through the blood for forgiveness of sins of all the people: just as Jesus prayed upon the cross, when the sins of all of God's people were imputed upon Him. Jesus, our High Priest, prayed through His own shed blood for the remission of our sins. The rest of the chapter is dealing with sins of individuals, and the priest never went into the holy place. All the work was accomplished at the altar of sacrifice in the tabernacle of the congregation.

What is the significance of this? When a church body sins in ignorance, We believe a public confession and prayer are necessary, through the atoning blood of Christ. This is demonstrated when all Israel, and the priests sinned, there was a public gathering of the body to make sacrifice.

When an individual sins there is need only of the person who has sinned and our High Priest to know about it. Why? As we see in this chapter, when an individual sinned a sin of ignorance, no one was involved but the person, the sacrifice, and the priest that made the sacrificial offering. These are not sins to be brought before the church, the deacons, or the pastors and ministers, for the church to consider. In other words, individual sins, not involving others, are to be dealt with by the individual and their sacrifice through our High Priest, Jesus Christ. As a child of God, we are priests unto God, and we can go directly to God in prayer for forgiveness of our sins, through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

How thankful we should all be, for the willingness of Jesus to die for us on the cross, for the eternal remission of our sins. Wherefore in closing, we thank you, King Jesus, our High Priest, and our Saviour, for the work of the eternal forgiveness of the sins of all of God's people, and your continual intercession for us upon your throne. Hallelujah! Praise, ye the LORD!