



Lesson 2, December 14, 2025, Acceptable Offerings, Leviticus 22 17-25, 31-33

Text: Leviticus 22:17–25; 31-33

Bible Truth: God's people are to give obedience to Him.

Memory Verse: *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service: (Romans 12:1)*

Key Takeaways:

1. **Holiness Is Non-Negotiable-** Our lives should reflect reverence in everything we offer to God, whether it's time, service, or worship.
2. **Purity in Worship-** We approach God through spiritual cleanliness—confession, repentance, and renewal through Christ.
3. **Sacred Offerings Must Be Respected** - Treat spiritual disciplines (prayer, communion, teaching) with intentionality and respect.
4. **God Requires Our Best** - Don't give God your leftovers—offer Him your best worship, creativity, and devotion.

Background

- **Verses 1–3:** God commands Moses to tell Aaron and his sons (the priests) to treat the holy offerings with reverence. If a priest is ceremonially unclean and approaches the sacred offerings, he must be cut off from God's presence
 - **Verses 4–9:** Specific examples of uncleanness are listed (skin diseases, bodily discharges, touching corpses, etc.). Priests must wash and remain clean before eating holy food. Failure to obey results in being cut off from God
 - **Verses 10–13:** Only priests and their households may eat the sacred food. Outsiders, hired workers, or guests cannot. However, a priest's family members, including daughters who return home after widowhood may partake.
 - **Verses 14–16:** If anyone eats the sacred food unintentionally, they must repay the value plus an additional fifth. Priests are warned not to profane the offerings, since these are dedicated to the Lord.
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The Lesson:**Acceptable Offerings (Leviticus 22:17-18)**

¹⁷ And the Lord said to Moses,

¹⁸ “Give Aaron and his sons and all the Israelites these instructions, which apply both to native Israelites and to the foreigners living among you. “If you present a gift as a burnt offering to the Lord, whether it is to fulfill a vow or is a voluntary offering,

 **What's Happening Here?**

- God is speaking directly to Moses, giving him specific instructions for Aaron, his sons, and all the Israelites.
- The command is for both priests (Aaron and his sons) and the entire community, including foreigners living among them.
- The passage emphasizes voluntary acts of worship—offerings brought either to fulfill a vow or as a heartfelt gift.
- These sacrifices are not enforced sin offerings; they are freewill gifts expressing love, thankfulness, and devotion.

II. No Blemishes, No Defects (Leviticus 22:19-25)

¹⁹ you will be accepted only if your offering is a male animal with no defects. It may be a bull, a ram, or a male goat.

²⁰ Do not present an animal with defects, because the Lord will not accept it on your behalf.

²¹ “If you present a peace offering to the Lord from the herd or the flock, whether it is to fulfill a vow or is a voluntary offering, you must offer a perfect animal. It may have no defect of any kind.

²² You must not offer an animal that is blind, crippled, or injured, or that has a wart, a skin sore, or scabs. Such animals must never be offered on the altar as special gifts to the Lord.

²³ If a bull or lamb has a leg that is too long or too short, it may be offered as a voluntary offering, but it may not be offered to fulfill a vow.

²⁴ If an animal has damaged testicles or is castrated, you may not offer it to the Lord. You must never do this in your own land,

²⁵ and you must not accept such an animal from foreigners and then offer it as a sacrifice to your God. Such animals will not be accepted on your behalf, for they are mutilated or defective.”

What's Happening Here? (vs.19-25)

- Sacrifices with blemishes were unacceptable.
- Worship must reflect God's perfection; we cannot offer Him something flawed or careless.
- Worship is not about convenience—it's about reverence and integrity.
- Slightly imperfect animals (like uneven legs) could be given as voluntary offerings, but not for vows. (vs.23)
- When making a vow—"a solemn promise to God"—only the best is acceptable. Voluntary gifts had more flexibility but still required respect.
- **Christ Connection:** These requirements foreshadow Christ, the **spotless Lamb of God**, who was without defect and offered Himself perfectly for our redemption.

III. No Shame on my name (Leviticus 22: 31-33)

³¹ “You must faithfully keep all my commands by putting them into practice, for I am the Lord.

³² Do not bring shame on my holy name, for I will display my holiness among the people of Israel. I am the Lord who makes you holy.

³³ It was I who rescued you from the land of Egypt, that I might be your God. I am the Lord.”

Filling in the missing pieces (vs. 26-30)

Worship Is About Covenant Relationship

- Offerings had to be eaten the same day, showing closeness and sincerity.
- Worship was not mechanical—it was relational.
- Our devotion should be fresh, not stale or routine.

 **What's Happening Here? (vs.31-33)****1. Obedience as Worship (v. 31)**

- God commands Israel to *faithfully keep all His commands* and put them into practice.
- This shows that holiness isn't just about ritual—it's about living out obedience daily.
- True worship is expressed in consistent obedience, not just in ceremonies.

2. Protecting God's Holy Name (v. 32)

- Israel is warned not to bring shame on God's name.
- God promises to display His holiness among His people.
- Their obedience and reverence would reflect God's character to the nations. Disobedience would dishonor Him.

3. God Is the Source of Holiness (v. 32)

- *"I am the Lord who makes you holy."*
- Holiness is not achieved by human effort—it is God who sanctifies His people.
- Meaning: Worship and obedience flow from God's work in us, not our striving.

4. Redemption as the Foundation (v. 33)

- God reminds Israel: *"It was I who rescued you from Egypt."*
- Their covenant relationship is rooted in His saving act.
- Meaning: Obedience is a response to redemption. They belong to Him because He delivered them.

**Reflection Questions**

1. Why do you think God required offerings without defect?
2. What are some "blemished offerings" we might give God today?
3. How can we make sure our worship is fresh and sincere?
4. How does remembering God's redemption (Israel from Egypt, us through Christ) shape our worship?