

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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The Trespass Offering

“He was wounded for our transgressions” (Isaiah 53:5)

In the list of dark sins mentioned in Romans chapter one, it is intriguing to discover that the first manifestation of sins committed by man was not some evil debased wickedness, but the sin of unthankfulness (Rom. 1:21). This sin indicates a spirit of self sufficiency which manifests itself in disobedience. The Psalmist said: “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God” (Psa. 14:1). What they are saying is, “There is no God going to tell me what to do or put restrictions on me”. The outcome of this attitude was insubordination and disobedience toward God which, with unthankfulness, is a triad of sins we all have committed.

When Adam and Eve were in Eden God put a restriction on them: “But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it” (Gen. 3:3). Eve was deceived (1 Tim. 2:14) but not Adam (1 Tim. 2:14). Adam deliberately took the fruit and ate it, an act of deliberate disobedience. By partaking of the forbidden fruit Adam thought he would be free from God’s restrictions, but instead, brought he and all his prosperity into the bondage of sin. He learned very quickly there were consequences for breaking the law.

When Adam disobeyed God he did more than break the law God had given. Added to this was the treating of God’s promise of judgment of no account! Adam indicated that there was no danger of any repercussions in disobeying God, God was too loving to punish for a little indiscretion, and really what could He do? Adam had to learn that in breaking the law of God and denying Him His right of administration in His creation, came with very heavy consequences. He had also lost his moral compass in rejecting God as the Moral Absolute and setting himself up as the “Moral Authority” in deciding what was right or wrong.

Years later God gave Israel the law. It was more than the Ten Commandments for there were over six hundred. To break the law of man is serious and has consequences, clearly, it is more solemn to break the law of God, then what will the consequences be? All humanity, with the exception of the Lord, have broken God’s law. All then are transgressors. It is irrelevant whether the ancient Israelite or modern humanity is aware of it or not, he still was guilty. In law there is no excuse for ignorance. For instance, the speed outside my home is fifty kilometers, but if someone new to the area does not see the sign and does sixty, have they broken the law? Ignorance does not nullify disobedience and sin. To have a restored fellowship with God there must be a trespass offering.

God still gives a command but it is not to one nation or individual, but to all humanity. It is not a suggestion or advice but a command, for plainly we read: “God . . . now commandeth all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30).

How could the ancient individual ever have a restored fellowship with God? There were several truths he had to accept:

- a) There is an emphasis on his inability to clear his guilt, and if needed, rectify the damage done. It is the only offering where this is emphatic and God says: “if he be not able” (Lev. 5:7, 11). All the religiosity he could

muster, no matter how great the grief for that which he or she had done, irrespective of how sincere the tears that flowed of himself, he was not able to clear the guilt or rectify the damage. He did have several options, options which people manifest today.

- i) He could ignore the transgression, or make light of it, but that would not eradicate his guilt or suffering the consequences.
 - ii) He could decide to wait until the final judgment and see if all his law keeping would balance out and give a little surplus which God would accept. That would have been a foolish stance for there was no compromise with the law. It demanded 100% and any failure meant retribution. Furthermore, the individual knew nothing of inward peace, and like thousands today who seek to deaden the knowledge of punishment for rebelling against God, occupy themselves with entertainment, partying, and work, but guiltiness does not go away, nor the punishment.
 - iii) There had to be honesty and acknowledgement that, "I am not able to do anything to remove the guilt or secure fellowship with God".
- b) The individual needed to face the fact that, the only way for the removal of guilt and the damage done was by a sacrifice God would provide! Man did not produce the birds or animals. They were the provision of God and since He was the one whose law was trampled on, He has the right to determine how man can be cleared of his guilt. An offering of God's provision had to be sacrificed. God is the Holy God and of Him it is recorded "True and righteous are thy judgements" (Rev. 16:7; 19:2), consequently sin had to be righteously punished. This means, depending on the severity of the crime, the full execution of the punishment had to be met. That could only be accomplished by a sacrifice which was without blemish. God has provided His Son as the sinless unblemished sacrifice for our sins. If an individual rejects the sacrifice of God's provision, then they must bear the penalty on themselves. It is an "either" or "or" situation. Either there is an acceptance of God's provision and His terms, or personally suffer the consequences.

[The Trespass Offering And Us](#)

Repeating my earlier comments, in the instructions for the trespass offering there is repeated the phrase: "If he be not able" (Lev. 5:7, 11). The Lord commanded the one who had trespassed to bring a lamb or a kid of the goats. Then we read: "And if he be not able", then he could offer two turtledoves or young pigeons. Again: "If he be not able", then he could offer a tenth part of an ephah of flour.

- a) Thank God that we, who are unable to bring a sufficient sacrifice, God has done it for us. We could never make a suitable offering for sin and transgression, nor cause Christ to leave the realms of glory and adoration to come into this sin cursed scene. We could never have made Christ go to Calvary, nor raised Him from the dead. It is a glorious work by Divine Persons when God laid upon His Beloved Son the full punishment for our sins. When He, by the eternal Spirit, offered Himself without spot to God, it was all a work of love, mercy, and grace from its conception to completeness. In the words of Toplady, "Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling". All our sufficiency is in Christ.. What a blessing. The justice of God has been fully satisfied, the law can ask no more. Today the individual who accepts God's sacrifice for the removal of their guilt can sing:

Settled Forever, sin's tremendous claim,
Glory to Jesus, Blessed be His name
No partway measure, doth His grace provide
Finished Forever, when the Saviour died.

- b) A sacrifice sufficient to cleanse from all my guilt can only be found in Christ, "The Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (Jn. 1:29). I repeat, knowing man's personal inability, God provided the sacrifice in the person of the Lord Jesus and His finished work on the cross. Today man does not offer a sacrifice, for the sacrifice of Christ is the supreme and final trespass offering, and He, by His death, fulfilled the prophecy: "Then I restored that which I took not away" (Psa. 69:4). Concerning the Lord Jesus we read: "He was wounded for our transgressions" (Isa. 53:5), or He (God) . . . having forgiven you all trespasses" (Col. 2:13).

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www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

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