

Reference: VARIOUS

Church: GRACE

Date: 6/6/99

Christ in the Old Testament 10 – Ceremonies

Purpose: To illustrate that much of the Old Testament ceremony pointed to Christ and to His work.

1 Introduction

Continuing series on Christ in the OT

What are the 5 ways to look for Christ in the OT?

Prophecy, Theophanies, Ceremonies, Symbols, Types

Have finished prophecy and theophanies, symbols, types

This week – Ceremonies

Cannot hope to be exhaustive

Will rather indicate the principles to use to look for Christ

2 Passover

Exodus 12:1-12 NOW the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a lamb for each household. 4 Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons *in them*; according to what each man should eat, you are to divide the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight. 7 Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the flesh that *same* night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, *both* its head and its legs along with its entrails. 10 And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire. 11 Now you shall eat it in this manner: *with* your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste—it is the LORD'S Passover. 12 For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the LORD. Exodus 12:46 It is to be eaten in a single house; you are not to bring forth any of the flesh outside of the house, nor are you to break any bone of it.

We know from the NT that the Passover prefigures Christ

John 19:36 For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "NOT A BONE OF HIM SHALL BE BROKEN."

1 Corinthians 5:7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

How does the Passover sacrifice foreshadow Christ?

What condition were the Israelites in? slavery to Egypt

Slavery to those who were the enemies of God.

We were in slavery to sin and the Devil

What kind of lamb was to be used? – male, spotless (v5)

Christ came as a blameless Lamb – with no spot or blemish

What did God require to be done with the lamb?

Set apart 4 days before it was killed

Jesus entered Jerusalem 4 days before Passover

Slain and roasted with fire - curse

Christ became a curse for us and was slain on the cross

Eaten but no bones broken

None of Christ's bones were broken

Blood applied to the doorposts and lintels

Christ's blood applied to our hearts

What was the outcome?

Israel was spared when the destroying Angel passed over

They were redeemed by the blood of the passover lamb

Brought out from slavery to freedom

Bought as God's people

What was the outcome of Christ's death?

His people escape the destruction of God's judgement

He purchases His people with His blood and brings them out

Enter into the freedom of the children of God.

Bought as the children of God

3 Burnt offering. Le 1:2,4; Heb 10:10

Leviticus 1:1-4 Then the Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, 2 Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When any man of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of animals from the herd or the flock. 3 If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without defect; he shall offer it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. 4 He shall lay

his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be accepted for him to make atonement on his behalf. 5 He shall slay the young bull before the Lord; and Aaron's sons the priests shall offer up the blood and sprinkle the blood around on the altar that is at the doorway of the tent of meeting. 6 He shall then skin the burnt offering and cut it into its pieces. 7 The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. 8 Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, the head and the suet over the wood which is on the fire that is on the altar. 9 Its entrails, however, and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall offer up in smoke all of it on the altar for a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

Note:-

Male without defect

Imputation of sin (v4)

Shedding of the blood of a substitute

Making atonement FOR THE WHOLE PERSON

Pleasing to God – accepted by Him

How does this point to Christ?

4 Peace offering

A sacrifice symbolizing complete peace between God and man

A meal of communion with Him

Again, blood shed but different aspect

5 Trespass offering

To provide forgiveness for individual offences

6 Red heifer. Nu 19:2-6; Heb 9:13,14.

Numbers 19:1-6 Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,
2 This is the statute of the law which the Lord has commanded, saying,
'Speak to the sons of Israel that they bring you an unblemished red heifer in which is no defect and on which a yoke has never been placed. 3 You shall give it to Eleazar the priest, and it shall be brought outside the camp and be slaughtered in his presence. 4 Next Eleazar the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and sprinkle some of its blood toward the front of the tent of meeting seven times. 5 Then the heifer shall be burned in his sight; its hide and its flesh and its blood, with its refuse, shall be burned. 6 The priest shall take cedar wood and hyssop and scarlet material and cast it into the midst of the burning heifer. 7 The priest shall then wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward come into the camp, but the priest shall be unclean until evening. 8 The one who burns it shall also wash his clothes in water and bathe his body in water, and shall be unclean until evening. 9 Now a man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer and deposit them outside the camp in a clean place, and the congregation of

the sons of Israel shall keep it as water to remove impurity; it is purification from sin.

To cleanse from the defilement of contact with death

Death comes through sin

Different from all other sin offerings:

Red color, never yoked, female – life in freshness, fullness and fruitfulness

Sacrificed once for all (as long as the ashes lasted)

Sacrificed outside the camp

Burned with cedar (imperishable existence)

Hyssop (purification from corruption)

Scarlet – color made it emblem of life

If wages of sin is death,

This ceremony pointed to eternal life

How does this point to Christ?

Wages of sin is death, but.....

7 Day of Atonement – scapegoat

Leviticus 16:20-22 When he finishes atoning for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall offer the live goat. 21 Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the sons of Israel and all their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and he shall lay them on the head of the goat and send *it* away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who *stands* in readiness. 22 The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a solitary land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.

Shedding of blood

Substitution – sin bearing - Removal of personal guilt

It was effected outside the camp

Removal of sin to a place where it can never be found

A place of forgetfulness

One animal dies – another lives – death and resurrection?

Probably not – sin-bearer is the one that escapes

Scapegoat may show covering made but sins not really cleansed

They are carried away – put away

There was a need for One to come who would fully purge

Does anything here point to Christ?

8 Healing of leper

Leviticus 14:1-7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing. Now he shall be brought to the priest, 3 and the priest shall go out to the outside of the camp. Thus the priest shall look, and if the infection of leprosy has been healed in the leper, 4 then the priest shall give orders to take two live clean birds and cedar wood and a scarlet string and hyssop for the one who is to be cleansed. 5 The priest shall also give orders to slay the one bird in an earthenware vessel over running water. 6 As for the live bird, he shall take it together with the cedar wood and the scarlet string and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the live bird in the blood of the bird that was slain over the running water. 7 He shall then sprinkle seven times the one who is to be cleansed from the leprosy and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the live bird go free over the open field.

Similar to the red heifer.

Leprosy a symbol of living death of personal sinfulness

Hyssop – purification

Cedar – eternal life

Scarlet – life

Blood and water

Death and resurrection?

Carrying of spilled blood into the heavens?

Cleansing – restoration to God (lepers outside the camp)

Can we see Christ here? How?

9 Conclusions

No time to look at other aspects - The census, the feasts

Firstfruits, Tabernacles, Trumpets etc etc

Note that different sacrifices stood for different things

No one thing could fully show what Christ would accomplish;

Personal cleansing, atonement, peace, redemption

All done through sacrifice with shedding of blood

But none complete – only shadows

Christ is the reality and fulfills them all!

Hebrews 9:13-14 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?