

GLEANINGS

THE PAYMENT FOR UNKNOWN SINS

Last week we shared the fact that if we will repent and confess our known sins, God will forgive us of our unknown sins because Jesus Christ fulfilled all seven of the sacrifices that God required the Jewish Theocracy to offer.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9 New International Version)

Since they did not have the finished Bible as we have today, God instituted those offerings as a picture of the complete sacrifice that Jesus Christ would offer by His death on the cross. It helped the people of that day to understand what sins the Messiah was going to pay for when He came to the earth and gave His life. I would like to call your attention to the second offering I mentioned last week.

First, the person had to offer the Burnt Offering we spoke of last week for their known sins (Leviticus 1:1-17). Then they offered another sacrifice for their unknown sins (Leviticus 4:1-35). As the second offering, the Sin Offering, was being completely consumed by the fire on the brazen altar, the worshiper was to ask forgiveness for their unknown sins. They were to look forward in faith and ask that the sacrifice the Messiah would give one day pay for their unknown sins as well as their known sins.

"²⁷If anyone of the common people sins unintentionally by doing something against any of the commandments of the Lord in anything which ought not to be done, and is guilty, ²⁸or if his sin which he has committed comes to his knowledge, then he shall bring as his offering a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin which he has committed." (Leviticus 4:27-28 New King James Translation)

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