

## What is sin?

1. Sin is any time we don't follow God's revealed will.
2. Sin is any rejection of God's word and thinking we know better.
3. Sin is any rebellion against God's authority.

## What is the difference between the sin offering and the guilt offering?

- The sin offering is primarily vertical.
- The guilt offering is primarily horizontal.

## What is the difference between unintentional and intentional sin?

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If anyone sins unintentionally in any of the Lord's commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them, Leviticus 4:1-2 (ESV)

- **Unintentional Sin** — Sin of error or ignorance
- **Intentional Sin** — Sin we consciously choose.

There was **NO** sacrifice for intentional sin.

*But the person who does anything with a high hand, whether he is native or a sojourner, reviles the Lord, and that person shall be cut off from among his people. Because he has despised the word of the Lord and has broken his commandment, that person shall be utterly cut off; his iniquity shall be on him.* Numbers 15:30-31 (ESV)

1. Leviticus 16 — The Day of Atonement
2. Cast yourself on God's mercy

*For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart. O God, you will not despise.* Psalm 51:16-17 (ESV)

## What were the different offerings for unintentional sin?

### The Priest

*And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If anyone sins unintentionally in any of the Lord's commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them, if it is the anointed priest who sins, thus bringing guilt on the people, then he shall offer for the sin that he has committed a bull from the herd without blemish to the Lord for a sin offering. He shall bring the bull to the entrance of the tent of meeting before the Lord and lay his hand on the head of the bull and kill the bull before the Lord. And the anointed priest shall take some of the blood of the bull and bring it into the tent of meeting, and the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle part of the blood seven times before the Lord in front of the veil of the sanctuary. And the priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense before the Lord that is in the tent of meeting, and all the rest of the blood of the bull he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. And all the fat of the bull of the sin offering he shall remove from it, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins and the long lobe of the liver that he shall remove with the kidneys (just as these are taken from the ox of the sacrifice of the peace offerings); and the priest shall burn them on the altar of burnt offering. But the skin of the bull and all its flesh, with its head, its legs, its entrails, and its dung—all the rest of the bull—he shall carry outside the camp to a clean place, to the ash heap, and shall burn it up on a fire of wood. On the ash heap it shall be burned up. Leviticus 4:1-12 (ESV)*

his offering a goat, a female without blemish, for his sin which he has committed. Leviticus 4:27–28 (ESV)

## What about unintentional sin that touches other people?

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. James 3:1 (ESV)

### The Community

“If the whole congregation of Israel sins unintentionally and the thing is hidden from the eyes of the assembly, and they do any one of the things that by the Lord’s commandments ought not to be done, and they realize their guilt, when the sin which they have committed becomes known, the assembly shall offer a bull from the herd for a sin offering and bring it in front of the tent of meeting. And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands on the head of the bull before the Lord, and the bull shall be killed before the Lord. Leviticus 4:13–15 (ESV)

### A Leader

“When a leader sins, doing unintentionally any one of all the things that by the commandments of the Lord his God ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring as his offering a goat, a male without blemish, and shall lay his hand on 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. Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar of burnt offering. And all its fat he shall burn on the altar, like the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings. So the priest shall make atonement for him for his sin, and he shall be forgiven. Leviticus 4:22–26 (ESV)

### Common People

“If anyone of the common people sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the Lord’s commandments ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring for

#### 1. The sin of keeping our mouth closed when it should be open.

“If anyone sins in that he hears a public adjuration to testify, and though he is a witness, whether he has seen or come to know the matter, yet does not speak, he shall bear his iniquity; Leviticus 5:1 (ESV)

#### 2. The sin of uncleanness.

or if anyone touches an unclean thing, whether a carcass of an unclean wild animal or a carcass of unclean livestock or a carcass of unclean swarming things, and it is hidden from him and he has become unclean, and he realizes his guilt; or if he touches human uncleanness, of whatever sort the uncleanness may be with which one becomes unclean, and it is hidden from him, when he comes to know it, and realizes his guilt; Leviticus 5:2–3 (ESV)

#### 3. The sin of opening our mouth when we should keep it closed.

or if anyone utters with his lips a rash oath to do evil or to do good, any sort of rash oath that people swear, and it is hidden from him, when he comes to know it, and he realizes his guilt in any of these; Leviticus 5:4 (ESV)

**When our sin touches others we must confess our sin them, not just to God.**

when he realizes his guilt in any of these and confesses the sin he has committed, he shall bring to the Lord as his compensation for the sin that he has committed, a female from the flock, a lamb or a goat, for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement for him for his sin. Leviticus 5:5–6 (ESV)

## The Poor

*"But if he cannot afford a lamb, then he shall bring to the Lord as his compensation for the sin that he has committed two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. Leviticus 5:7 (ESV)*

## The Destitute

*"But if he cannot afford two turtledoves or two pigeons, then he shall bring as his offering for the sin that he has committed a tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering. He shall put no oil on it and shall put no frankincense on it, for it is a sin offering. Leviticus 5:11 (ESV)*

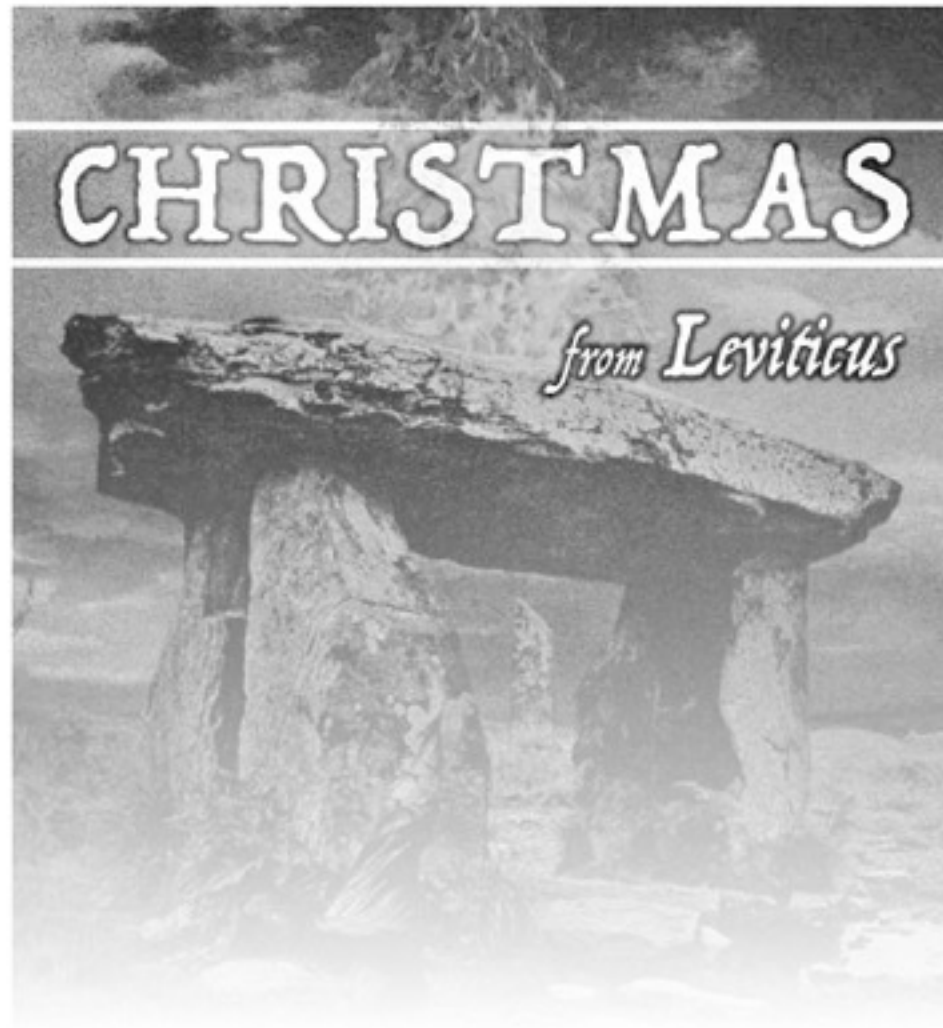
## What does this teach us about Christmas?

*When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Hebrews 10:8–10 (ESV)*

Jesus came so we no longer need to offer sacrifices for our sin.

## Points to Remember

1. Sin is not just intentional. Unintentional sin separates us from God.
2. The more influential your position in society, the more serious your sin.
3. Sin is not just personal, it can be community-wide.
4. Whenever our sin touches others we need to confess our sin to those we hurt, not just to God.



## Leviticus 4:1-5:13 — Sin Offering

### SUNDAYS

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Services

9:45 a.m.

CW Kids &  
CW University



December 20 — Christmas from Leviticus — Leviticus 5:14-6:7; 7:1-10 — The Guilt Offering  
December 24 — Christmas Eve at the SAMI - 7:00 p.m.

Visit the Connection Desk in the church foyer if you would like a free Bible.