

## Sin is debt.

*and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us... Luke 11:4 (ESV)*

*(See also Matt 18:21-35; Luke 7:41-42)*

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

1. The sin offering is taking something unholy into a holy place. The guilt offering is treating something holy in an unholy way.
2. The sin offering is more vertically orientated. It concerns our relationship with God. The guilt offering is vertical and horizontal because it concerns our relationship with God and others.
3. The sin offering had six options depending on your financial status. The guilt offering only had one option, a male sheep.
4. The sin offering could be offered for the collective sin of a nation. The guilt offering could only be offered for individual sin.

## What kinds of sin required the guilt offering?

### 1. Stealing from God.

## Unintentional stealing from God.

*The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “If anyone commits a breach of faith and sins unintentionally (staggered into sin but regrets it) in any of the holy things of the Lord, he shall bring to the Lord as his compensation, a ram without blemish out of the flock, valued in silver shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, for a guilt offering. He shall also make restitution for what he has done amiss in the holy thing and shall add a fifth to it and give it to the priest. And the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and he shall be forgiven. Leviticus 5:14–16 (ESV)*

A breach of faith is breaking trust in a relationship.

- Eating food dedicated to God.

- Shortchanging God in tithes and offerings.

*Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Malachi 3:8–9 (ESV)*

There are two parts to making things right.

1. Make full restoration of what you took plus 20 percent.
2. Confess your sin to God and sacrifice a male sheep.

## Potential stealing from God.

*“If anyone sins, doing any of the things that by the Lord’s commandments ought not to be done, though he did not know it, then realizes his guilt, he shall bear his iniquity. He shall bring to the priest a ram without blemish out of the flock, or its equivalent for a guilt offering, and the priest shall make atonement for him for the mistake that he made unintentionally, and he shall be forgiven. It is a guilt offering; he has indeed incurred guilt before the Lord.” Leviticus 5:17–19 (ESV)*

“though he did not know it” — Plagued by a guilty conscience

If you think you may be guilty, act like you are **guilty**. Go out of your way to **make** things **right**.

## 2. Stealing from **people**.

*The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “If anyone sins and commits a breach of faith against the Lord by deceiving his neighbor in a matter of deposit or security, or through robbery, or if he has oppressed his neighbor or has found something lost and lied about it, swearing falsely—in any of all the things that people do and sin thereby— if he has sinned and has realized his guilt and will restore what he took by robbery or what he got by oppression or the deposit that was committed to him or the lost thing that he found or anything about which he has sworn falsely, he shall restore it in full and shall add a fifth to it, and give it to him to whom it belongs on the day he realizes his guilt. And he shall bring to the priest as his compensation to the Lord a ram without blemish out of the flock, or its equivalent for a guilt offering. And the priest shall make atonement for him before the Lord, and he shall be forgiven for any of the things that one may do and thereby become guilty.” Leviticus 6:1–7 (ESV)*

*“Speak to the people of Israel, When a man or woman commits any of the sins that people commit by breaking faith with the Lord, and that person realizes his guilt, he shall confess his sin that he has committed. And he shall make full restitution for his wrong, adding a fifth to it and giving it to him to whom he did the wrong....in addition to the ram of atonement with which atonement is made for him. Numbers 5:6–7 (ESV)*

*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. Numbers 15:30 (ESV)*

**Stealing from people is just like stealing from **God** because people are created in God's image.**

**How do we steal from people?**

- Not returning a **deposit** or **security**.
- **Robbery**
- **Extortion** or **Oppression**
- Finding something **lost** and **lying** about it

We can compound these offenses by **swearing falsely**. “I swear to God I didn’t...”

**How do I make this sin right?**

1. Return what was taken plus **20 percent**.
2. Return what was taken on the **day guilt** is **realized**.

*So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:23–24 (ESV)*

3. Offer a male sheep as sacrifice for the sin.

## How does the guilt offering point us to Christ and Christmas?

*Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. Isaiah 53:10 (ESV)*

*Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Isaiah 53:11 (ESV)*

*The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin (guilt) of the world! John 1:29 (ESV)*

**Jesus came so we no longer need to **pay the debt** of our sin.**

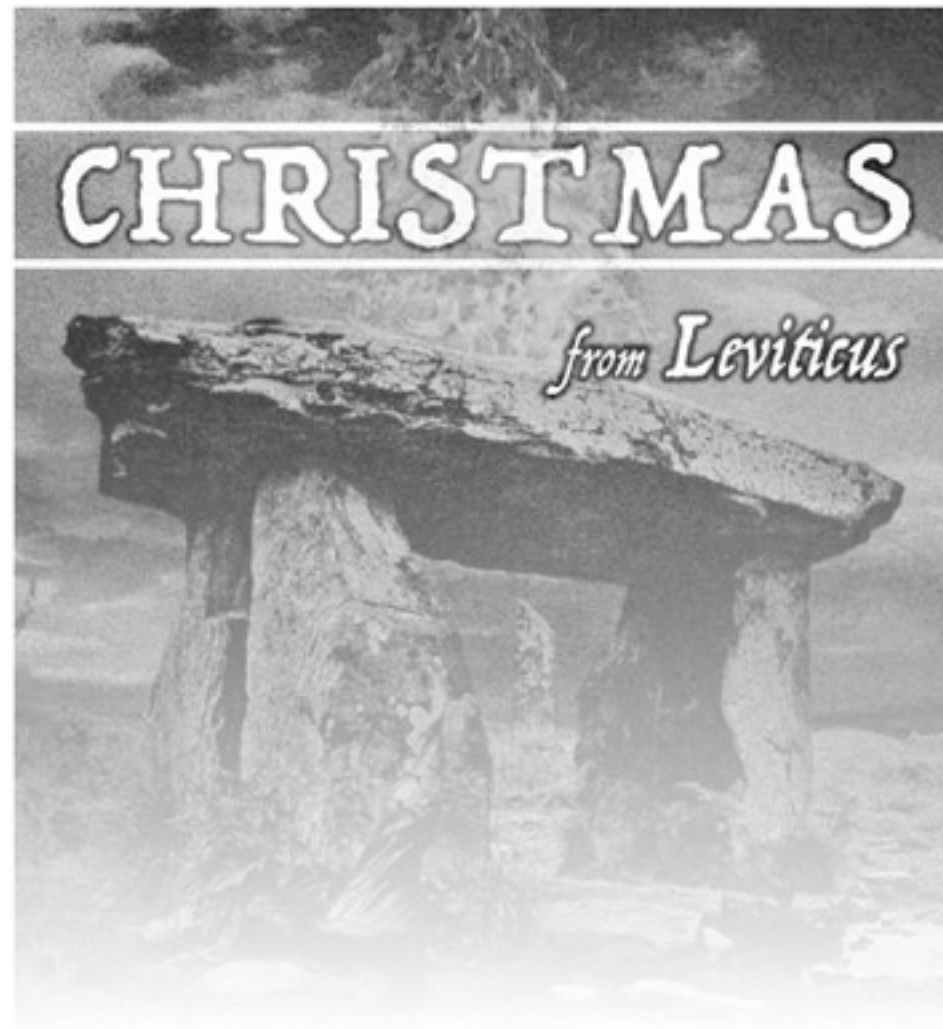
*And you, who were dead in your trespasses (sin that brought guilt) and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. Colossians 2:13–14 (ESV)*

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. John 19:30 (ESV)

It is finished means paid in full.

## Points to Remember

1. There is no sin offering for intentional sin but there is a guilt offering for intentional sins that repent.
2. When my sin leads me to take something that isn't rightfully mine, either from God or people, repentance is not just seeking God's forgiveness. It means restoring what I took plus something extra.
3. If my conscience feels guilty of sin, even if I am not sure if I committed sin, go out of the way to make potential sin right.
4. When I steal from people I am not just breaking my relationship with a person, I am breaking my relationship with God.
5. When I realize my sin against someone, I must make it right that day, not weeks or months later.
6. In both the Old and New Testaments getting right with God is more than Jesus as our sacrifice for sin. It also means getting right with others.



## Leviticus 5:14-6:7 — Guilt Offering

December 20, 2015

### SUNDAYS

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Services

9:45 a.m.

CW Kids &  
CW University



December 24 — Christmas Eve at the SAMI - 7:00 p.m.  
December 27 — Pastor Stephen preaching

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