

Leviticus 2-3: Burnt Offerings – Grain & Peace Offering.

I. (1-3) The presentation of the grain offering.

The grain offering was typically fine flour, mixed with a bit of oil and frankincense. A portion of the flour was burnt before the LORD on the altar. The remainder was given to the priests for their own use in making bread for the priest and his family. God allowed and received this bloodless sacrifice as an expression of worship.

i. (4-10) Different types of grain offering.

A grain offering could also be brought baked in an oven, cooked on a flat griddle, or in a covered pan. No matter what its form, the grain offering had to be prepared at home. This expression of devotion to God began at home and if offered with the right heart, it was a sweet aroma to the LORD. If the grain offering was brought as fine flour or as prepared bread, a portion went to the priests for their sustenance.

ii. (11) The addition of leaven or honey was prohibited.

Leaven was prohibited because it was symbolic of sin. This leaven yeast spreading from left over dough. Honey was not allowed because it was a favorite sacrifice to pagan deities. God did not want to be worshipped after the customs of the pagans.

II. (12) The offering of Firstfruits.

Firstfruits were to be offered, but not as other grain offerings. They were never to be **burned on the altar**, but offered with a different procedure.

iii. (13) Each grain offering must include salt.

Salt *purifies, seasons, and preserves.*

iv. (14-16) Procedure for a grain offering of Firstfruits.

The first of the harvest and the firstborn of livestock belonged to the LORD. This could be considered risky giving because the land might not yield much more produce, and the cow or ewe might not give birth again - yet the first still belonged to God. Give trusting that the LORD will give more, and He does.

Exodus 22:29 - *You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me.*

[Proverbs 3:9-10](#) - Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

[Matthew 6:19-21](#) - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

III. Peace Offerings.

- v. (1-17) Offering a bull or a cow, goat or sheep as a peace offering.

A peace offering (living in peace with God) sacrifice could be either a **male or female** animal (cow, goat or sheep). However, the animal still had to be **without blemish**. In the peace offering, the blood of the animal was offered to God along with the fat (which was considered to be the prime portion).

[James 4:1](#) - Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?

[Isaiah 53:5](#) - But He was wounded for **our** transgressions, He was bruised for **our** iniquities; the chastisement for **our peace** was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

[Romans 5:10-11](#) - For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

[Ephesians 2:14-18](#) - For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.